

## Quickstart Directions for Everbrite™ or ProtectaClear® on Unpainted or Bare Metal

**Suggested Project Use:** Uncoated copper, silver, brass, bronze, gold-plate, stainless steel, steel, chrome, aluminum (not anodized), and any non-painted metals.

Everbrite™ is recommended for copper roofs and awnings as well as any project where ProtectaClear® is not needed. ProtectaClear® is required for Stainless Steel, highly or mirror polished surfaces, items that get a lot of use and abuse, and food safe items. *For instance, jewelry, sinks, counter/bar tops, appliances, flatware, stainless steel, polished brass, wheels, walkable surfaces, hardware and high-use hand rails.*

**\*Read entire directions thoroughly before beginning.\***

### 4 Basic Steps

1. Clean or Polish (if necessary)
2. Neutralize Acid (if used)
3. Solvent Wipe
4. Apply Coating

### PREPARATION

Thorough preparation is very important. If you try to take shortcuts on preparation, you will likely not achieve the intended results and may need to remove the coating and start again. The article to be coated must be scrupulously clean and completely dry before applying the coating.

#### NEW or METAL WITH PATINA

Skip to **Solvent Wipe** step below. Solvent will NOT remove most forms of tarnish or patina. Test a small area first.

#### TARNISHED or OXIDIZED METAL

Follow polish, neutralize & solvent wipe steps before applying coating.

#### **1. CLEAN or POLISH**

Clean, polish or buff the surface to the luster desired with any metal polish you prefer (we recommend MAAS Polish, which can be found on our website). The metal can also be sanded or simply cleaned to desired appearance.

#### **2. NEUTRALIZE**

Note: THIS STEP CAN BE SKIPPED IF USING CLEANERS OR POLISHES THAT ARE NOT ACID BASED. MAAS does not contain acid, however many polishes do, check ingredient list for any type of acid. If you are unsure, complete this step. Use EZ Prep™ Cleaner & Neutralizer in a solution of 1 part EZ Prep to 4 parts water. As an alternative, use 1 cup baking soda mixed with 1 gallon of water (or a similar ratio). Wash the metal with a cloth saturated with the neutralizing solution being careful to cover the entire surface at least once. Rinse with clean water. Dry with a clean cloth to prevent spotting.

#### **3. SOLVENT WIPE**

**Solvent wipe** the metal with xylene, a xylene substitute, denatured alcohol, or acetone to remove any traces of residue. If using acetone, be careful. Acetone is a strong solvent, take caution near any painted surfaces. This step needs to be done immediately before coating. Do NOT dilute or rinse the solvent. This step will ensure a completely clean and dry surface. **Skipping this step will result in poor adhesion of the coating.** (Solvent not included in kits – available at hardware stores)

#### **PREPARATION TIPS:**

##### **USE GLOVES TO AVOID FINGERPRINTS**

After cleaning, use gloves during handling to protect from fingerprints and avoid problems later.

##### **REMOVE FILMS, OILS, WAXES & SILICONE**

These can interfere with adhesion or cause separation. They need to be removed completely. Most waxes can be removed with ammonia. Silicone is a common coating agent which can be removed with mineral spirits (*available at hardware stores*). Once removed, complete Step 3 (Solvent Wipe) again.

##### **IF MOLD IS PRESENT**

Before any cleaning, wet the surface with water. Apply a bleach solution of 1 part bleach to 4 parts water.

##### **POLISH WITH MAAS**

We recommend MAAS Polish, a non-acidic polish that does not require neutralization.

##### **NEUTRALIZING ACIDS IS CRITICAL**

It is very important to neutralize any acid from polishes, cleaners, or chemical methods very well before coating. Acids remaining can discolor the metal under the coating or interact with the coating leaving streaks of discoloration. For example, blackening or black streaks on copper are common when not well neutralized. **For strong acids**, you may need to strengthen the solution. To strengthen the neutralizing solution, use 1 part EZ Prep to 3 Parts water. Or 2 cups of baking soda to a gallon of water.

##### **REMOVE ALL MOISTURE**

Porous metals like steel will need to be bone dry before coating. Heat guns, hair dryers, or extra time in the sun will help trapped moisture evaporate.

##### **THE SOLVENT WIPE STEP IS NECESSARY!**

The solvent wipe is necessary for best adhesion to ensure a clean dry surface immediately before coating.

