

# Care & Finishing

## Handling

Wood doors should be treated like fine wood furniture.

1. Do not drag doors or walk on them.
2. Do not subject them to extreme or rapid changes in humidity or heat.
3. Doors must be finished within 72 hours upon deliver to the job site.
4. Doors stored on a job site must have all surfaces sealed with a high-quality sealant to prevent moisture absorption. (Primer coat does not have sealing properties)

## Preparation for Finishing

1. Machine and hang the door before finishing and then remove the door slab from its opening to properly finish. Doors must be sealed prior to installation of hardware or exposure to moisture and weather. Apply finish behind hinges in bores and mortises. Doors must be properly finished immediately before prolong storage.
2. Adjust or align all door components prior to finishing. Panels and bars float and may become out of alignment during shipping and handling. Carefully take a block of wood and mallet and tap the components in alignment. Use caution not to damage the door or component during this process.
3. All doors must be sanded prior to finishing. Sand the entire surface with an orbital sander using 150-180 grit sand paper. This is to remove handling marks, fingerprints and residues that may prevent a satisfactory finish. Dark stains tend to magnify blemishes. If you are staining your door a dark color extra care needs to be given during the preparation process. This may include the need to closely inspect the door for any imperfections, dirt, residue or glue. Additional sanding may be required to assure a high quality finish.
4. Clean the door thoroughly with a cloth to remove all dust and foreign materials. Do not use abrasive or caustic cleaners on the door.
5. **All 6 sides of the door must be finished.** The edges (top, bottom and sides) should be coated with each and every coat of finish that is applied to the face of the door. Doors must be dry before finishing.

6. If the glass in your door does not come with a factory applied protective film, it is the finisher's responsibility to protect the glass prior to and during finishing.
7. Plastic film protection on the glass should be removed immediately after applying the finish. Failure to remove the plastic film at this time may cause harm to the glass and may create difficulty in removing the film. Use caution to avoid scratching the glass.
8. It is the finisher's responsibility to protect glass prior to and during finishing. Caution must be used when cleaning glass as not to scratch the glass. Glass that is scratched due to cleaning is not covered by the warranty.

## Finishing

Lap the paint or varnish on to any glazed door glass 1/16". Be sure all moulding miters are completely finished without gaps. Also be sure there are no gaps where the panel meets the stiles and rails. We highly recommend in extreme conditions a clear silicone cap bead around the perimeter of the glass.

**If You Paint** We recommend a **high quality oil base primer and paint**. We believe it will last better and provide more protection to your door. We understand that in some markets oil base products may not be available or allowable for use. If you must use a Latex base primer and paint use a high quality product and do not cut or dilute the product. Apply 1-2 coats of primer to all six sides of the door then apply 2 coats of paint to all six sides. If the door was primed at the factory by Lemieux apply two coats of high quality paint. Follow the above instruction for preparation including sanding. Also, follow the instructions supplied by the paint supplier. The warranty is considered void if all six sides have not been finished properly.

**If You Stain** A wood conditioner is highly recommended to give you an even stain and to help control variances in the color of the stained product. We do not recommend stains containing polyurethane. Apply stain to all six sides. Once the stain is completely dry apply a minimum of 2 coats of spar varnish or spar urethane. The warranty is considered void if all six sides have not been finished properly.

## Exterior Doors

A minimum of two coats of a marine grade varnish or paint must be applied to the top and bottom of exterior doors or an approved sealant tape to the bottom of the door under the door sweep. A minimum of two coats of paint or solvent base varnish must be applied to all other surfaces.

## Maintenance

Like furniture, your door requires simple, periodic maintenance in order to keep it looking fresh, operating properly and well protected against the elements. There is not a set schedule for door maintenance. Your local climate, quality of the finish and exposure dictate how often maintenance is required. Here are a few tell-tale signs that maintenance is required:

- Hairline cracks in the finish
- Changes in the color of the finish
- Flaking or scaling of the finish
- Dullness or chalkiness of the finish

## Exposure

Standard exterior wood doors must be protected from the elements. Sun, rain and snow can break down the finish on your door and cause performance issues.

Here are the industry standards of the required overhang of a wood exterior door. If your door faces north or east the minimum required overhang is equal to one half of the distance from the sill to the overhang. If your door faces south or west the minimum overhang requirement is equal to the distance from the sill to the overhang. See illustration.

*North or East*  $X = 1/2 Y$

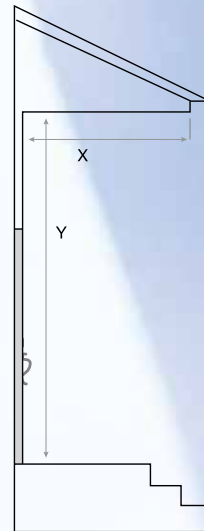
*South or West*  $X = Y$

*Where X is the length of the overhang required and Y is the distance from the bottom of the door to the base of the overhang.*

Our Torrefied exterior doors do not require an overhang. If your door location does not allow the proper overhang please select a door from one of our Torrefied wood species.

### **Prep your Torrefied door as mentioned above and finished as follows:**

For hinge and hardware preparation you must pre-drill holes to avoid splitting the wood and the use of sharp bits and blades is recommended as the Torrefied wood is much more dense than standard veneered wood doors.



When painting a Torrefied product it is recommended that you have the door primed at the factory. If you choose to prime the product yourself, we recommend you use Benjamin Moore "Fresh start" All-Purpose Primer or equivalent.

**Torrefied Doors with no overhang must have a cap bead of clear silicone applied around the perimeter of the glass and/or panels on the exterior side or water leakage may occur in rainy high wind conditions.**

When clear coating or sealing Torrefied products, Lemieux recommends a clear coat or sealer with a high UV blocker. These products greatly protect your Torrefied door from color changes and surfaces exposed to high levels of Ultra Violet radiation from the sun. Two examples of these types of finishes are Ultra Premium Red Label Penofin Clear and Sikken's Cetol WB SRD (from Azko Nobel).

For additional information, or to make a warranty claim, contact your Lemieux Doors supplier.