

# STILE

Windows & Doors

---

## FINISHING AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS FOR STILE WINDOWS AND DOORS

Doors and Windows must be inspected upon arrival and all claims or complaints must be filed prior to installation and finishing. Blemishes on surfaces that can be touched up during the painting process are not considered defects. Any defects in factory applied primer will need to be touched up by customer.

Windows and doors must be stored in a dry environment. New Stile windows and doors, whether primed or bare wood, must be painted or finished immediately to prevent possible damage, even if the window and door is already primed. Primers function to maximize adhesion between the wood and the paint, but do not offer protective qualities.

In high humidity situations or in the event weather or site conditions will not permit immediate finishing, windows and doors must be pre-finished prior to installation.

### Painting and Finishing

- All wood products must be properly sealed and maintained on all surfaces, including top, bottom, sides, edges and under any applied hardware to prevent absorption of moisture.
- When Applying finish, avoid contact with weather strip, vinyl, plastic, metal, or any other non-wood parts. Quick Kit Sash edges should only be primed to allow for smooth operation when sliding on vinyl tracks.
- Do not use cleaners containing abrasives or solvents. Clean with mild detergent and warm water
- Do not paint over aluminum cladding
- Stained or clear coated exteriors are not recommended for exterior surfaces

### Filling Sanding

- Fill any nail/staple holes with appropriate exterior grade sealants / fillers, ensuring compatibility with your chosen finish.
- Just prior to finishing, bare wood products must be completely sanded with 180 or 220 grit sandpaper to remove handling marks, small blemishes, pitch bleed, and raised grain which develops in the normal course of delivery and storage. Primed products should be sanded with 220 grit sandpaper with care not to remove any primer down to bare wood including edges.
- Do not sand glass, clad, or other non-wood surfaces.

### Painting

- Only use high quality primers and finish paints. Make sure primer is compatible with finish paint. Apply one coat of primer (if not factory primed) and two coats of finish paint following the manufacturer's instructions. Care should be taken to avoid paint wicking behind muntin bars.

### Staining and Clear Coating

- Stains or Clear coats are not recommended on exterior surfaces.
- For interiors, apply stains and clear coats according to manufacturer's directions. Care should be taken to avoid stain or clear coat wicking behind muntin bars. If staining, two coats of sealer must be applied over the stain.

# STILE

## Windows & Doors

---

### Care and Maintenance

- Windows and doors with wood exteriors should be inspected and repainted periodically. Repair any blistering, peeling or cracking in the finish quickly to protect the underlying wood. When Applying finish, avoid contact with weather strip, vinyl, plastic, metal, or any other non-wood parts.
- Maintenance intervals are dependent on location. Homes near saltwater or in harsh environments may need windows and doors inspected and cleaned 4 or 5 times a year. Homes in dryer more mild conditions may only need this once or twice per year.
- At least once a year, remove dirt, dust, mildew, and salts from surfaces with water, mild detergent, and soft bristle brushes or rags and use clean water to rinse off. Never use a pressure washer on windows and doors.
- Examine the interior and exterior surfaces and make any necessary repairs.
- Examine exterior caulking and remove any loose or damaged caulking and replace with new high quality caulking.
- Clean Sand, Dirt and Dust from hardware, hinges, tracks, and sills.
- Tighten all exposed hardware screws and lubricate window gears with dry lubricant.
- Check operation of all locks and check doors for smooth operation. Repair if necessary.
- Avoid solvents and abrasive cleaners. Don't let strong detergents, ammonia, chemicals or other harsh cleaning substances get onto finished exterior surfaces because they may cause damage.

### Glass Cleaning

- Do not use razor blades, knives or scrapers for cleaning glass surfaces.
- If an excess of sealant appears around the edge of the glass, it can be gently scraped off the glass with a plastic putty knife.
- Use commercially available glass cleaners. Avoid cleaners with strong chemical bases or high alcohol content.
- Avoid cleaning glass in direct sunlight to avoid streaking.
- Start from the top of the window and work your way down and in multistory buildings start at the top of the building
- Soak the glass with water to loosen dirt and debris. Make sure no abrasive dirt or debris remains on the glass, then apply glass cleaner using a non-abrasive cloth or applicator. Remove the solution with a squeegee being careful to avoid touching glass surfaces with the metal parts of the equipment.
- Wipe up any remaining solution on the window frames or components with a non-abrasive cloth.

### Screen Cleaning

- Remove screens and lay on flat clean area
- Aluminum framed screens can be cleaned by lightly spraying with water and allowing to air dry
- Wood framed screens can be cleaned by gently vacuuming with a soft brush attachment