

Learn More About It

THOMAS' LIQUID STAINLESS STEEL

Application

1) How long does it take?

An average size refrigerator, range and dishwasher can be transformed with Thomas' Liquid Stainless Steel™ in a weekend. It is very important to apply per our instructions. Total time for completion is 7 - 10 hours.

It is not necessary to do all your appliances at one time. You may just start and finish one appliance at a time. Just ensure you seal your can lids tight, and thoroughly clean your rollers and brushes between projects.

You may also apply your Clear Topcoat at a later date, it does not have to be applied during the same project. Note: the Clear Topcoat does provide added protection to your new Liquid Stainless Steel™ finish.

2) Do you need to disconnect or move your appliances?

No, it is not necessary to disconnect or move any of your large appliances. Small appliances such as a toaster, blender, mixer or microwave should be unplugged. You may keep all of your food in your refrigerator and freezer, just slightly crack your fridge doors while the edges dry.

You may refinish your appliances where they sit - or you may elect to slide out your refrigerator for access to any side that you require.

You can cook with your oven-stove and utilize your dishwasher and microwave in twenty-four hours after finishing.

3) Do you need to prime your appliances first?

No, you do not need to prime your appliances. Just clean them well with a window cleaner such as Windex to remove any grease, dirt and residue.

4) How well do you have to mix up the Liquid Stainless Steel paint can?

Over time, the micronized stainless steel will have tendency to settle in the can. The first time you use it, you'll need to shake and then stir the can well in order to get all the stainless steel dispersed again. You will find the settled stainless steel at the bottom of the can may be stirred back into the solution within a few minutes. Only an intermittent stirring is needed after that.

5) How do you apply the brush-on coating?

On big surfaces such as your refrigerator, you simply roll Thomas' Stainless Steel Base Coat onto one section to get the coating on quickly. Then while it's still wet, brush back over what

you just applied, using long one-way strokes to remove the stipple created by the roller and to impart the brushed finish in your stainless steel. You may brush back over it a few times to ensure it's smooth. Your first coat will look very sparse, and that's OK, your second and third coat will fill it in nicely. You'll see the coating brighten as it dries as the stainless steel particles flatten out and rise to the surface.

Our 11" wide Microfoam brush was engineered specifically to impart a smooth, brushed finish without lap lines. Your "Fridge Kit includes our "Save-A-Trip Kit, which includes a roller arm, roller covers, roller pan, and 11" and 3" wide Foam Brushes. Or you may choose to purchase any of our tools separately.



Roll it on and then brush it smooth with our 11" Brush

You'll apply three very thin coats of your Liquid Stainless Steel™ base coat, and then one to two coats of your Thomas' Clear Topcoat. The topcoat is included with all the Kits.



After first thin coat



After second thin coat

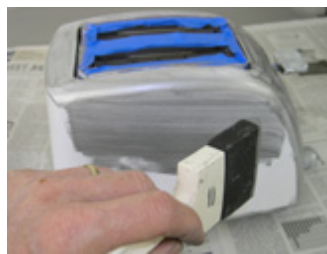


After third thin coat

Note: coating brightens as it dries as the stainless steel particles flatten out and rise to the surface.

The topcoat seals and protects the stainless steel and it builds its gloss. You may add up to a maximum of three topcoats - a fourth coat will make it cloudy.

Here's another way you can save money with Thomas' Stainless Steel™. The majority of new factory stainless steel appliances only have their fronts finished in stainless and their sides and top are painted black. You may also elect to follow this design direction - and paint your refrigerator sides and top black - in order to get more coverage with Thomas' Liquid Stainless Steel™. You may use any good water-based semi-gloss acrylic black for this.



On small appliances, skip the roller and just brush on Thomas' Stainless Steel™

6) Do you have to use the roller?

The roller speeds things up on large areas, such as your refrigerator, because it delivers an optimal amount of the coating to the surface.

On small areas or projects such as your refrigerator's door edge or on your door knobs, the roller is not necessary and the stainless steel base coat and the clear topcoat can be applied with one of your smaller Micro-Foam brushes.

Thomas' roller cover was selected because it has a short foam nap - ensuring you get a consistent amount of coating on your surface regardless of how it is rolled.

7) Do you have to brush over what you just rolled?

Yes, because if you don't, you'll get a 'stipple finish from the roller instead of a brushed finish. The 'stipple finish from the roller is darker and less reflective because it's not smooth.

8) Can you use a good latex paint brush instead of the foam brushes?

Yes, you can. However, the 11" Microfoam brush was designed specifically to impart a smooth brushed finish across a large area without the presence of lap lines between brush strokes. Typical latex paint brushes have a tendency to create visible brush strokes and lap lines in Thomas' stainless steel.

