

## ► STAINLESS STEEL, A2 OR A4 ?

**The stainless steel is a steel alloy with less than 1,2 % of carbon and more than 10,5 % of chromium.**

Its main property is to not being sensitive to corrosion : it does not rust.

The presence of chromium in its composition

is creating a thin protection coat of chromium oxyde and gives it this stainless property.

The stainless steel is considered as a «living steel» because it is able to make itself this chromium oxyde coat in case of aggression (presence of oxygen).

## ► A2 GRADED STEEL

**The stainless steel A2 is the most common type of stainless steel.**

First of all it is made for the inside : it is used mostly for kitchen parts or fastening parts ([ACTON](#)). Indoors, A2 steels does not need maintenance.

A2 graded steels are not convenient for uses with non-oxidant acids or with chlorine bleach (pools, seashores...).

It is recommended to use it at more than 50 km of the coasts, where the humidity rate is low.

More and more, A2 is used for «design» constructions (stairs, elevators...). It is now shown as a chic and modern material.

The A2 manufactured products can be used outside too as long as it is not in a polluted atmosphere.

## ► A4 GRADED STEEL

**The stainless steel A4 is acid-resistant and gives an excellent corrosion resistance.**

The addition of molybdenum in its chemical composition is increasing its resistance to oxidization.

This grade is mostly used in the eating or chemical industries and in the shipbuilding ([cf. Acton's marine accessories](#)).

It is also good for chlorinated environments. The A4 manufactured products are convenient for an outside use in polluted, aggressive or marine environments, hence its surname «marine inox».

However, the apparition of rust is possible if the piece is not maintain enough regularly.