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Material data and care instructions

Copper

Notes on using products made of copper from Richard Brink GmbH & Co. KG

We manufacture a range of products, such as chimney caps and edge profiles, from copper, which is easy to cold form and solder. This material has a very high level of corrosion resistance and therefore a very long service life. Under normal conditions a protective layer is formed that also makes it resistant to sea air.

1. How is copper corrosion-resistant and are there any limitations?

Our copper products, once installed, are constantly under the influence of oxygen. Contact with oxygen causes a protective layer (*patina*) to form, which makes the material extremely resistant, even in slightly acidic or alkaline environments.

Under normal conditions there are no significant restrictions when it comes to corrosion protection, as long as the material is not exposed to aggressive leachates from other materials.

Note that when used at the same time as other metals, e.g. metals used for fastenings, contact corrosion may occur. Always avoid contact with products made of zinc, uncoated aluminium and galvanised steel. Screws made of copper and stainless steel are suitable.

2. Damaging influences on copper surfaces

Aggressive leachates, acids and exhaust fumes can damage the copper surface. The products should not be used in industrial environments. In normal use, our products are only affected by natural influences such as condensation, rain and snow. These influences do not cause the copper surface to corrode.

Chimney caps made of copper plate can soil chimney cladding and roof surfaces.

3. Cleaning and caring for copper products

Once the patina layer is formed, copper is extremely low maintenance. Nevertheless, we recommend cleaning the surface regularly and checking it for any changes (*once or twice a year*).

It is a question of personal taste as to whether the copper plate should be cleaned.

If the goal is only to remove soiling, cleaning can be performed without a cleaning agent. It is generally sufficient to lightly brush the surface. Please observe the following additional points with regard to cleaning:

Copper products are generally to be cleaned by hand using suitable, non-abrasive cleaning agents.

Avoid allowing dust particles from other metals to come into contact with the product, or generally cutting components with flying sparks near the product, as the surfaces of all materials are very sensitive.

If dust particles or contamination from other metals are present, these must be removed immediately using an appropriate cleaning agent.

Remove protective films early, as otherwise the film and steel surface may bond. Remove adhesive residues with spirit. Warming it up slightly makes removal easier.

**Do you have any questions?
We will be pleased to help you!**