

Window/Door Finishing Information

In both applications of either painting or staining, surfaces need to be properly cleaned, lightly sanded and wiped clean with a tack cloth to remove all dust.

Unless all traces of sawdust and sanding dust are first removed, any finish you apply-- whether it is a coat of paint or stain with a topcoat – is doomed to be less than perfect. Although the finest dust is invisible to the eye, if it is left on the wood surfaces when you apply the paint, stain or varnish, the surface will turn out to be muddy in color and rough to the touch. The rough to the touch finish will also affect the operation of the windows and/or doors.

Prior to painting the raw wood veneer and immediately after sanding and removing all dust particles, a quality oil based primer should be applied. After following the re-coat time recommended for the primer and a very light sanding and cleaning, the finish coat of semi-gloss latex paint should be applied.

The following pre-finishing recommendation tips are for painting, staining and top coating of raw wood surfaces.

Real Wood Veneer Staining Tips

The wood veneer itself is only approximately .008" thick, and therefore that is all the wood one needs to treat, stain, finish or clean.

Usage and Limitations

Unfinished, wood veneered interior surfaces must be finished prior to, or immediately after product installation for maximum protection. Unfinished wood surfaces that experience water damage at the jobsite or are left unfinished after installation and become stained or damaged are not defective and will not be covered under the warranty.

Preparation of veneer surface prior to staining or painting

- Surface must be dry, clean, and free of dirt, grease, glue, and debris.
- Use a pre-stain wood conditioner before staining to prevent blotchiness and control raising of the wood grain (such as wood conditioner products from Minwax[®], Cabot[®] or Sherwin Williams)

Any quality stain should work on veneer profile-wrapped profiles.

- Deep penetrating stains are not necessary, and in fact are counterproductive to obtaining a quality stain finish.
- It is generally best to apply a light stain coat, and then wipe off.
- It may be necessary to apply several light coats rather than one heavy coat.

Minimizing appearance of stained finger joints

- Staining will enhance the appearance of finger joints in the veneer surface (if finger joints are present).
- To minimize the appearance of finger joints, apply a clear tint base for wood stain (such as Minwax[®] Clear Tint Base) on the prepared veneer surface prior to applying stain.

- Note that the application of the clear base may influence the stain appearance on the veneer.

The top coat is the key to protecting the wood veneer.

- The better the top coat, and the better the inter-coat adhesion between coats, the better the protection.
- As even the best windows may develop some moisture that might accumulate on a bottom horizontal surface, the top coat is critical to providing an adequate moisture seal.

If opaque paint is to be used, once again select a top quality paint for best protection.

- All good quality house paints should work fine, yet consult with your paint supplier first.
- Again, inter-coat adhesion is an important part of the protection desired.

Take care when cleaning the surface of the clear top coat or paint.

- Strong, aggressive cleaners, along with any cleaners that are solvent-based, should be avoided, so as not to damage the veneer top coat finish.

Repair to the veneer surface may be accomplished before finishing.

- Use fillers and lightly sand with fine grade abrasive if a minor surface repair is necessary.
- Take care when sanding - the veneer is only .008" thick.

Failure to follow these instructions may cause the Warranty to be null and void.

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