



GRAND PATIOS

Steel Properties and Maintenance

Once you have the perfect patio or alfresco, regular maintenance is essential to retain the integrity and aesthetics of the structure. Regular maintenance and upkeep will maximize the possible life-span of a steel construction or product and help to comply with product warranty conditions.

Steel products usually are composed of several layers (like human skin) which act as a protectant to the structural steel (iron) as seen in the illustration below. **The structural steel can be protected further so with an extra layer of protection called Eprime (Dulux Epoxi Prime: Au_DP01831) and is strongly recommended by Grand Patios especially in coastal, saltlake, pool, spa, garden bed or industrial areas.**



The maintenance requirements for steel finished products includes:

- ✓ **Wash and wipe down of steel surfaces with clean water every 3 months.**
 - **Pay attention to areas not naturally cleaned by rain as these areas collect dust, salts and pollutants;**
 - **Wiping of powdercoated steel (structural non Colorbond) as these products are not cleaned effectively by just hosing off with clean water and is most likely affected by dust, salt and pollutants due to the manufacturing process and the porous nature of powdercoate;**
 - **If washing and clean water does not completely clean the surface, a mild solution of detergent should be added to the water and applied with a very soft bristled nylon brush. Do not use a coarse or hard brush as it may scratch the patio materials. Rinse the coloured surface thoroughly with clean water to remove detergents. *Never use abrasive or solvent based cleaner such as turps, metho, petrol or kerosene;***
 - **Some factors can increase or catalyze the reaction between any pollutants and the steel product and these include; *BBQ's, ovens, pools, spas, bore water, sprinklers, garden beds, fertilisers, cloths dryers, air conditioners (deionized water) and industrial applications.***

Steel product are perfect for West Australian conditions and with the correct maintenance can look as beautiful as when first constructed for many years.