

Wood Door

FINISHING AND CARE GUIDE

HANDLING AND STORAGE

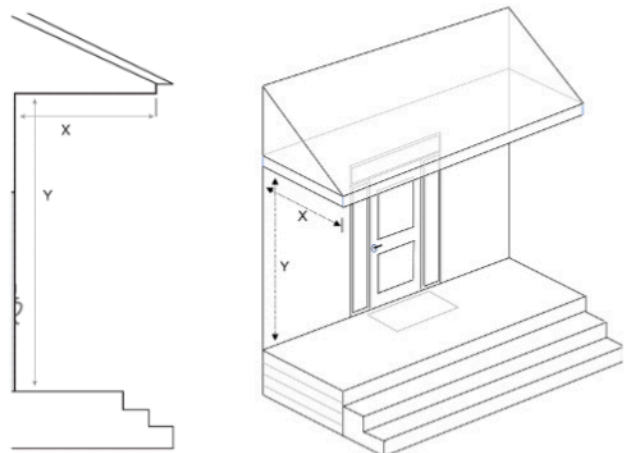
1. Do not walk on or drag doors and handle with clean gloves.
2. When Products are received, they must be inspected immediately for quality, including correct size, machining, and finish (if factory finished).
3. Unfinished doors and frames must be finished within 3 days of delivery to job site with a national brand interior (for interior doors only) or exterior grade paint or stain that are formulated for wood doors.
4. Prior to installation, the door/unit shall be stored so that it is not exposed to the elements or allowed to sit in a damp area or standing water (must be between 25% - 55% relative humidity and 50 degrees F (10 degrees C) - 90 degrees F (32 degrees C)).
5. When storing door slabs, keep the doors stacked horizontally and fully supported on a level surface, do not lean the doors vertically against a wall or other structure. When stacking doors, keep the top door covered at all times with a cover sheet, plywood or cardboard.
6. Masonite ships certain Products with spacers. In order to prevent Product distortion, it is required that the packaging spacers remain until the Product is removed to be hung.
7. Pre-hung door units should be stored vertically and secured to avoid accidentally falling over.

HANGING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Leave one-eighth of an inch (1/8") between the door and jamb to allow for seasonal variance.
2. The maximum amount to cut off the height is as follows:
 - a. One-half (1/2") inch off the top for any door
 - b. One (1") inch off the bottom for Masonite DuraStyle Exterior Wood Doors with AquaSeal™ Technology
 - c. Two (2") inches off the bottom for all other doors
3. The maximum amount allowed for trimming the edges is one-half (1/2") inch, one-quarter (1/4") from either side.
4. Doors that are less than 7' tall must have three (3) hinges. Doors above 7' tall must have four (4) hinges and a multi-point locking system is recommended.
5. Screw holes must be pre-drilled to prevent splitting and stripping.
6. All drill bits and blades must be sharp to prevent splitting and cracking.
7. Do not hang inside of a non-vented storm door as this will cause heat build-up and void the manufacturer warranty.
8. Unless a Torrefied species is chosen, all Masonite Exterior Wood doors must be protected from the elements as described below. Sun, rain and snow can break down the finish on your door

and cause performance issues so the doors must be installed in accordance with the industry standards as shown below. Failure to follow these steps voids manufacturer warranty.

- a. 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.
- b. North or East $X = \frac{1}{2} Y$
- c. South or West $X = Y$
- d. 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.



PREPARATION FOR FINISHING

1. Machine and hang the door before finishing assuring a proper fit. Then remove the door slab from its opening to properly finish. Finish immediately after this step.
2. Doors must be sealed prior to installation of hardware or exposure to moisture and weather. Apply finish behind hinges in bores and mortises.
3. All doors must be sanded prior to finishing. For wood grained finishes, wiping the entire door with a damp cloth prior to sanding will produce the smoothest finish. Sand the entire surface by hand using 220 grit sand paper. This is to remove handling marks, fingerprints, and residues that may prevent a satisfactory finish. Dark stains tend to magnify blemishes and variations in wood grain. 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 and glue. Additional sanding may be required to assure a high-quality finish.
4. Clean the door thoroughly with a moist or tacky cloth to remove all dust and foreign materials. Do not use compressed air (as water may be in the lines) or abrasive or caustic cleaners on the door.
5. It is the finisher's responsibility to assure all glass is protected prior to finishing by properly covering glass before applying paint or stain.