## PREPARING THE COATING

**SATIN finishes** – The flattening agent in the coating will settle. You **MUST** stir Satin well for 5 to 10 minutes each time before applying. Failure to stir well before you start and frequently throughout the application period may result in a streaky and uneven finish. (There is NO requirement to stir the clear finish.)

**Do NOT shake the can** to avoid bubbles appearing in the coating.

**Do NOT thin the coatings.**

## 4. APPLICATION OF COATING

1. Pour the coating into clean, dry, metal or glass pan.
2. Submerge applicator completely into the coating. Gently squeeze out just the excess. Applicator should be saturated but not dripping. This is important as dry areas in the applicator can cause streaks.
3. Apply the coating to the surface letting the applicator **glide** across the surface. Do not press hard. Applicator should glide smoothly. When it starts showing resistance, dip the applicator again. If you get drips, simply smooth them out before the coating starts to dry. Observe the coating while applying; if the coating separates or does not look completely smooth, **STOP** and re-clean the surface.

Let the coating dry completely. It will self-level as it dries. If you see an area you missed, let it dry and then coat over the missed area. Everbrite coatings are self-annealing; meaning the second coat will become part of the first coat. Wait at least one hour between coats or until the previous coat is completely dry. Most projects require two coats, some need more. (See Project Specific Tips page.)

**CURE TIME:** The coating is an air dry solvent, so heat and air circulation help speed curing. Under normal circumstances & with good ventilation, the coating will be cured after 4-5 days. The coating will be delicate until it is fully cured, which can take up to two weeks. You can shorten cure time by gently heating the coating AFTER it is dry to the touch. Dry, coated items placed in a low temperature oven (140°F -180°F) for 1 hour will be cured when cooled.

Coating **MUST** be fully cured before prolonged contact with other surfaces, for example, packaging, allowing water to sit on the coated surface, immersing in water or filling fountains, etc. In most cases, dew or rain does not hurt the coating once it is dry for 3-4 hours. Do not allow pooling water to remain on the surface of the coating for a minimum of two weeks after coating.

**AFTER CARE:** Do NOT use solvent or citrus based cleaners or abrasives to clean coated metal. Do not use cleaners with “petroleum distillates”. Suggested cleaners: Windex, mild dish soap and water or similar mild cleaners.

**MAINTENANCE & LONGEVITY:** Once coated, the coating is easy to maintain. As long as the original coating is still intact, wash the surface with a mild dish soap and water, dry well, and recoat. It is best to recoat before any tarnish or oxidation is seen or at the first sight of slight color change. The longevity of the coating is dependent on proper application of the coating, it’s environment, and general use and abuse.

**SHELF LIFE OF COATING:** Our *Clear* coating has an indefinite shelf life if stored in an air tight metal or glass container. Keep any extra coating for touch ups. We recommend cleaning the threads of the container before reattaching the lid. The *Satin* finish coating will settle, eventually becoming difficult to mix well due to the flattening agent.

**COATING REMOVAL:** The coatings can be removed from **unpainted** metals with solvents like Xylene or a Xylene substitute or they can be removed mechanically by sanding for larger areas like copper roofs. Small items can be soaked in solvent. Wear personal protection. Wet a cloth or paper towels with the solvent completely. Move the wet cloth over the coated metal with light pressure. Rubbing hard is not advised. When the coating begins to “melt”, wipe it up and off of the surface. Repeat until the coating is gone.

## HOW TO OPEN THE CAN

To remove the metal insert found in some cans, unscrew the cap. Hold the can to prevent the coating from spilling. Use a small screwdriver or ice-pick to pierce through the insert and pop it out. Use a small hammer to tap the screwdriver to puncture the metal. Discard this piece.



### APPLICATION TIPS:

#### **PERSONAL PROTECTION:**

Allow for adequate ventilation. Always wear nitrile or chemical resistant gloves when applying the coating. If spraying with an HVLP or airless sprayer, a NIOSH respirator is recommended.

#### **CAUTION - RUBBER & SOFT PLASTICS:**

Our coating will melt rubber and soft plastics. Use nitrile gloves or chemical resistant gloves as rubber gloves will become sticky. Use glass or metal when pouring coating into another container. Use a natural bristled brush for a brush application (no synthetics).

#### **TEMPERATURE & HUMIDITY MATTER:**

Coating is best applied in temperatures from 55-85 degrees and without humidity. (40-100 degrees outside temperature is a workable range.) The temperature of the metal is more important than the air temperature. The metal is too hot if you cannot place the back of your hand on it for 10-15 seconds. If it is too cold, warm the metal with a heat gun, hair dryer, or work in the sun or shade appropriately. Do not apply if the temperature is within 10 degrees of the dew point. You can access dew point information for your area on [weather.com](http://weather.com).

