

Cedric Cryer Bathtub Maintenance Guidelines

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Most bathtubs and tile are regarded as permanent fixtures.

We know not to be true as the life of these surfaces is the way it is cleaned & maintained.

Below are the most common wear problems.

➤ Incorrect cleaning

- Never use steel wool, abrasive pads or applicators on the bathtub.
- Never use abrasive substances. The most important substances to avoid are abrasive powders, acids, drain cleaners, chlorine, bleach, vinegar and toilet cleaner must strictly be avoided. Most of these substances will remove stains from a bathtub, but the surface glaze layer of the bathtub will also be permanently damaged in the process. This leads to a complete breakdown of the surface of the bathtub. In effect you are gradually removing the enamel from the bathtub and the ultimate solution, if this continues, is that the tub will need to be resurfaced.

➤ Water quality

- In some areas, even new bathtub surfaces are often stained as well. In areas where the water contains a lot of lime, sediment builds up around the waste and below the faucets.
- It is important to ensure that dripping faucets are attended to and water is not allowed to remain in the bathtub.

➤ Dripping faucet

- Damage caused by dripping faucets over a period of time causes considerable damage to surfaces. We have seen many bathtubs worn right through the enamel, especially below the dripping faucets.
- The first sign of damage is the staining of the enamel surface.
- Often dripping faucets eventually cause rust around the outlet.

➤ Chipping

- Most bathtubs are susceptible to chipping.
- Damage during installation.
- Objects dropping off shelves or window sills above the bathtub.

➤ Water temperature.

- Extremely hot water causes any bathtub to expand and contract. This can damage a bathtub. Check your hot water temperature.

➤ Initial installation

- Poor installation of a bathtub can lead to pooling of water.
- Water left to stand on surfaces for a long period of time will eventually cause damage.
- Correct installation of acrylic, fiberglass and cultured marble bathtubs is critical; this may result in the bathtub cracking.

- **Cigarette burns.**
 - Cigarettes can seriously damage many types of bathtubs, especially acrylic, fiberglass, and cultured marble surfaces. Although most surfaces can be repaired.
- **Drainage.**
 - Poorly installed wastes can lead to water lying around the waste and not draining properly. Water left unattended will eventually damage the surface.
- **Soaking of washing.**
 - Soaking washing in a bathtub will eventually stain a bathtub and could also remove the shine.
- **Hair dyes and Nail Remover**
 - Hair dyes and Nail remover contain chemicals which will stain and damage bathtub surfaces.
- **Soap.**
 - Soap should not be allowed to stand on a bare enamel surface for a period of time.
 - Use of soap dishes is strongly recommended.
- **Other reasons.**
 - Bubble baths and oils could also permanently discolor most surfaces.
 - Colored disinfectants and soaps in bathtub water can result in stains.

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