



# MATERIAL INFORMATION + CARE AND CLEANING MAINTENANCE OF MERWE BRASS BASINS

## Brass Material Information

### What is brass?

Brass is a metallic alloy that is made of copper and zinc. Melted together to create the alloy known as brass.

### How will it wear?

Brass is a living alloy. It will respond to its environment. Changes in the hue of the basin will happen naturally with use. A patina, or darkening, will occur over time. Keep in mind that while soaps, oils and salts may make a mark on the basin, because these metals are non-porous, it virtually is stain resistant. Marks that do appear, fade and blend over time.

Merwe applied a clear lacquer to your basins. Brass that is not sealed with a coating is at the mercy of oxidation. The lacquer protects the brass and slows down the tarnishing process. This basin is ideal for people who want their brass basins to have the appearance of being vintage prize patina or tarnishing. Each basin becomes more unique over time.

### What is a patina?

A patina is a tarnish produced by chemical processes that forms on the surface of many types of metals. When exposed to the elements, a coating of various chemical compounds, such as oxides and carbonates form on the surface. A patina showing rich shades of browns and greys can take decades to acquire. Our Brass basins are pre-patinated. This leaves weathered appearance that will continue to change over time.



## Brass Care and Maintenance

Clean regularly with mild soap and water. Fill the sink with hot water and a good amount of Ajax liquid. Soak for 20min or so drain and wipe with a clean cloth.

- **Do not use Harsh Chemical Cleaners.** This includes bleach products, products containing bleach and other chemical abrasives. These cleaners are too harsh and can cause damage.
- **Avoid Acidic Materials.** Do not use cleaners with acid, with chemicals such as lemon, lime or orange. These acids can damage the patina on the basin permanently. Avoid Citrus-base cleaners like Orange Power.
- Merwe enhanced the process in the factory by apply a patina and thereafter treated the Brass with a layer of clear lacquer.