

USEFUL INFORMATION

STAINLESS STEEL

Stainless Steel, is a type of steel which composition apart from iron and carbon, contains chromium, nickel and other alloy components such as molybdenum, which keep it shiny and resistant to oxidation and corrosion.

By definition, Stainless Steel contains a minimum of 10,5 % chromium. This chromium has a great affinity with oxygen and reacts with it promoting the formation of a passivation layer, thus, preventing iron corrosion.

When Stainless Steel contains more than 7% nickel, it is called “Austenitic stainless steel” since its structure is made of Austenite. They are non-magnetic in annealing state and therefore they are not attracted by a magnet.

All Stainless Steels are added a small percentage of Molybdenum to enhance its corrosion resistance to Chlorides.

The main reason for its appeal, quick spread, and use in modern decoration, is due to its beauty, its high corrosion and oxidation resistance as well as to its low maintenance.

To be cleaned, water and neutral soap should be used, drying the product with a chamois leather. All cleaning products containing hydrochloric acid and silver cleaning products are to be avoided. Using them could irreversibly corrode the steel surface.

BRASS

Brass is an alloy of copper and zinc. Brass is harder than copper, it is ductile and can be forged in thin plates. In the old days, any copper alloy, especially the one made of tin, was called brass. The current alloy was first used around the 16th century.

Brass properties mainly depend on the amount of zinc present as much as on the addition of small amounts of other metals, this being convenient for different uses.

Brass main appeal is in its resistance, ductibility and corrosion resistance, hence its quick spread and use in modern decoration.

ZAMAK

Zamak is an alloy with a base metal of zinc and alloying elements of aluminium, magnesium and copper. The name Zamak is an acronym of the German names for the metals of which the alloys are composed: Zink (Zinc), Aluminium, Magnesium and Kupfer (Copper).

Its use is widespread in the ironwork sector. In industry, it is frequently used as brass substitute. It has a good mechanical resistance, plastic deformability and good drainability. It also allows a great variety of surface finishes, it can be painted, chromium-plated, mechanized, etc.