

# Weathering Steel



## WEATHERING STEEL

Weathering Steel, also known as Corten (the original brand name), is an extremely durable material, which makes it suitable for many street furniture applications. Before choosing Weathering Steel, it's important to consider a potential downside: the pigmented runoff from the material. Until Weathering Steel fully stabilizes, this runoff may stain the ground beneath or transfer onto anything it comes into contact with, such as clothing.

Mitigation measures can be taken, such as gravel borders, or grating around objects. Sealers can be used where contact is likely, but they do detract from the natural look of the material and, unlike exposed Weathering Steel, do require maintenance.



# Maintaining Weathering Steel



## MAINTENANCE

Prior to shipping, all our weathering steel has been shot blasted to remove mill scale and give the surface an even finish. Once the material has been shot blasted, it has a grey metallic appearance but will quickly start to oxidize and turn orangey-brown, which darkens over time.

There may be some unevenness in the finish initially, as the initial formation of the passive layer sees a very distinctive change in colour over a short period of time. Any unevenness will disappear within a number of months. The patination process can be accelerated by the use of chemicals, but the simplest and safest way to speed up the process is by spraying the material with a saltwater solution over a period of a couple of weeks.

Should the Corten require cleaning this can be done using a scrubbing brush and warm water with a mild detergent. Avoid abrasive cleaners as they will remove or alter the texture of the weathered surface. Graffiti can be removed using a graffiti remover such as AF Graffiti Remover Gel GRG400.