

Caring for Your Bronze Artwork

Bronze is one of the oldest and most durable materials in the world. Bronze is capable of withstanding elements of nature and will endure thousands of years without any care. However, the patina finish of bronze does require care and maintenance to endure the test of time and the effect of the environment. UV Rays are the most harmful; UV is hard on all finishings and surfaces. Any matter that sits on or against the surface is also bad for the artwork. Be careful to not scratch the bronze. Consider what would scratch the car, will also scratch the bronze. Patinas are typically finished with a thin clear coat of lacquer and then waxed. The wax protects the lacquer from moisture, UV, and abrasions.

The following care and maintenance of bronze is recommended by Josh Tobey and The Mountain Fine Art Productions.

Indoor Care:

- Use a microfiber cloth to clean and polish the surface of your bronze.
- Do not use chemicals, or other cleaning products, as these can damage the patina.

Outdoor and General Care:

- Clean your bronze with water and Dawn dish soap. Rinse with water and then dry with a soft towel.
- We recommend waxing at least once a year. (See directions below.)
- Avoid exposure to sprinklers whenever possible to avoid calcium build up and damage to the lacquer and wax finish.
- Be mindful of objects that may fall, branches that may brush against the piece, or any repeated environmental contact. These can damage the patina and even the bronze over time.
- Do not use a pressure washer and/or harsh abrasives.
- Do not use chemicals, or other cleaning products, whether indoors or outdoors.
- You must *never EVER* use car or marine wax. This will damage the finish and the patina.
- Always place your outdoor sculpture on a firm and dry surface. Placing the work in an area that is constantly wet or absorbing moisture will damage the unique finish.
- Think of your outdoor bronze as you would a classic car: regular polishing and waxing will help maintain its integrity and ensure it stands the test of time.

Waxing the Artwork:

- Apply a very thin layer of Kiwi Neutral wax using a brush and let it dry. Be cautious -- not to let the metal of the brush touch or scratch the bronze, it is best to wrap the ferrule with tape.
- When the wax is dry, use a microfiber cloth to polish the bronze. Continue this process until your desired shine is achieved.

Approved Materials:

Soft Bristle Brushes

Kiwi Shoe Polish: Neutral Color

Chip or Paint Brush

Microfiber Cleaning Cloth

Dawn Dish Soap

Other Recommendations:

- Wrap the ferrule of the wax brush with tape. This will prevent the metal ferrule from hitting/scratching the bronze/patina.
- Indoor work should be waxed if it is touched frequently. If not, wax every 5 years.
- Outdoor work should be cleaned and waxed annually.

If you have any questions or concerns about caring for your bronze artwork, please do not hesitate to contact the studio. All bronzes can be repaired and repatinaed. If there are touchups that need to take place, please contact to studio and ship them to The Mountain Fine Art Productions. We're here to ensure you can enjoy your piece for many years to come.