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Ashworth™ by Woodgrain Millwork Storage, Finishing and Maintenance Instructions

Storage

If you are not planning immediate installation of your Ashworth Door, you may be required to store them until it is convenient. Please adhere to the following guidelines when storing your doors:

- Do not store in areas where wet plaster, cement, or excessive moisture is present.
- Storage area should be dry and well ventilated.
- Do not store where the unit will be subjected to abnormal extreme heat, extreme dryness, humidity, direct sunlight, or sudden changes therein. Subjecting the unit to these conditions may cause warping, telegraphing, etc. Allow 8-12 months for a warped panel to acclimatize to its environment, before filing a warranty claim. The panel may return to its original plane during that time.

Finishing

Wood is dimensionally affected by changes in moisture content brought about by changes within its surrounding environment (precipitation, sunlight, etc.). To ensure uniform moisture exposure and dimensional control, you should finish your door's surfaces uniformly.

Preparation for Field Finishing

If staining, a compatible sanding sealer must be used. Follow the stain manufacturer's instructions. Failure to do so may result in a blotchy finish. Your door may not be stain grade, see finishing instructions below for details.

- Your Ashworth Door must be finished within 30 days after purchase to maintain your warranty.
- The appearance of the field finish is not warranted.
- Be sure the surface being stained is clean and dry.
- Block sand with 400 grit sand paper to remove all scuffs, scratches, burnishes, raised grain, handling marks, and the effects of exposure to moisture. Always sand with the grain of the wood. Be sure you are sanding evenly, as stain will accentuate rough areas. Exercise care when sanding to avoid scratching glass and any hardware that may be installed.
- Remove any excess caulking agent around the edges of the exposed glass area. Exercise care when cutting the caulking to avoid scratching the glass.
- Clean surface with tack rag or other appropriate means.
- Test a non-conspicuous area for compatibility with the finish you plan to use.

- Apply the finish immediately after preparation, as the finish protects the unit from any natural harmful elements. Failure to do so will cause the wood to absorb moisture causing warping, telegraphing, etc., within the wood portion of your unit.

Finishing Instructions

Some Ashworth Doors have fingerjointed jambs and door edges and are ready to be painted. Others have clear door jambs and door edges which are designed and manufactured to be painted or stained.

- Avoid dark stains on surfaces exposed to direct sunlight. Dark stains absorb excessive amounts of heat, which can induce checking, warp, pitch bleed, and telegraphing. Dark stains also require near perfect preparation.
- Use only high-grade finishing material and follow the manufacturer's instructions. Do not intermix materials from different suppliers.
- Be careful not to apply any stain or paint to the weather stripping or hardware. Paint and stain removers/solvents will harm their finish.
- All edges of the door must be finished, including the top rail.
- Refinishing may be required during the life of your Atrium Door.

Exterior painting:

On exterior painted units, apply 2 coats of exterior primer followed by at least 2 coats of an exterior 'color' topcoat. Allow adequate drying time and lightly sand between coats. Exercise care when sanding to avoid scratching glass and any hardware that may be installed. The primer and paint should overlap glass by 1/16".

Interior painting:

Apply 2 coats of primer followed by at least 2 coats of 'color' topcoat. Allow adequate drying time and lightly sand between coats. Exercise care when sanding to avoid scratching glass and any hardware that may be installed.

Interior staining:

Apply one or more stain coats followed by at least 3 topcoats consisting of a polyurethane or spar varnish. Allow adequate drying time and lightly sand between coats. Exercise care when sanding to avoid scratching glass and any hardware that may be installed.

Maintenance

Want to keep your doors looking and operating their best? Here are some maintenance tips that will ensure your Ashworth Doors keep their visual appeal and ease of use for years to come:

- The clad exterior finish must be cleaned periodically with mild soapy water.
- Annual or bi-annual waxing (car wax suggested) will increase the longevity of the clad finish.
- The finish on exterior field finished units may deteriorate quickly. Due to the fact that the finish protects the wood components from the natural elements, the finish should be inspected at least twice a year. The unit should be refinished as often as necessary to maintain its protective integrity.

- Drainage weeps must be kept clean and unobstructed.
- Cracks caused by settling or dimensional changes within the product must be filled and sealed.
- Some woods, such as Ashworth's Knotty Alder, are unique and require special attention to their natural wood characteristics. Please see our PDF for more information on Knotty Alder.
- Ashworth's Oil-Rubbed Bronze hardware features a living finish that adapts to its environment and use. Therefore, you should expect its appearance to change over time. Please see our PDF on Oil-Rubbed Bronze finishes for more information.

Many of the maintenance steps listed above can be completed with tools and materials available from your local hardware store and without the need of outside professionals.

Please note: Failure to comply with the Storage, Finishing and Maintenance instructions may void your warranty.

If you have any questions or experience any problems with your Woodgrain Millwork product, visit our website at www.ashworthdoors.com or contact our Technical Services Department at 800.935.2000.