



GARDEN MASTER

— THE HOME OF QUALITY SHEDS —



Maintenance Guide

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Maintenance of your new Garden Master Shed

INTRODUCTION

One of the best things about your new Garden Master shed is that it's relatively maintenance free and made from strong, durable Australian Made steel! There will be no need for regular sanding, no need for painting, and no need to replace rotted beams. Generally speaking, all it takes to maintain your Garden Master shed is an occasional hose down to clear debris and keep it looking new. Think of all the time you'll save on the weekend! Simple maintenance of Australian Made steel finishes, is regular washing with clean water to enhance the life of the structure and maintain the appearance.

To assist you in prolonging the life of your shed, and keep it looking as good as the day it was installed, use this guide to follow our easy recommendations and advice.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE CLEANED?

"Unwashed areas" are areas on a building that are sheltered from general rain and are therefore not naturally washed by rainfall. Condensation can be absorbed by the dust and dirt that builds up in these areas, leading to an increase in the time that the material is in contact with sufficient moisture to initiate corrosion (i.e. time of wetness). The associated effect is exacerbated in the vicinity of a salt marine influence, where the build-up includes marine salts and/or other pollutants (e.g. industrial fall out). Regular cleaning of painted steel and ZINCALUME® steel products in unwashed areas is required. Examples of applications requiring cleaning include, but are not limited to, fascia, wall cladding under eaves, garage doors, and the underside of eave gutters, carports and patios. We recommend washing at least every three months as a minimum, or monthly in coastal areas where marine salt spray is prevalent and/or in areas where high levels of industrial fallout occur.

INSPECT REGULARLY

Inspecting and maintaining your Garden Master product should be done at least every six months – the end of autumn and spring are usually good times. In some locations, more frequent maintenance may be required due to local factors such as overhanging trees. After installation, regularly check for the build-up of debris on all surfaces. We recommend a regular maintenance period of three months. Talk to your local handyman if you are unable to check or clean the guttering yourself.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

During your first inspection, look for any loose metal debris that may have been left behind after installation.

Subsequent inspections should look for any build-up of dirt and salt deposits on the underside of roofing, guttering, posts and beams. Also look for deposits around joints, brackets, rivets and screws.

CLEANING

Gutters, fascia and eaves can be washed when windows are being cleaned.

In cases where regular maintenance using fresh potable water does not remove all dirt from the surface of the product, or local water regulations prohibit the use of a mains water hose, the following procedure should be followed using water obtained from a locally approved source:

1. Wash the surface with a mild solution of pure soap or non-abrasive dish washing kitchen detergent in warm water.
2. Washing should be conducted with a sponge, soft cloth or soft bristle nylon brush (no abrasive scourers, steel wool etc.), and be performed gently to reduce the possibility of scuffing the product surface.
3. Thoroughly rinse the painted steel or ZINCALUME® steel products with fresh potable water immediately after cleaning to remove traces of detergent.

MAINTENANCE PROCEDURE

1. Use a stiff, soft bristled brush to sweep debris into a pile (do not use hand shovels or other hard tools). Be careful not to scratch or damage the surface of the steel.
2. Wash down the underside of the roof, sheets, posts and the inside of the gutter with fresh water from a garden hose every three months.
3. To remove stubborn stains and dirt, wash the surface with a mild solution of pure soap or non-abrasive dish washing kitchen detergent in warm water, immediately followed by rinsing with clean fresh water.
4. Ensure all post connections are not buried in soil and/or mulch to prevent corrosion.

*Pre-painted steel may get scratched or damaged whilst handling, however the use of touch-up paint or spray cans is not recommended.