



## Storage, Finishing, Installation & Maintenance Instructions

### Storage:

1. Doors should never come into contact with water or moisture.
2. If doors will be stored at the job site for more than 5 days, top and bottom rails and any exposed cutouts should be sealed with two coats of sealer upon arrival.
3. Do not subject doors to extreme temperatures and/or humidity. Temperature should be maintained within 50°F-90°F (10°C to 32°C) and relative humidity within 30%-60%. Buildings where humidity and temperature are not controlled should be avoided for storage facilities.
4. Doors should remain on their original factory pallet while in storage. Pallets must be stored indoors on a level surface. Once doors are removed from their original pallet they should be stored flat at least 4" (102 mm) off a level floor with cross supports and have protective coverings under the bottom door and over the top door. Covering should protect doors from dirt, water and abuse but allow for air circulation under and around the stack.
5. Exposure to ultra-violet light sources should be avoided. Most wood species are susceptible to discoloration if exposed to sunlight and even some forms of artificial light. This condition can be accelerated in unfinished doors. To protect doors from light damage after delivery, opaque wrapping may be required.
6. Doors should be lifted and carried when being moved, and never dragged across one another. Care must be taken not to lift doors from vulnerable areas i.e. pockets for mortise locks concealed closers, mortised door bottoms and corners routed for flush bolts, etc.
7. Doors should always be handled with clean dry hands or while wearing clean dry gloves. Contact with other body parts or sweaty clothing should also be avoided as body oils could complicate the application of finishes.

### Finishing

1. Labels on fire doors should never be removed, doing so will void the label.
2. Doors should not be considered ready for finishing when initially received. Before finishing any splits or seams should be filled with wood filler and all handling marks, raised grain, scuffs, burnishes and other undesirable blemishes should be removed by block sanding all surfaces evenly in a tabletop position with 120 to 180 grit sandpaper. To avoid undesirable cross grain scratches, always sand with the grain.
3. Wood is dimensionally influenced by fluctuations in moisture content caused by changes in its surrounding environment. To assure uniform moisture exposure and dimensional stability, all surfaces should be finished equally.
4. Water-based coatings on unfinished wood may cause veneer separation, splits, cracks, checks, highlight joints and raise wood grain. Water-based coating are not recommended for use on Birch doors.
5. Certain species of wood, particularly oak, may contain natural chemicals which react unfavorably with foreign materials in the finishing system. Avoid using steel wool, rusty containers or other items that may contaminate the finishing system.
6. A thinned coat of sanding sealer should be applied prior to staining to promote a uniform appearance and avoid sharp contrasts in color or a blotchy appearance.
7. Dark colored finishes should be avoided on all surfaces if the door is exposed to direct sunlight, in order to reduce the chance of warping or veneer checking.
8. Be sure the door surface being finished is satisfactory in both smoothness and color after each coat. Allow adequate drying time between coats. Desired results are best achieved by following the finish manufacturer's recommendations.



## Installation

1. Do not install doors in buildings that have wet plaster or cement. HVAC systems should be operating and balanced. Doors should be allowed to become acclimatized to the finished buildings temperature and humidity before hanging.
2. Before installing hardware it should be confirmed that top and bottom rails and any exposed cutouts have been sealed with two coats of sealer.
3. All hardware installations must follow the hardware manufacturers instructions. Hardware on fire-rated doors should be installed in accordance with Aberdeen's published listings and NFPA 80.
4. All doors should be hung with a minimum of one hinge or pivot for every 30" (762 mm) of door height. Heavy weight hinges or continuous hinges are highly recommended on doors over 150 lbs. (68 kg) or wider than 42" (1067 mm).
5. Pilot holes must be drilled for all screws that act as hardware attachments. self-tapping or combination metal/wood screws should not be used to attach surface applied hardware. In the absence of internal blocking all surface applied hardware i.e. surface closers, exit devices, etc. should be mounted by through bolting.
6. When field fitting non-rated doors for height, do not trim top or bottom edge by more than 1/2 " (13 mm) unless accommodated by additional blocking. Trimming of fire-rated doors must be done in accordance with NFPA 80.
7. Doors and frames should be installed level, plumb, square and true.

## Maintenance

1. Doors should never be exposed to water or moisture and all exposed surfaces must remain properly sealed and protected throughout their lifetime.
2. It is recommended that all doors and hardware be inspected and adjusted periodically to insure they continue to operate as originally intended.
3. When cleaning door surfaces, use a non-abrasive commercial cleaner designed for cleaning wood doors or paneling surfaces that does not leave a film residue that would build up or affect the finish of the door finish.