

# RECOMMENDED CARE & MAINTENANCE GUIDE

To ensure the life of your signage is maximized and to comply with the Armsign guarantee, a simple and regular maintenance program should be implemented.

## PROTECT YOUR SIGNS FROM THE ENVIRONMENT

The frequency of recommended cleaning will vary depending on:

- The environment – if it is dry, has minor condensation, has high moisture or has significant contamination (interior); or a city, rural industrial or coastal environment (exterior).
- The conditions – if it is a general or moderate condition (interior); or a mild, severe or tropical condition (exterior).

### Some of the influencing factors that can impact the life of the powder coating include:

- Ultra violet light
- Levels of atmospheric pollution including salts, dirt, grime that can all accumulate over time
- Winds carrying air borne debris that can cause erosive wear of the coating e.g. sand causing abrasion
- Change in environmental circumstances e.g. if rural became industrial
- Micro-climates e.g. geothermal, alkaline or acidic





# RECOMMENDED CARE & MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

It is recommended in environments with low salt, low pollutant and urban areas cleaning should take place at a minimum of every twelve months.

In areas where salts, pollutants and high corrosive levels are prevalent, e.g. beach fronts or industrial areas, it is recommended a cleaning program should be carried out more frequently at a minimum of every six months.

Sheltered areas can have a higher risk of coating degradation as wind-blown salt and other debris or pollutants may adhere to the surface and not be removed when it rains. These areas may require more frequent cleaning.

Use the following table to identify the recommended minimum cleaning schedule for your project. The table references AS4312 and ISO12944 Atmospheric corrosive zones in Australia to define the environmental conditions.

ENVIRONMENT	CONDITIONS	CORROSIVITY ZONE	EXAMPLE ENVIRONMENTS	RECOMMENDED MINIMUM CLEANING
Exterior Environment	Mild	C2 Low	Arid, Urban, Inland City	Every 12 Months
		C3 Medium	Light Industrial & Coastal	Every 6 Months
	Severe	C4 High	Sea Shore (calm)	Every 6 Months
		C5 Very High Industrial	Heavy Industrial	Every 3 Months
		C5 Very High Marine	Sea Shore Surf	Every 3 Months
	Tropical	Tropical	High, humid and monsoonal	Every 3 Months
Interior Environment	General Interior	C1 Very Low	Dry	Every 12 Months
		C2 Low	Minor Condensation	Every 12 Months
	Moderate Interior	C3 Medium	High Moisture	Every 6 Months
		C4 High	Significant contamination	Every 3 Months

## CLEANING YOUR SIGNS IN THREE EASY STEPS

Care and maintenance schedules are essential to ensure that the life of your asset is maximised whether the project be a residential, commercial or non-habitable project. Simply follow three important steps:

- Carefully remove any loose surface deposits with a wet sponge by gently rubbing.
- Clean by gently rubbing the surface with a soft brush (non-abrasive) and a diluted solution of mild detergent, e.g. pH-neutral liquid hand or dish-washing detergent in warm water to remove dust, salt and other deposits. For stubborn stains use only recommended solvents on the affected area, e.g. Isopropyl alcohol (IPA) or methylated spirits and rinse off with clean water. Do not use other aggressive solvents.
- Rinse the surfaces with clean fresh water after to remove all residues.

*To comply with the Armsign warranty the recommended care and maintenance schedules must be adhered to.*

### DO

- Protect all painted joinery
- Clean around all frames structures
- Use only recommended solvents for stubborn stains only
- Use only isopropyl alcohol (IPA) or mild detergent and rinse off with clean fresh water
- Regularly inspect
- Inspect your sign often and clean more regularly if required
- Clean in Mild conditions
- Clean painted surfaces when the surface temperatures are below 25 degrees celcius

### DON'T

- Don't use aggressive solvents
- Do not use turpentine, white spirits, thinners, citrus based cleaners or other aggressive solvents on painted substrates
- Don't rub painted surface excessively
- Do not rub painted surface excessively, especially metallic finishes
- Don't allow sunscreen to come into contact with painted surfaces
- It is universally recognized that some sunscreens adversely affect painted finished
- Don't neglect recommended care and maintenance schedules