DOOR HARDWARE - PERIODIC MAINTENANCE

It is important that care is taken to maintain door furniture as many finishes are damaged by incorrect cleaning. Frequent dusting with a dry soft cloth and occasional washing with warm soapy water followed by an application of wax polish will aid the preservation and appearance of most finishes. Chemical sprays, cellulose thinners and silicone based polishes must be avoided. External ironmongery will require more frequent attention due to its exposure to the elements. We do not advise the use of solvents, metal polishes or abrasive powders for cleaning lacquered or electro plated finishes.

**Lever Handles**
Periodically check back plate or rose fixings for tightness. Spindle grub screw should also be inspected and tightened from time to time. Poorly fitted or maintained lever furniture can prevent the latch from operating correctly.

Lever handles are supplied with a cotton sleeve to protect the grip section during decorating. Please do not remove until all wet trades are complete.

**Mortice lock cases**
Exposed surfaces can be wiped clean with a soft cloth. Do not allow polish to enter the mechanism or the cylinder keyway. Face and strike plates should not be painted when decorating as this may cause bolts to fail. When decorating it is advisable to remove lock cases from doors at which time they may be cleaned and inspected. Cylinders should only be lubricated with recommended solutions – do not use oil.

**Hinges**
Hinges should be periodically inspected for wear; all fasteners should be checked for tightness. Periodical lubrication with a light grade machine oil is advisable. For hinges with bearings use an aerosol lubricant such as WD-40 or Tri-Flo which can penetrate into the hinge internal areas. Where necessary wipe clean with a weak solution of washing up liquid. Check that no additional strains are present upon the door caused by building movement or due to warping of the frame or door. This may result in the hinges being put under severe additional loadings.

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