

## CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF YOUR FINISHED DOOR

**Door Exposure and Protection:** Doors protected from the elements will obviously need less maintenance and re-finishing than doors fully exposed to the elements. A minimum 3' overhang will help to provide long-lasting protection for your entryway along with reduced maintenance.

**Stained Doors ONLY:** We recommend applying a UV topcoat over the existing topcoat every 3 to 5 years, although in locations of severe weather exposure more frequent maintenance may be required. We do not recommend stripping the factory finish topcoat. To prep doors to accept an additional topcoat, lightly scuff the surface of the door with a Scotch-Brite scouring pad, taking care not to scratch the base or any exposed ticking. Applying a solvent-based topcoat is recommended. In locations of severe weather exposure, more frequent maintenance may be required. Fading, minor cracking and peeling are some initial signs of UV topcoat deterioration.

**Color Choice:** As with overhangs, door colors may help to reduce periodic maintenance and help with the door performance, especially in areas where doors receive an extreme amount of sun without protection. Dark colors will absorb more heat than the light colors. If a door is absorbing a lot of heat or has constant sun exposure, it is more to have UV topcoat deterioration, color fading, and even issues with warping due to differential temperature. Light colors in these situations will help reduce the amount of heat absorption and help prolong the life of the door and reduce overall maintenance.

**Storm Doors:** Our doors are energy efficient and storm door protection is not necessary. If purchasing a storm door, keep in mind that it should be ventilated to help reduce the amount of heat build-up. Full-view, non-ventilated storm doors in areas where no overhang and constant sun exposure is present will most likely lead to accelerated issues (as pointed out above) due to the extreme heat (UV deterioration, color fading, warping, caulk/sealant oozing.)

**General Care:** General cleaning (as needed) to be done with a mild soap and water. Do not rub too hard, gently wipe the surface. Do not use Windex, thinners, solvent or alcohol based cleaners as they will damage the finish. Occasionally, minor sealant, adhesive ooze, or glazing tape shrinkage may occur in glass and show underneath the frame. Cutting those items off with a razor blade will remove those items and will not hinder performance.