



# **L A B A S T I L L E**

## **Caring for Pewter & Zinc Surfaces**

Pewter & Zinc surfaces are relatively easy to maintain, but they come with some precautions. As these are living metals, the surface color may change and begin to darken slightly over time. This is the beauty of these materials. Do not become alarmed at the first markings and embrace that the material is undergoing a natural process. These materials oxidize and respond to their environment.

To properly care for these surfaces, adhere to the following:

### **Clean Regularly**

Mild soap and water or Simple Green is all it takes to keep these surfaces clean. A basic daily or after-use wipe-down is generally enough to maintain the surface appearance and cleanliness. You may begin to see some changes in the color. Spots may appear. Please be patient as this is part of the patina process. This will happen even with a lacquer applied.

### **No Patina Applied**

To restore pewter surfaces that were not chemically treated with a patina solution by La Bastille, clean the surface with Brasso and some elbow grease followed by putting lemon juice on a moist towel applied in a circular fashion. **DO NOT POUR LEMON JUICE DIRECTLY ON THE SURFACE.**

To maintain the bright, shiny appearance of pewter, periodically apply a thin coat of carnauba wax after cleaning to protect the surface.

### **Patina Applied**

If La Bastille applied a chemical patina to darken your top, and you are experiencing any issues, please call for help with solutions and do not use Brasso or lemon juice. Without this polishing, a natural patina will form in a few months' time.

### **Avoid Acidic Materials**

Each patina finish is carefully created by hand. Do not use cleaners with acidic chemicals or fluids such as lemon, lime, or orange juice on the table's surface. It will strip the color of the patina; however, if it does mark, keep using the surface and it within several months, should blend with the rest of the surface.

### **Do Not Use Harsh Chemical Cleaners**

This includes bleach products, ammonia products and other chemical abrasives. These cleaners are too harsh for the soft surface of pewter and can cause damage.

### **Do Not Use for Cutting**

Pewter and zinc are softer than stainless steel. They resist scratches from general daily use, but the application of a sharp edge directly on the surface will leave an impression. We recommend the use of a cutting board.

### **Do Not Place Hot Items Directly on Surface**

Use hot plates and trivets and do not place hot pots and pans directly on surfaces.