

Care and Cleaning of your Copper or Silver Tools

Copper and silver are both antimicrobial materials^{1,2}, however it is important to remove and residue from save, oils or other substances they may be harboring harmful microbes

Recommended cleaning instructions:

1. Clean any residue from tool
2. Use an envirocide wipe or spray as per instructions on chosen product (avoid beech based products).
3. Wash tool with soap and water
4. Dry immediately after washing.

Autoclave

Copper and silver can be place in most autoclaves for sterilization. Follow the instructions for your specific autoclave. Please note: Autoclaving copper and silver may rapidly increase surface tarnish on your tool. This is cosmetic and will not effect the fiction or stability of your tool.

Patina

Over time your copper tool will take on a beautiful and unique patina that exemplifies the Japanese aesthetic of wabi-sabi.

If you would like to remove this patina and return your tool to its original copper color, or you would like to remove surface tarnish on a silver tool, use a high quality jewelry polishing cloth.



End notes

1 APPLIED ANDENVIRONMENTALMICROBIOLOGY, Metallic Copper as an Antimicrobial Surface Mar. 2011, p. 1541–1547Vol. 77, No. 50099-2240/11/doi:10.1128/AEM.02766-10

2 Progress in Medicinal Chemistry Volume 31, 1994, Pages 351-370, 7 Antimicrobial Activity and Action of Silver A.D.RussellD.Sc, F.R.C. Path., F.R. Pharm. S.1W.B.HugoPh.D. F.R. Pharm. S.2 [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0079-6468\(08\)70024-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0079-6468(08)70024-9)