



Highly favoured by architects for its aesthetic qualities, weathering steel is widely recognised for its distinctive dark orange patina layer. This oxidised steel alloy's natural characteristics and simple maintenance makes it an ideal choice for park furniture in areas like national parks, zoos and country towns.

Why we like weathering steel

- The patina layer eliminates further corrosion, lengthening the lifecycle of park furniture.
- Low maintenance, anti-graffiti and resistant to vandalism.
- Lower in-place costs – reduced maintenance, fewer inspections and no recoating.
- It's made from pre and post recycled steel and is 100% recyclable.
- The rust colouring develops and changes with normal environmental cycles.
- It's compatible with a variety of other building materials used in urban design.

The Finish

Draffin's weathering steel products are supplied in their raw steel state, with visible grinding marks and welds. The weathering process takes about 18 months to fully develop. During the initial weathering process, leaching can cause staining of adjacent porous materials such as concrete and masonry. This runoff will slow down and eventually stop entirely.

Several ways to accelerate the oxidising process can be found online but can involve strong chemicals that can be harmful to both the environment and people. Draffin's preferred process is a mix of white vinegar and iodised salt (*1 tablespoon of salt per litre of vinegar*). Dissolve the salt in a spray bottle and liberally coat steel surfaces until completely covered. Repeat as the surface dries, until happy with the result.

**Ensure parties involved are wearing appropriate PPE.*

*** Take care to only spray intended object, as corrosion can occur on other surrounding items.*

Maintaining weathering steel

Conduct routine 12 monthly inspections to remove any dirt or debris that could cause continual dampness. If vandalism or graffiti does occur, sand back the affected area and let the natural weathering process start again.

