ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF CHROME PLATING

ADVANTAGES of CHROME PLATING (Electroplating)
It can withstand extreme weather and temperatures and will not corrode or oxidize. It is easy to take care of and has a beautifully glossy finish. Damaged chrome-plated parts may be refurbished, saving the expense of having to purchase new parts. When a part is stripped and then chrome plated, it will be restored to the same condition it was in when it was new. Electroplating also has applications for use in household fixtures, including bathroom and kitchen fixtures, door handles, faucets, sinks and many others.

DISADVANTAGES of CHROME PLATING (Electroplating)
Parts to be chromed must be sent to companies that specialize in electroplating. The chemicals that are used in the chrome-plating process are very toxic, so their use is heavily regulated by the government. Chrome plating takes significantly more time than does spray-on chrome and is very expensive. Since the parts must be dipped in vats for the chroming process, there is a limit to the size of the part that may be chromed. Hexavalent Chromium is a hazardous air pollutant. Corrosion resistance of thicker coatings is not quite as good. Cost of the chemicals is greater and the Chrome plating process is hard to control.

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF SPRAY CHROME

ADVANTAGES of SPRAY CHROME
Spray Chrome is simpler to apply and can be done in a person’s own workshop. Parts to be spray chromed need not be sent away for plating, saving them time and money. Spray-on chrome process is very versatile and is not limited by the size of the part to be chromed. It can be used on a broad variety of different materials, including glass, plastic, metal and wood. It is much less expensive and gives the same high-quality durable finish and gleam people obtain through electroplating.

Features of Spray Chrome:

- Durability as good as chrome plating
- Bonds to the substrate just as well
- Highly weather, scuff, and salt-resistant
- Highly reflective
- A greener choice than traditional chrome plating
- Cheaper cost
- No limit to size of part to be spray chromed
- Can be used on-site
- Fewer steps in the process
- Thicker coatings
- Reduced turnaround time
- Fewer health and safety concerns

A potential disadvantage of spray chroming an object is that the applicator must rely on his/her line of sight when spraying onto a surface. This may mean that people may need to take some time learning how to get the coverage they want.

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