You can replace the smaller foam brushes with replacements from your local hardware store.

9) Can you apply one thick coat instead of three thin coats of Thomas'?

No, one thick coat of Liquid Stainless Steel™ will impart an uneven finish in the stainless, creating poor results and insufficient adhesion to your surface. Multiple thin coats are required. The first coat will look very sparse and uneven. That's OK. Subsequent thin coats will fill it in. You'll see the coating brightens as it dries.

10) How long do you have to wait between coats of Thomas'?

One hour.

11) Do you have to clean your brushes between coats of Thomas'?

No, just keep them sealed and wet in a plastic bag.

12) What if you brush up against it while Thomas' drying?

Wait until the blemish is dry (an hour or so). Then lightly coat over the blemish with your Liquid Stainless Steel™. Allow it to dry and lightly recoat the blemish again. Now allow it to semi-cure overnight.

The next day use your #150 grit Drip Eraser Pad or 'fine grit sand paper to lightly smooth out the coating over the blemish. Wipe off any sanded particles. Make sure it's smooth. Then re-coat over the entire section (not just the blemish) using your foam roller and MicroFoam Brush.

13) What if you notice a drip after Thomas' Stainless had dried?

Lightly sand the dried drip smooth with your #150 grit Drip Eraser Pad or fine grit sand paper. Wipe off any sanded particles. Make sure it's smooth. Then either re-touch just the drip area - or if it's still noticeable, re-coat over the entire section using your foam roller and MicroFoam Brush.

14) How long do you have to wait before you can put on the Clear Topcoat?

Two hours.

15) Do you have to put on the Clear Topcoat?

No. However, the Clear Topcoat does provide added protection to your new Liquid Stainless Steel™ finish. It seals the stainless, prevents fingerprints and it builds the finish's gloss.

One Topcoat provides a satin gloss finish. A second Topcoat creates a high gloss finish. Three Topcoats coats is the maximum gloss. A fourth Topcoat will make your finish cloudy. You may also apply our Clear Topcoat at a later date, no time minimum. It does not have to be applied during the same project.

Note, Thomas' Clear Topcoat is not designed for sealing existing fabricated stainless steel.

16) Do you have to clean your brushes before you put on the Clear Topcoat?

Yes. Rinse them thoroughly with warm water and dry with paper towels.

17) Can you spray the 'brush-on coating'?

Yes, Thomas' Liquid Stainless Steel™ can be sprayed with professional spray equipment, i.e. conventional, airless, air assisted airless, air brush, and HVLP systems with the proper tips and nozzles on the gun. Your tips should be sized to accommodate a 35 micron piece of stainless steel. Dilute 3% by volume with water.

The brushed finish can be achieved by backbrushing after spraying.

NOTE: CONSUMER POWER SPAYERS AND GARDEN SPRAYERS CANNOT BE USED.

18) How do you darken the look of my appliance's plastic, touch pad type, control panels?

You can cover them with see-through, static cling type window film available at most home centers and our website. Be sure to maintain the appropriate control of your appliances.

Note, if you need to replace your range knobs, home centers and hardware stores sell replacement 'universal knobs.

19) Can you use this on your appliance's handles?

Yes, we recommend it.

If your handles are plastic, we recommend removing them to the outdoors, if possible, and priming them first with Rust-oleum's Plastic Primer. Either use their aerosol spray or liquid brush-on version. When using their liquid primer, again - apply with a foam brush, and brush using the same technique as your Thomas' Stainless Steel™ finish ensuring consistency between your finishes. Be sure to follow Rust-oleum's safety precautions, because their product is oil based.

When using their aerosol version, use outdoors and again follow Rust-oleum's safety guidelines.

If you use their brush on primer, then buy an extra foam brush just for the primer because it is an oil-based product. Note: to determine if your surface is plastic, try getting a fridge magnet to stick to it.

20) How do you clean it up?

Use warm water and soap to clean Thomas' foam brushes and rollers. Note the rollers have a fiberboard interior so they may not be re-useable multiple times. Be sure to seal your Liquid Stainless Steel™ and Clear Topcoat Lids tight for your next project and store them inside because they are water-based.

Note - if you need to remove dried Liquid Stainless Steel™ from a surface, then consider a new non-flammable, brush-on gel called 'CitriStrip'. It's available in the Paint Department at Home Depot. Brush or wipe it on, and then let it sit for one hour - and the coating should rub off with a rag. I've also used a wood tongue depressor because it's semi soft - to help scrap off stubborn areas. Don't use anything metal as it may scratch your surface. Please follow the manufacturer's instructions and test it on a small, inconspicuous area first. Be sure the surface is clean, dry and free of any residue before re-coating.