

Finishing & Installation Guide

Introduction

- Product kept for more than a week before finishing must be properly stored.
- Handle with care (clean, dry hands & tools) and do not drag across floors or any other surfaces.
- Do not remove shrink-wrap or stile protectors until ready to fit, finish, & install the merchandise.
- Store in a horizontal position in an area that is:
 - a) Flat, dry, & clean.
 - b) Climate controlled (i.e. 60-75° F & 35-45% humidity).
 - c) Away from direct heat & areas where drywall work is being done.
- If a door only (no pre-hung unit) is involved, there is a greater likelihood adjustments to the door will be required. Thus it is necessary to "fit" the door before finishing. Mortise the door and frame for the hinges and drill the necessary bore holes for the handles and locks. All doors over 72" (1,829 mm) must be hung with a minimum of four hinges. Trim door as needed, observing these trim allowance guidelines:

Height – Top rail		Height – Bottom rail		Width (per side)	
Doors	1/4" (6mm)	Doors	1" (25mm)	Stiles: up to 3" (76mm)	<i>Do not trim</i>
Sidelites	1" (25mm)	Sidelites	1" (25mm)	Stiles: 3" – 4 1/2" (76mm – 114mm)	1/8" (3mm)
Bifolds	1/4" (6mm)	Bifolds	1" (25mm)	Stiles: 4 1/2" + wider (114mm +)	1/4" (6mm)

- Make sure the door and all hardware functions perfectly.
- If it is a pre-hung system it is not necessary to go through the "fit" stage. Simply double check the rough opening dimension so you are certain the system will fit, and then complete any needed boring for lock sets and handles.

Prep the Door (and Frame if a Pre-hung)

- Place the door, sidelite, transom or frame on a flat, dry surface, and remove hinges, locksets, sweeps, peep holes, mail slots etc.
- Lightly sand wood in the direction of the grain with a palm sander or a sanding block with 220 grit paper. The flat bed sanders used in the plant cause slight cross-grain scratches that must be removed.
- Undesirable machining marks can be hard to see until finish is applied, so check carefully before finishing.
- Mask all glass.

Finishing

Quality is a joint effort. Madawaska Doors must provide product free from manufacturing defects, while the finishing step guards against sun and moisture damage. Moisture is the enemy of kiln dried furniture grade wood, and these steps must be followed for protection.

- Remove dust with a clean damp sponge or cloth and let door dry completely.
- **Use only oil based paint, stain conditioner, stain and clear-coat products. Never use latex or water based materials!**
 - a) Do not use osmotic products designed for marine use as they allow the slow passage of moisture.
 - b) If staining is desired, use Minwax oil based furniture stain with pre-stain conditioner to meet Warranty requirements.
 - c) Do not use products designated for decks, fences and outdoor furniture as they don't suit our high grade wood.
 - d) Tung oil cannot be used as while it is oil based it does not form a protective film.
 - e) Our recommended clear-coat product is Oil Based Deftthane Clear Polyurethane Finish which we stock.
- Use oil based exterior materials on exteriors. It is important that a product with ultra-violet protection is used on outside surfaces.
- The critical role of the paint or clear-coat is to keep moisture from the furniture grade kiln dried wood. Three coats of finish must be:
 - a) Absorbed into the wood and not just coat the wood surface.
 - b) Applied to all six sides, including under hinges, inside the openings for locks and handles and under sweeps.
- When dry, apply a 1/16th bead of clear sealant around the perimeter of glass and wood panels on the exterior side of doors, transoms and sidelites. Apply sealant over any joint seam where moisture might enter, then wipe it off. This will enhance moisture protection. We recommend Lexel Clear which we stock.
- Designs #1005, #1007, & #2005 require a bead of sealant applied along the top, bottom and face of all grooves on the exterior side of the door.
- After finish has completely dried, re-install all hardware and hang your new Madawaska door.
 - a) If it was necessary to trim or plane for a perfect fit, stain and clear coat as above to restore the seal.
 - b) Each Spring check for areas that may need to be lightly sanded and refinished.

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