

CHOOSE THE CORRECT INSTRUCTIONS

Use Section A for Molded & Flush Doors. Use Section B for MDF Panel & Wood Doors. The surface material and factory preparation determine which finish products and steps are appropriate.

BEFORE YOU START: ALL INTERIOR DOOR TYPES

- Read the complete instructions before beginning. Follow the finish manufacturer's directions for preparation, application, ventilation, drying time, and cleanup.
- Allow doors to acclimate to local conditions for at least 24 hours before installation or finishing.
- Store doors flat on a level surface in a dry, well-ventilated building, at least 3-1/2 inches off the floor. Protect the stack from dirt, water, direct sunlight, and jobsite damage while allowing air to circulate around it.
- For best storage conditions, maintain 30% to 50% relative humidity and 30°F to 90°F. Do not install doors in buildings with wet plaster, wet cement, or excessive moisture. HVAC systems should be operating and balanced.
- Handle doors with clean hands or clean gloves. Lift and carry doors instead of dragging them across one another.
- Inspect each door before hanging. Repair handling marks, exposed fastener holes, jobsite scratches, and raw areas caused by fitting or machining before finishing.
- Hang and fit the door first, then remove it for proper finishing. Remove hardware unless product instructions require otherwise.

SAND THE EDGES BEFORE FINISHING

Inspect the top, bottom, hinge edge, and lock edge. Using 220-grit sandpaper, lightly sand rough or raised areas until smooth. Sand along the length of the edge, keep the edge square, and remove all sanding dust before applying primer, paint, stain, or clear finish.

SIX-SIDE REQUIREMENT

Finish both faces and all four edges, including the top and bottom. Seal raw areas created for hinges, locksets, or other hardware. Failure to finish the door as directed may affect warranty coverage.

WORK AREA AND SAFETY

- Finish in a clean, dust-free, well-ventilated area away from direct sunlight.
- Wear appropriate eye, hand, breathing, and hearing protection.

IDENTIFY THE SURFACE

Factory-primed molded and flush doors are intended to be painted. A flush door with an unfinished natural wood veneer may be stainable. Confirm the surface before selecting a finish.

FACTORY-PRIMED MOLDED & FLUSH DOORS

1	PREPARE: Make sure the door is clean, dry, and free of dust, oils, adhesive, and debris. Lightly sand raised fibers, handling marks, or repaired areas. Inspect all four edges and use 220-grit sandpaper to smooth rough or raised areas. Do not over-sand the molded skin or factory primer.
2	SPOT-PRIME AS NEEDED If fitting, trimming, machining, or sanding exposes the substrate, apply a compatible primer to the raw area and allow it to dry completely.
3	PAINT ALL SURFACES Apply a high-quality interior paint compatible with the factory primer. Finish both faces and all four edges, including the top and bottom.
4	FOLLOW THE DOOR PROFILE Finish recessed panels and details first, followed by rails, center stiles, outer stiles, and edges. Feather excess paint out of corners before it dries.
5	DRY AND REINSTALL Allow each coat to dry fully. Sand between coats only when recommended. Do not sand the final coat. Reinstall hardware after the finish has cured sufficiently.

UNFINISHED WOOD-VENEER FLUSH DOORS

Follow the stain-and-clear preparation in Section B. Test the complete finish system on an inconspicuous area first. Natural color and grain variation are expected.

DO NOT USE

Do not use caustic cleaners, abrasive cleaners, steel scrapers, or compressed air. Moisture or oil from an compressed air can cause spotting or adhesion problems.

SELECT THE FINISH

Paint-grade surfaces should receive compatible primer and interior paint. Stain-grade wood should receive a compatible conditioner, stain, and clear topcoat system. Test the proposed system before finishing multiple doors.

SURFACE PREPARATION

1	ALIGN COMPONENTS: Wood panels and bars are designed to float and may shift during shipping. If needed, carefully tap parts into alignment with a wood block and mallet.
2	FILL AND SAND: Fill minor defects with compatible filler. Sand the complete surface with the grain using 180-grit sandpaper. Then inspect the top, bottom, hinge edge, and lock edge and use 220-grit sandpaper to smooth rough or raised areas. Keep each edge square and avoid sanding through veneer or primer.
3	CLEAN: Remove all sanding dust with a clean tack cloth or lint-free cloth. Do not use compressed air or caustic or abrasive cleaners.

STAIN-AND-CLEAR FINISH

1	CONDITION: Apply compatible wood conditioner or sanding sealer. Fir doors should be surface-treated with an appropriate acetone product before conditioner is applied.
2	STAIN: Apply stain evenly with the grain. Remove or blend excess material before it dries.
3	PROTECT: After stain dries, apply at least two compatible clear topcoats. Sand between coats only when recommended. Do not sand the final coat.

PAINTED FINISH

Apply one to two coats of compatible oil-based primer, followed by two to three coats of high-quality oil- or latex-resin-based interior paint. Water-based primer may raise the grain and require additional sanding.

APPLICATION SEQUENCE

Finish panels and detailed profiles first, then center stiles, horizontal rails, outer stiles, and all edges. Remove heavy buildup before it dries.

DOORS WITH GLASS

Remove protective film immediately after finishing. Carefully score the film beneath the profile edge and peel it away by hand.

DOORS WITH GLASS

Do not use razor blades, metal scrapers, or other sharp metal tools. These tools can scratch tempered or coated glass.

- Clean glass with clean water and mild soap or a mild, non-abrasive commercial glass cleaner.
- Begin at the top and work downward. Rinse away heavy dirt before wiping.
- Use a clean squeegee or soft cloth, then dry adjacent gaskets, sealants, and frames.

COMMON FINISH ISSUES

ISSUE	POSSIBLE CAUSE	WHAT TO CHECK
Rough edges	Edges not sanded before finishing	Sand rough top, bottom, hinge, and lock edges with 220-grit paper; remove dust; then apply the compatible finish system.
Raised grain	Moisture, humidity, or water-based product	Allow to dry; sand only as permitted; verify site and product conditions.
Poor adhesion	Contamination, inadequate sanding, trapped moisture, or incompatible products	Correct preparation or compatibility before recoating.
Uneven stain	Natural absorption differences or uneven sanding	Sand uniformly; test first; use conditioner when recommended.
Warping or distortion	Uneven moisture exposure, improper storage, or incomplete sealing	Stabilize conditions and verify complete six-side finishing.

FINAL CHECK

- All four edges were inspected and sanded smooth before finishing.
- Both faces and all four edges are completely finished.
- All raw cuts and hardware preparations are sealed.
- No heavy coating buildup remains in corners or profiles.
- Glass film is removed and the glass is clean and undamaged.
- Finish is sufficiently dry before hardware is reinstalled.

IMPORTANT

Woodgrain cannot evaluate every finish product or jobsite condition. Consult a qualified paint or coatings professional and follow the finish manufacturer's instructions.