

How to Care For Aluminum Siding and Soffit

Alcoa Home Exteriors, Inc. Aluminum Siding, Aluminum Soffit, Aluminum Siding & Soffit Accessories, Aluminum Trim Sheet and Aluminum Fascia are some of the most durable building products materials available today for residential applications. In most cases, normal rainfall is sufficient to keep them clean. But if your Alcoa Home Exteriors Aluminum Products should need cleaning, we recommend the following procedures. Particular attention should be given to areas under eaves, porches, awnings, and other overhangs that have limited exposure to the natural washing effect of rainfall.

1. Moderate Atmospheric Dirt - We recommend an occasional washing with clear water using a garden hose and soft-bristled brush (a longhandled, car-washing brush is ideal for this purpose).
2. Heavy Industrial Atmospheric Dirt - Wash in the manner indicated above, but use the following solution:
 - a. 1/3 cup detergent (Tide®, for example)
 - b. 2/3 cup trisodium phosphate (Soilax®, for example)
 - c. 1 gallon water
3. Mildew Accumulation - Mildew can collect on surfaces of all types of building products and is often evident on surfaces that have not been properly cared for and maintained. Normally, mildew will appear as black spots. Mildew is easy to remove by using the basic cleaning solution above with the addition of sodium hypochlorite as follows:
 - a. 1/3 cup detergent (Tide®, for example)
 - b. 2/3 cup trisodium phosphate (Soilax®, for example)
 - c. 1 quart sodium hypochlorite 5% solution (Clorox®, for example)
 - d. 3 quarts water
4. Caulking Compounds, Tar and Similar Substances - Use mineral spirits in reasonable amounts and apply directly to the foreign substance. Immediately after cleaning, rinse the area thoroughly with water.