#### **APPLICATION METHODS:**

Application method is a matter of personal preference and somewhat project dependent. For application, use a clear-coat applicator: applicator pad, sponge brush, natural-bristled paintbrush, dense microfiber roller, clean dry lint-free white cloth, aerosol can, HVLP or Airbrush paint sprayer with a fine-finish tip. If using a cloth, fold it into a pad. Aerosols are not recommended for large, flat surfaces. For intricate items or jewelry chains spraying is the best application. Items can also be dipped into the coating and hung to dry.

#### **APPLICATOR CARE & CLEANING:**

Rollers, sponge brushes, and applicator pads are discarded after use, but they will last for a short while if wrapped well in aluminum foil to stop brushes/tools from becoming hard between coats or during breaks. Brushes and spray tips can be cleaned Xylene or a Xylene substitute.

**TEST FIRST:** For larger projects, it is recommended to test application of the coating in a small section before coating your entire project.

## Project specific tips before you start:

**Copper:** If high mineral content in water, use distilled water to avoid discoloration from water mineral components. Copper Cleaning Gel is available for heavily tarnished copper. If using this the gel, see the Copper Cleaning Gel directions. **Copper Roofs:** Polish is not recommended for older tarnished copper roofs due to the roughness of the metal. Polish gets stuck in the rough areas and cannot easily be removed.

**Sinks and water features:** Avoid pooling water, filling with water, or pouring boiling water in the sink for a minimum of two weeks after coating. Sinks may take longer to cure. A deep sink does not get much air circulation. A hairdryer or heated fan can be used every so often to introduce heat and circulation to the area after it is coated to speed curing.

**Stainless Steel :** Many stainless steel cleaners contain silicone. Silicone residue must be removed before applying the coating. Silicone is a common coating agent which can be removed with mineral spirits (*available at hardware stores*). A solvent wipe is still needed. **Appliances:** Faux stainless steel appliances are not suitable for our coating due to the plastic nature of the material. **Stainless**

**Steel (where rust needs to be removed):** Stainless Steel Rust Remover and our synthetic steel wool Prep Pads are excellent for removing rust. (Do not use regular steel wool.) See the specific Rust Remover directions first. Rusty stainless can also be wet sanded with very fine 600-2000 grit automotive sand paper. Always clean and sand with the grain.

**Jewelry:** Jewelry items due to their size can be brushed, dipped or sprayed and it is best to bake cure them. See Cure Time instructions.

- **Brushing:** Lay your items on foil and brush ProtectaClear on with a natural-bristle brush or a sponge-brush. Gently glide the brush over the surface without getting too much excess on the foil below. After an hour you can apply the 2nd coat. If you want to coat the other side of the piece, wait at least 2 hours before turning it over to coat the other side (use a new piece of foil to coat the other side on to avoid any wet coating sticking to the dry side) We recommend coating the “back side” of the piece first.
- **Dipping:** Place a piece of foil or something under the items in case of drips. You can insert an unbent uncoated paper clip through the eye of your jewelry piece to dip it. Dip the piece in the coating, and then pull it up. Let the coating drip for a few seconds. It is helpful to have a small "artist's paintbrush" to brush off the excess coating that may gather at the bottom and around the hanger. Hang the item to dry where it isn't touching anything else. Make sure to check the item after a couple of minutes, to see if any excess coating has gathered at the bottom. Once the piece has dried for at least an hour, and is dry to the touch, you can apply the 2nd coat. Dip the item, smooth out the excess, and let it dry.
- **Spraying:** Hang the item and spray. You should be 5-6 inches away when spraying. Do not over spray; a quick pass is sufficient for each coat. Apply 2nd coat after 1st coat is dry to the touch, at least an hour.

**Questions: Call Everbrite, Inc. (916) 852-0200 or visit RenewMetal.com**

### Number of coats needed:

Most projects require two coats, some need more, and a few can do with less.

- Kitchen Sinks: 4 coats  
(bathroom sinks 2 coats)
- Countertops/Bar/Tabletops: 3-4 coats
- Rings (jewelry): 3-4 coats
- Steel (raw, cold rolled, other): 3-4 coats
- Walkable surfaces: 3 coats
- Copper Roofing: 2-3 Coats
- Highly polished: 1-2 coats (two if high handling or high use/abuse)
- Kitchen Appliances/Hoods: 1 good coat