



Care and Maintenance of Tournesol Siteworks FRP Fiberglass Pots and Planters

Warning: Always open packaging upon receipt to inspect planters. Do not store long term in original packaging, or covered with plastic.

Thank you for purchasing a quality fiberglass product from Tournesol Siteworks. We pride ourselves on producing containers and site furnishings that meet with your complete satisfaction, both today and into the future. All our fiberglass products are designed for use primarily in exterior applications although they hold up beautifully indoors as well.

A few notes on Tournesol fiberglass finishes-

- **Metal-Infused Finishes** (aged bronze, aluminum, copper, iron) are created by blending atomized metals directly into polyester gel coat, then buffed and polished by hand to expose the metal. This creates slight variations in appearance that are considered a natural part of the planter. The natural metal surface will change as it ages or is exposed to water and chemicals.
- **Metal Matched Paints (MMP)** are acrylic enamel paint-based finishes, applied on a resin surface. The color and sheen are designed to give the appearance of our metal-infused finishes, but will not change over time.
- **Solid Color Resin Finishes** are acrylic enamel paint-based finishes, applied on a resin surface. Although designed for exterior use, these colors may change gradually when exposed to sunlight.

General Maintenance & Repair

- The interior of our FRP planters is sealed with black gel coat resin. To ensure pots in interior applications never leak, we recommend using a shallow plastic saucer inside the container. For exterior applications, the pot should have a hole cut into the bottom or side. Otherwise, a pump-out (or siphon) tube should be used to remove water from the pot. Water standing at the bottom of the pot over a long period will harm the plant and may break down the gel coat sealant.
- Tournesol Siteworks fiberglass planters are designed to hold up to the elements. In fact, we use more fiberglass and resin in our pots than most other manufacturers. However, they can still scratch, crack or chip if abused. Small holes can be filled with epoxy, then touched up with paint or resin to match. Larger holes may require glass fiber mat or cloth spread over the area, then applying epoxy until even with the fiberglass surface. Light sanding will help blend the surfaces. Again, touch up to match the surface.
- Take care not to push or pull full-planted pots by the top lip.
- Clean T0 (smooth) finishes by gentle scrubbing with soap & water applied with a soft brush or sponge. Do not use abrasives on standard (painted) finishes..
- Clean T1 and T2 (textured) finishes with soap & water applied by a gentle spray from a pressure washer. Do not scrub textured finishes with stiff brushes, steel wool, or other abrasives.

Metal-Infused Finishes (Aged Bronze, Aged Copper, Aluminum, Iron)

- Light scratches, surface imperfections, or blemishes can be removed from metal-infused finishes by buffing the surface with fine (#00) steel wool or a Scotchbrite pad. This will also remove any patina that has developed!
- The Iron finish is actually atomized steel. It starts out dark gray, and will naturally rust over time. This rust will leach from the planter and stain surfaces. We can provide you with a saucer (not in the Iron finish) if this is a problem, or use our MMP Iron finish to achieve the same dark gray look without the rust. We can delay the rusting process for a time using clear gel-coat exterior sealers. Ask your Tournesol Siteworks salesperson for details.
- Aged Bronze and Aged Copper finishes will naturally patina when left outside. The amount and color of patina will vary, depending upon your environment and the degree of exposure.

Between Landscape + Architecture

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Experience shows that many things can affect patina (spilled soda, dog urine, cleaning solvents, even rainwater), and that the effect is not always even nor consistent. Patina can generally be removed by buffing with a fine (#00) piece of steel wool or a Scotchbrite pad. Patina can be enhanced or accelerated by lightly rubbing the finish with dish soaps containing sulphates. We can also prevent patina using clear gel-coat sealers (again, ask your Tournesol Siteworks salesperson for info).

Application of Touch-Up Paint and Resin (included with Tournesol Care Kit)

Each kit includes a can of acrylic enamel paint and catalyst (for standard finishes) or a can of resin and a small bottle of catalyst (for metallic finishes). Both the paint and the polyester resin touch-up material are two-part coatings. When the catalyst (bottle labeled "Catalyst") is mixed into the paint or resin it will begin the hardening process. You will have 60-120 minutes to apply the material, depending upon the temperature and humidity. Any material left over after this time will be unusable.

1. Clean the area to be touched up, making sure it is dry. Any deep scratches can be filled or fixed with epoxy prior to repair (see general maintenance instructions on reverse side).
2. All finishes are subject to environmental change. To minimize the impact of the repair, apply the touch-up sparingly, just to the area that needs to be fixed.
3. The paint and resin is packaged in a plastic paint can. Shake thoroughly, then pry open with opener or screw-driver.
4. Add catalyst to resin or paint. The bottles are pre-measured – add the entire contents of the catalyst bottle, then stir vigorously. Use this mix within 1-2 hours. All remaining reacted material should be disposed of.
5. Use a small paddle or brush to apply paint or resin to the area to be touched up. Resin mixtures are typically somewhat thicker than the paints.
6. If you are touching up a metal-infused finish, be aware that the fresh metal may not have the same "aged" look as the existing finish. Once the resin is dry, buff the repaired metallic resin with a piece of Scotchbrite or steel wool to bring out the metallic shine.

Please call Tournesol Siteworks at 800-542-2282 for further information.

Tournesol Siteworks' Limited Three-Year Warranty

Tournesol Siteworks, LLC warrants to the initial purchaser of its products that they will repair or replace product that contains a defect in material or workmanship for a period of three years from the date it is delivered to the initial purchaser.

This limited warranty does not include those parts which fall under standard regular maintenance of the planter, including but not limited to parts which are subject to periodic replacement. The warranty does not apply to conditions resulting from misuse, abuse, failure to follow directions for use, unauthorized modifications, neglect, accident or other hazard or the like. ***The remedy under this warranty is limited to repair or replacement, at Tournesol Siteworks's option, of the defective parts of the warranted product.*** Repair or replacement of a part does not extend the warranty beyond the initial warranty period.

This is the only written warranty applicable to the product. The duration of the implied warranty on the product is limited to the three year duration of this express warranty ***In no event shall Tournesol Siteworks be liable for any incidental or consequential damages, including but not limited to damage to any plants which may have been planted in the product.*** Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations or exclusions may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which may vary from state to state.

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