



SOLUTIONS

PAINTING ANODIZED ALUMINUM

Anodizing is an electrochemical process whereupon a coating is firmly attached to extruded aluminum pieces.

In Florida, anodized aluminum is prevalent around exterior windows and sliding glass doors as well as railings, screened pool cages and decorative trim. Anodizing is a terrific process for protecting aluminum from oxidation and corrosion, as well as for providing a long lasting appearance. However, in Florida's harsh climate, even anodized aluminum loses its luster and will corrode in time. Refinishing anodized aluminum is not difficult when certain good sense surface preparation procedures and finishing processes are observed. For most purposes in refinishing anodized aluminum, the following should be accomplished:

1. Surfaces should be dry, clean, and free of oxidation and white corrosion.
2. Remove powdery oxidation and corrosion by using #1 steel wool followed by a cleaning wipe down of denatured alcohol, xylene or MEK. Do not use mineral spirits or other residue-leaving cleaners before priming and finishing.

Priming and Finishing Systems

There are several ways to coat anodized aluminum. The simplest system that is long lasting is to apply a prime coat of Scott Aquaseal #690 Clear or #692 White, followed with a coat Scott Allgrip #435 Semi-Gloss or #445 Gloss is excellent and long lasting. These finishes may be applied by brush, roller, or HVLP spray. Spraying gives the most uniform finish.

For the ultimate factory-type finish, prepare the surface as noted above, eliminating the primer and then topcoating with a spray application of Scott-Thane #7500 Two Component Urethane Acrylic Paint. This is an automotive-type finish that will give the longest sunlight resistance and durability, but really needs to be HVLP spray applied for best results. Ultimately for most applications on architectural trim, the water based systems are more than adequate for quality and satisfaction.

For further information, contact your nearest Scott Paint store to discuss your particular situation and needs.

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