

## Letterbox Care Sheet

### Stainless Steel

316 stainless steel is reputed for its unparalleled anti-corrosion quality when compared with other grades of stainless steel. It is widely used in marine applications, therefore also known as marine grade stainless steel. 316 stainless steel does however require maintenance/cleaning to look its best. Without regular maintenance, the stainless steel may become discoloured over time, impairing its appearance. This brown discolouration is referred to as 'tea staining'; however this does not affect the structural integrity or longevity of the material. Any tea staining can be removed with a mild abrasive cleaner while minor scratches can be removed using a Scotch Brite pad in the direction of the grain. Tea staining occurs most commonly near salt water areas but wind exposure, pollution, and higher temperatures can also create environments where tea staining may occur.

Robert Plumb stocks a great product called Rapelle which is a Stainless Steel cleanser and protector which will increase the longevity of the original condition of your stainless steel.

### Copper

"Patina" is the tarnish that forms on the surface of copper and is the result of atmospheric corrosion. This does not affect the structural integrity of your letterbox. It is generally a bright green colour when well established, but may initially be black before turning green.

### Timber

The Robert Plumb timber letterboxes are made with New Guinean Rosewood. If left to weather naturally the timber will turn a silver or grey colour. During the weathering process hairline cracks may appear however this does not affect the structural integrity of the letterbox. If you wish to prevent the weathering process we recommend oiling the timber with a water based penetrating oil such as Resene, available at [Resene.com.au](http://Resene.com.au).

### Locks

Please note our locks will require maintenance over time. Please take care when installing the letterbox to ensure no sand, cement or gravel enters the lock, as this will impair the working parts. Never build the wall around the letterbox, if possible inset integrated letterboxes after completion of the wall. We recommend every 6 months unscrewing the lock and barrel from the inside, lightly scrub with warm soapy water and let air dry before replacing it and applying a small amount of lubricant (Graphite Powder or WD 40).

### Replacement Keys

Every letterbox will come with a corresponding key for the lock. Please **record the 3 digit number** found on your key as this is the only way to get a replacement. Robert Plumb uses Australian locks which most specialty lock smiths will keep on file. Keys can be copied using this unique number. Please contact your local lock smith.

Please note Robert Plumb letterboxes are NOT water proof.

For further information please contact your distributor or [www.robertplumb.com.au](http://www.robertplumb.com.au)