



# hamma<sup>®</sup> Marine Stainless Steel Cleaning Guide

Care advice for yacht rigging and marine stainless steel components



# Welcome to the hamma<sup>®</sup> Marine Stainless Steel Cleaning Guide

This guide has been developed to help keep your stainless steel wire rope and fittings looking their best and performing at their peak in harsh marine environments

## WHY CLEAN STAINLESS STEEL?

We often hear: *“Why do I need to clean stainless steel? I never used to.”*

Stainless steel remains the most reliable material for marine rigging. What has changed is the environment it now operates in.

### Modern marine conditions include:

- Higher levels of airborne pollutants
- Increased onboard electronics and stray current risk
- Hotter temperatures and less natural rinsing
- Greater expectations around appearance and presentation

Over time, salt, grime and contaminants build up on the surface. This can lead to tea staining, surface rust and dull finishes.



This guide focuses on appearance, not strength.

Our hamma<sup>®</sup> stainless steel wire and fittings are manufactured to the highest global standards and are backed by a 10-year structural warranty.

Cleaning helps preserve the finish and appearance, because the strength is already built in.

# Do I Have to Clean It?

**No, not if you are comfortable with it showing its age.**

But if you want your yacht to look clean, sharp and well maintained, then occasional cleaning is recommended.

## HERE'S WHAT WE RECOMMEND:

LOCATION	RECOMMENDED CLEANING
Open ocean / Tropical mooring	Monthly
Marina berth / Day sailing	Every 2–3 months
Covered / Dry-stored vessels	Twice a year

Tea staining, surface rust and grime do not affect structural strength. They do affect appearance, resale value and the longevity of nearby fittings.



# What to Use and What to Avoid

This isn't about scrubbing with whatever's in the galley.

## HERE'S WHAT WORKS:

- **Mild detergent** or **iQ Super Clean** (biodegradable salt/grime remover)
- **Soft cloths** or **wash pads** – no abrasives, no steel wool
- **Collinite 850 Metal Wax** – optional for tea stain removal
- **Collinite 845 Insulator Wax** – seals and protects surfaces
- **Fluid Film®** – great for terminals, swages, and crevices

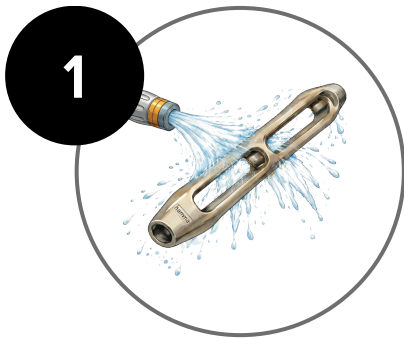
## HERE'S WHAT TO AVOID:

- ⊗ Bleach or acidic cleaners
- ⊗ Abrasive scourers or steel wool
- ⊗ Tools or cloths previously used on carbon steel



You can source these individually, or use our **hamma® Marine Stainless Steel Cleaning Kit** which includes everything in one box. (optional, not required).

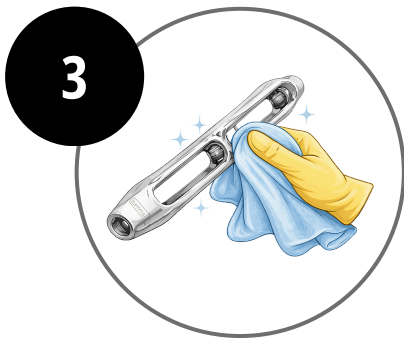
# Smart Cleaning Process (Simple 4-Step)



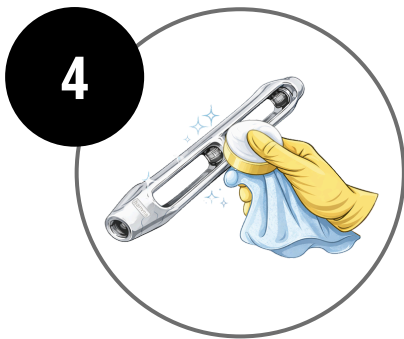
**Rinse** stainless steel with fresh water



**Clean** with soft cloth and mild detergent or iQ Super Clean (60 ml per 1L water)



**Dry** thoroughly to avoid water marks and deposits



**Optional** – apply wax for protection, or Fluid Film® to hard-to-reach parts

# Managing Tea Staining

Tea staining appears as brown marks or streaks on stainless steel. It is caused by surface contamination, not material failure.

## TO REMOVE TEA STAINING:

- Use a stainless-specific polish such as Collinite 850
- Rub gently with a soft cloth
- Wipe clean and reapply protective wax



## IF STAINING RETURNS QUICKLY, CHECK FOR:

- Poor drainage or salt traps
- Stray current from nearby fittings
- High humidity or limited airflow

⚠ For persistent issues, please seek professional advice.



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