



## STAINLESS STEEL

### Introduction

Stainless steel mesh is most often chosen by architects and designers for its corrosion resistance and aesthetic appeal. Stainless steel alloys offer an exceptional quality of finish to the wire. Maintaining its original appearance requires very little effort. For best performance, the surface of the mesh should be kept clear of corrosive agents, like free iron, and deposits from dirt and grime accumulated during normal handling and exposure to the elements.

### Initial Cleaning

Wild Hog Products manufactures all products in a bare, mill finished condition within an industrial setting. After receipt of the wire mesh and when all fabrication and handling is completed, a final cleaning should be considered to remove all surface contaminants and ensure the material will look and perform at its best. Simply using a soft, damp cloth after installation to remove any contaminants and dirt that have accumulated during its handling is sufficient to initially clean the mesh. If cross contamination is suspected due to improper handling, an environmentally friendly citric acid passivation process should be considered to remove any existing corrosive agents on the stainless-steel surface before installation.

### Care and Maintenance

Stainless steel welded and woven wire mesh adds a long lasting and unique architectural design element to any project. The corrosion resistance that stainless steel offers can be reduced if the material is not cared for from time to time. For stainless steel to look and perform at its best, simple, and regular care is required. Environmental conditions and aesthetic standards will usually determine the frequency of cleaning required for the individual application. The best policy is to clean the mesh when dirty to remove contaminants that may degrade the stainless steel's ability to withstand corrosion and restore the original appearance.

For a thorough cleaning, a recommended process is to rinse the mesh with deionized/distilled water to remove any loose contaminants. Wash mesh using a soft cloth and deionized/distilled water containing a mild, environmentally safe multi-purpose cleaner with a detergent or 5% ammonia. If necessary, use a soft nylon brush to remove any stubborn stains. Rinse with clean cold water and allow to dry completely.

For light cleaning or interior applications, use a clean, soft cloth, either dry or damp, to remove surface contaminant build-up. Be sure to allow the mesh to dry completely.

**Note:** *Never use steel wool cleaning pads on stainless steel wire mesh. Cross contamination of the unalloyed "free iron" can result in brown rust stains on the stainless-steel wire mesh.*

**We strongly recommend always using deionized/distilled water when cleaning stainless steel to prevent water spots.**