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WKC

How to care?

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Solingen

Care and Maintenance for Swords and Accessories:

We recommend the following general maintenance guidelines to ensure the optimum life of your sword, saber and accessories:

• General - Metal Components:

- Acids from fingerprints can react with metals and discolour metal components over time.
- Salts and other air contaminants (e.g., formaldehydes from carpets, etc.) can collect on metal surfaces over time and can also cause discoloration.
- Water or humidity can affect all parts of the swords and accessories. They should be kept away from wet or humid conditions. In case the swords or accessories do get wet, please dry them properly by using a soft, dry cloth.
- Periodically, wipe your sword and accessories with a soft, dry cloth. We recommend monthly for harsh environments (e.g., high humidity, proximity to sea air, cities with heavy smog, etc.) and every few months for less harsh environments. Do not use any chemical-based or other cleaners for belts or sword knots.
- Immediately remove fingerprints and other oil marks with a soft, dry cloth.
- The WKC sword cloth cover also acts as the cleaning cloth. Turn it inside out and use the soft side of the fabric.

• Gold-Coloured Components:

- All gold-coloured parts on WKC swords and accessories are gold-plated.
- Gold is a very soft metal. Rubbing or polishing gold-plated materials will remove the gold-plating and accessories are gold-plated.

- Do not use abrasive metal polishes, scouring pads or metal wool on any gold-coloured part.
- Use a soft dry cloth moistened with a common glass cleaner to remove any discolorations. Use the abrasive "jeweller" cloths only sparingly to remove any discolorations to avoid rubbing off the gold-plating.

- **Blades:**

- **Stainless Steel and Nickel plated Carbon Steel Blades**

- Discolorations or minor scratches can be removed with a "jeweller" cloth or a mild metal polish like a silver polish.
- Remove all polish residue with the final wipe of a soft, dry cloth.
- Never use heavy abrasive polishes, scouring pads, or metal wool as they will destroy the polished finish of the blade.
- Avoid contact with acidic or alkaline substances as either may chemically react with metals in the stainless steel.

- **High Carbon Steel Blades:**

- High Carbon steel that is not protected by a nickel layer, grease or oil will eventually rust.
- You need to maintain the blade like a rifle; use gun-oil or grease to oil your sword.
- Always remove fingerprints instantly with a soft, dry cloth.
- Do not store the blade in a steel scabbard for a long time, especially in a humid environment.
- Store in a dry area and apply oil or grease regularly; remove any old grease each time.

• **Scabbards:**

- Leather scabbards only require an occasional wipe with a cloth moistened with a clear household silicone spray polish.
- Scuff marks in the leather can usually be repaired or hidden with ordinary shoe polish. Make sure that the colour of the polish is the same as the colour of the leather.
- Maintain the steel scabbards as described above for general metal components and stainless steel blades.

• **Accessories:**

- Periodically, wipe your accessories with a soft, dry cloth. We recommend monthly for harsh environments (e.g., high humidity, proximity to sea air, cities with heavy smog, etc.) and every few months for less harsh environments. Do not use any chemical-based or other cleaners for belts or sword knots.

• **On-Going Care and Maintenance:**

- After each use, completely wipe the sword with a clean, dry cloth to remove fingerprints, perspiration, and any residue.
- All ferrous materials, including "stainless" steel will rust to varying degrees if not maintained after prolonged exposure to the elements.
- Whether displaying or storing your sword, periodically clean and wipe your sword and metal scabbards with a lightly oiled cloth to protect your sword.

- Please do not store the sword or accessories in the vacuum plastic bag included in the package in wet, humid or hot surroundings.
- We recommend storing the sword unsheathed from the scabbard if storing for prolonged periods of time.
- If shipping or transporting your sword by air, securely wrap the sword in plastic to minimize condensation on the cool sword surfaces as the sword moves from the cooler high altitudes.

• **Ceremonial Use and Safety:**

- WKC swords and sabers are intended for ceremonial use only.
- Blade tips are relatively sharp; exercise care during use.
- The blades are not designed for impact and "fighting." While forged, tempered, and designed for flexibility and durability, ceremonial blades lack the toughness to withstand the heavy impact of "blade-to-blade" contact.
- Do not use ceremonial swords for re-enactment fighting.
- Horseplay may result in damage to the sword or, worse yet, personal injury.
- Sword and saber manual of arms is a developed and practiced skill. Do not be flamboyant when handling a drawn sword.
- Children tend to have a natural fascination with swords and often mistake a ceremonial sword for a weapon. Supervise children closely and know that the misuse of a sword can be dangerous.



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