

CLEANING STAINLESS STEEL CHAIN BY OXALIC ACID:

— Stainless steel is not completely stainless in seawater. Protection comes from applying a passive oxide layer, especially at some places such as the bottom of the chain locker, where sea water can cause more corrosion.

— The best way to protect stainless steel equipment is to wash it with fresh water after each use.

— If you cannot do that, and see dirty spots on your chain, you can easily clean it as described below;

1) Put your whole chain into a plastic bucket.

2) Prepare an oxalic acid + water solution in another plastic container and add as much as you need so it will cover the whole chain in the bucket.

3) To create the solution:

Add approximately 25 gr oxalic acid per liter of water and mix until the acid dissolves. (A normal soup spoon takes 35 gr oxalic acid.)

4) Add this solution into the chain bucket so it will cover the whole chain.

5) Depending on weather and corrosion, the amount of cleaning time changes. It may take up to an hour.

6) Check the chain and solution each 15 minutes. Pay close attention not to keep the chain in the solution for more than an hour or after 80% of the corrosion has been removed, since this might take away its shine.

7) Clean the whole chain taken out of the solution by using fresh water (pressurized water is preferred).

The chain should now be clean.

— You can use this solution to clean other stainless steel equipment, as well. To do that, you can apply the solution onto the rusted spots of your equipment and wait for around 10 minutes, then rub it off with a clean dust cloth. You can repeat this process if needed.

— Oxalic acid is a weak acid. However, you should wash it off immediately once it comes into contact with skin. Its appearance is similar to sugar and salt. You should pay attention not to ingest it by mistake.