FINISHING, USING STAIN

1. Staining should be done in three phases: application of wood conditioner / sanding sealer, stain (if desired for color) and 3 layers of topcoat. These should be performed using wood conditioner / sanding sealer, stain, and topcoat from a national brand that are selected so that they are designed to work together and by following the instructions for each product. For exterior applications, a spar varnish topcoat with UV protection is strongly recommended.
2. Other requirements for your Masonite Wood Doors:
 - a. All six (6) sides of the door must be finished. The edges (top, bottom and sides) should be coated with each and every coat that is applied to the face of the door.
 - b. Doors must be lightly sanded with the grain of the wood, cleaned, and allowed to dry before each step in finishing.
 - c. Using a clean cloth, wipe mineral spirits on the door and inspect for any imperfections like residue or dents. Sand these areas before proceeding.
 - d. Make sure stain gets into all joints, including around glass and panels.
 - e. Closely inspect doors for consistent color after applying stain and before applying topcoat. For DuraStyle Exterior Wood Doors with AquaSeal™ Technology, pay particular attention to color around panels and glass. The factory sealant will stain slightly differently than wood so this area may require touch-up, extra stain, or extra time for the stain to absorb into the factory sealant to assure consistent coloring. The stains that work best to minimize this coloring difference are, in order:
 - i. Oil-based stains
 - ii. Gel stains
 - iii. High-viscosity water-based stain
 - iv. Low-viscosity water-based stains (not recommended as there will be a high amount of touch-up required)
 - v. DO NOT use one-step stains that combine stain and top coat.
 - f. Note that wood is a naturally occurring substance so no color match will be perfect. This is not a defect.
 - g. Immediately remove tape or protective film on glass after applying final layer of topcoat. Do not use razors on glass as this may scratch the glass and voids the warranty for all Masonite DuraStyle Exterior Wood Doors with AquaSeal™ Technology.
 - h. Note that Masonite DuraStyle Exterior Wood Doors with AquaSeal™ Technology comes with factory sealant around the panels and glass so NO silicone cap bead is needed. All other Masonite Exterior Wood Doors should be cap beaded with silicone.

FINISHING, USING PAINT

1. Painting should be done in two phases: application of two (2) coats of primer and two (2) coats of paint. These should be performed using primer and paint from a national brand that are selected so that they are designed to work together and by following the instructions for each product. For exterior applications, a marine-grade paint is strongly recommended.
2. Other requirements for your Masonite Wood Doors:
 - a. All six (6) sides of the door must be finished. The edges (top, bottom and sides) should be coated with each and every coat that is applied to the face of the door.
 - b. Doors must be allowed to dry before each step in finishing.
 - c. Make sure primer and paint gets into all joints, including around lites and panels.
 - d. Immediately remove tape or protective film on glass after painting. Do not use razors on glass as this may scratch the glass and voids the warranty for all Masonite DuraStyle Exterior Wood Doors with AquaSeal™ Technology.
 - e. Note that Masonite DuraStyle Exterior Wood Doors with AquaSeal™ Technology come with factory sealant around the panels and glass so NO silicone cap bead is needed. All other Masonite Exterior Wood Doors should be cap beaded with silicone.

MAINTENANCE

1. Simple, periodic maintenance is required to keep your door looking fresh and operating properly. There is no set schedule for maintenance including refinishing, but here are signs that can be seen in the finish that indicate maintenance is needed:
 - a. Hairline cracks
 - b. Color changes or fading
 - c. Flaking or scaling
 - d. Dullness or chalkiness
 - e. Cracked paint or varnish at component joints
 - f. Darkening areas of the wood grain
 - g. Scratches, mars or physical damage of the finishing
2. General timing guidelines follow:
 - a. Penetrating oil stains are easy to apply with a wipe-on application but will provide a maximum of 1-year protection before these will need to be reapplied even with additional top coats of varnish.
 - b. Pigmented stain exterior varnishes (spar varnishes) will take 2 – 4 coats but may last 2 - 3 years.
 - c. The life of an exterior paint or varnish will depend on its exposure to high humidity, precipitation, and direct sunlight. Exterior finishes may last 2-3 years under ideal conditions and protection, but if exposed to frequent direct sunlight the finish can start to deteriorate within the first year.

REMINDERS AND TIPS

1. Do not use dark colored stains or paints on doors exposed to sunlight, as some expansion and contraction of doors may occur and accelerates the breakdown of finishes causing more frequent maintenance. Doing this will void any manufacturer warranty.
2. Wood is a naturally occurring product. Color and grain variations are part of the beauty of wood and are not defects. Wood doors will also fade in color over time. This will be accelerated with sun and water exposure and will be most apparent on dark wood types. Finishing with UV resistant finishing will help delay, but not completely remove, this effect.
3. Glass cleanup. Do not use a razor blade to clean glass. Standard glass cleaners can be used to clean smooth surfaces. For textured surfaces, paint thinner or a melamine sponge eraser can be used.