

Do it yourself

Natural patina green for brass and copper

Recipe:

2 cups distilled white vinegar

1 1/2 cups non-sudzy ammonia

1/2 cup kosher or sea salt (more salt, more green - less salt, less green)

Combine ingredients above and shake/mix patina solution until salt is dissolved completely in 1 quart spray bottle with adjustable mist nozzle. Makes enough for a dozen or more fixtures.

Tools and supplies:

Disposable latex or cotton gauze gloves, several pairs

Smock (optional)

* Kneepads (optional)

Soft clean cotton rags

Denatured alcohol or acetone (not both)

Spray (non-aerosol) window cleaner

* 1 quart spray bottle with adjustable nozzle

* NYC corrosive preventative compound

Large plastic trash bags

Large wire tomato cage(s) (temporary tent support)

* available at the Urban Farmer Store

How to apply: *(may be applied before or after fixture installation, if after disconnect power source first)*

- 1) Clean brass or copper fixture to remove oily smudges using either acetone, or denatured alcohol. Handle fixtures only with clean latex or cotton gauze gloves from this point on.
- 2) Protect lamp bases, lamp sockets, shade collars, screws, set screws, and screw threads with NYC corrosive preventative compound (or petroleum jelly), remove all traces of compound or jelly from surrounding areas intended to receive patina.
- 3) Pretreat fixture generously with non-aerosol window cleaner, leave it wet.
- 4) Adjust spray nozzle on patina mixture bottle to a fine mist pattern and spray solution evenly and generously onto fixture. It is best to apply the solution out of direct sunlight and wind, so the solution dries and works slowly. When applying to fixtures already installed in the garden, use a plastic bag to create a tent to assist with slow drying. Do not let the plastic bag come in contact with the fixture – it can leave an unnatural looking pattern on the metal, as can application of solution by sponge. Wire tomato cages can be used as an inexpensive support for plastic trash bag tent(s).
- 5) Observe patina progress after one hour, then reapply solution to any missed areas.
- 6) Allow to cure overnight. Do not polish, rub, or remove the green powder. It will dull and weather outside and become a lovely, natural permanent finish.

Note: Results may vary. High heat and low humidity conditions may require multiple applications for desired effect. Reverse undesired results by buffing with metal polish and super fine steel wool.



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