



CARE INSTRUCTIONS

Thanks for purchasing your bespoke timber product from us. The following advice is given to prolong the life of your product and to hopefully steer you away from the potential pitfalls that can occur if this advice is not adhered to.

When you first receive this product please do not stand it against an external wall as this can encourage it to twist or bow. Always make sure that the door is fully painted or stained prior to installation, we recommend at least 3 coats before exposing the door to the elements. Further coats would be required when the product is fully installed, once installed any cut outs and untreated edges must be fully sealed. Try and choose a dry day to fit it.

When fitting wooden doors or frames, such as oak, sapele, iroko and pine, it is important that you apply the correct treatments to ensure your product realises its full potential in terms of look and durability. Our iroko-manufactured doors are generally regarded as a paint-grade but can be stained if you wanted. Doors are generally supplied to you already sanded. However, during fitting, they generally acquire some wear and tear.

It is always best to (where possible) add the finishing coat of decoration to doors and frames after they have been hinged/fitted, especially Exterior doors or frames.

When sanding, always go with the grain of the wood to avoid leaving scratches, if using sandpaper (rather than wire wool) fold the edges over and use this folded edge to prevent the sharper cut edge of the paper going into the grain and causing a splinter.

In our experience wire wool gives a better finish and you don't run the risk of scratching the glass if your hand slips.

Yacht varnish and other varnishes are in most cases too inflexible, they do not move with the door and can allow moisture to penetrate over a period of time. The first signs that this has happened will be a whitening at the joints and where the mouldings meet the panel or glass.

Sikkens is one of the best makes. You will need to sand the wood (see below) in between each application with a fine sand paper or wire wool as mentioned previously. Always make sure that the end grain is adequately coated, ie; the top and bottom of the door.

Before applying anything to a new softwood door, coat any knots in the wood to seal them and stop resin bleeding through to the new coating on the door. If the door has not been pre-treated with a preservative, then you can do this by applying a clear wood preserver.

To decorate any door or frame, use the general directions above and the detail below for Exterior or Interior Doors and Frames including veneered, solid timber or bespoke products.

For a painted finish, use a primer, followed by two layers of an undercoat, and then finish with a minimum two top coats. **YOU MUST ONLY USED OIL BASED OR SOLVENT BASED PAINT THAT IS MICROPOROUS.**

Remember to sand the doors down lightly in between each coat.

For a stain finish: **YOU MUST ONLY USED OIL BASED OR SOLVENT BASED STAIN THAT IS MICROPOROUS**

Again, remember to sand the doors down lightly in between each coat.

Please make sure that no water based decorating products or Wax or Danish Oil of any type are used on any door that is solid OR veneered.

Exceptions; Interior doors can have a varnish used but again it must be solvent based or oil based.

if in doubt please ask for our advice.

Your door should be decorated every three years, some wood care products can last up to ten years, however, if you live in a coastal area or a harsh climate, you may have to add wood care protection to the door more frequently to keep it in good condition.

Full decoration/care advice is shown on our website here and must be adhered to:

<https://www.directdoors.com/help/maintenance/>