

Chrome Accessory, Tapware & Shower: Care Guide

Best Cleaning Methods

<u>Task</u>	<u>Method</u>
Daily upkeep	Wipe dry with a soft microfiber cloth after each use to prevent water spots and limescale forming.
Routine clean	Warm water + a few drops of mild dish soap on a soft cloth; rinse and dry thoroughly.
Limescale removal	Soak a cloth in diluted white vinegar (1:1 with water), wrap around the affected area for 10–15 minutes, then rinse and dry immediately. Don't leave vinegar on longer than needed — prolonged acid contact can dull chrome too.
Stubborn spots	A soft paste of baking soda and water, applied gently with a soft cloth, then rinsed well.
Polishing/shine	Use a chrome-safe polish occasionally (follow product instructions) — avoid generic metal polishes not rated for chrome.

Avoid: steel wool, scouring pads, bleach, ammonia-based cleaners, and abrasive powders.

Why Chrome can Fade or Peel

- 1. Calcium & Mineral Build-Up (Limescale)** Hard water leaves calcium and magnesium deposits on the surface. Over time this dulls the shine, creates a cloudy or chalky film, and if left untreated can etch into the chrome finish, leaving permanent dull patches.
- 2. Abrasive Cleaning** Scouring pads, steel wool, or abrasive powders scratch the thin protective chrome layer, exposing the base metal underneath to corrosion.
- 3. Harsh Chemicals** Bleach, ammonia, and strong acidic cleaners break down the chrome plating and any protective lacquer, accelerating discoloration and pitting.
- 4. Prolonged Moisture Exposure** Water left sitting on the surface (rather than wiped dry) promotes both limescale build-up and underlying corrosion, especially in humid bathrooms.
- 5. Coastal/Salt Air Exposure** Chloride in salty air speeds up corrosion of the plating and base metal.

Prevention Tips

- Dry tapware with a soft cloth after every use — this alone prevents most limescale and water-spot damage.
- Clean weekly with mild soap rather than letting build-up accumulate.
- In hard water areas, consider a water softener or descale more frequently.
- Address rust or bubbling spots early — once plating is breached, corrosion spreads underneath quickly.