

Care, Finish & Maintenance Guide

for Eagle Entrancesways and
Specialty Windows and Doors



INSTALLER: Please leave this guide with the building owner to file for future reference.

Congratulations! You have just purchased one of the many fine Eagle® products. Proper care, finishing and maintenance are essential if the benefits of your Eagle product are to be fully attained. Therefore, please read and follow this instruction guide completely. If your abilities do not match this procedure's requirements, contact an experienced contractor. You may direct any questions about this or other products to your local Eagle Window & Door dealer. For the dealer nearest you, visit our dealer locator at EagleWindow.com or call 1-800-324-5354. For a copy of the Limited Warranty, contact your local Eagle dealer. Thank you for choosing Eagle.

⚠ WARNING

Use caution when working at elevated heights and around unit openings. Follow manufacturer's instructions for ladders and/or scaffolding. Failure to do so may result in injury or death.

⚠ WARNING

Sanding, staining, painting, varnishing and other finishing procedures should always be done in well-ventilated areas.

⚠ WARNING

Windows and doors can be heavy. Use safe lifting techniques and a reasonable number of people with enough strength to lift, carry and install window and door products to avoid injury and/or product damage.

NOTICE

By nature, wood responds to the level of moisture around it. In a high humidity environment, wood will absorb moisture and swell or expand. Conversely, in an exceptionally dry climate, it will dry out and may split or crack. In order to maximize the life of your door or window unit and meet the conditions for the limited warranty protection, the product must be properly stored, installed, finished, and maintained.

It is the responsibility of the installing contractor and/or building owner to make sure the product is properly protected against environmental elements and undue moisture absorption. Failure to properly store, install, protect, finish, and maintain your door or window may void the limited warranty and may result in problems such as wood splitting, warping, panel shrinkage, wood joint separation, water penetration between moldings, panels or glass.

Eagle cannot evaluate all paints, stains or application requirements. Please contact a paint professional for the coating finish system best suited for your application and region. Select top quality paints and finishes and follow manufacturer's application instructions.

NOTICE

Storm Doors

When storm doors are used and exposed to direct sunlight, heat build-up may occur between storm door and entry door. Problems (such as split panels) caused by extreme temperature build up between storm door and entry door are not covered under the limited warranty.

Tools and Supplies

- Safety Glasses
- Tack Cloth or Clean Rag
- Mineral Spirits
- Sanding Block
- Putty Knife
- Finish Material
- 220 Grit Sandpaper
- Exterior Grade Wood Filler

Storage, Handling and Installation

1. Inspect the door or window for any visible damage or defects upon receipt.
2. Doors and windows should be handled with clean hands and equipment. When moving doors and windows, lift and carry, do not drag.
3. If the product must be stored before installation, store on a level surface in a dry, well-ventilated area. Relative humidity of the storage area should not exceed 50%.
4. Do not expose unfinished doors or windows to excessive heat, extreme dryness, high humidity, direct sunlight, or sudden changes in temperature.
5. Do not install unfinished doors and windows into a building before the drywall, wet plaster, texture, or cement work has been completed and dried.

Finishing

General Guidelines

CAUTION

Doors and windows must be finished, sealed or suitably protected no later than 14 days after arriving at the job site. Doors and windows may swell or twist and wood components may split or crack if not finished within 14 days. Failure to finish the unit within 14 days may cause product damage and may void the limited warranty.

1. All doors and windows must be finished or sealed or suitably protected no later than 14 days after arriving at the job site. Interior and exterior of wood doors and windows should be finished at the same time.
2. Eagle is not responsible for final field finishing results. Color variation in wood is a natural characteristic. To compensate for any wood color variation, it is expected that the finisher will make adjustments in the finish process as needed to achieve the desired results.
3. Always read and follow finishing manufacturer's instructions and warnings on each container of finish material for priming, painting, staining and varnishing.
4. Certain wood species, particularly oak, contain chemicals which may react unfavorably with certain materials in the finish, causing dark stain spots. Test finish prior to application, when possible.
5. Avoid using dark colored finishes on door and window surfaces exposed directly to sunlight, to reduce the chance of the wood warping or cracking.
6. For windows and doors with glass, finish should overlap at least 1/16" onto the glass. This will provide a continuous seal between the glass and wood component and help prevent water penetration. It is essential that this finish seal be maintained. If cracks or voids develop, repair immediately.
7. Finish and/or seal all wood sides and edges of door panels and window sash. All exposed wood surfaces, including top and bottom rails, hinge pockets, cutouts, and hardware preps, must be sealed.
8. Do not attempt to finish product in wet weather or in temperatures lower than the temperature recommended by the finish manufacturer.
9. Do not paint or stain non-wood parts such as weather strip, hinges, locks, other hardware or exterior cladding.
10. High gloss topcoat finishes will accentuate surface imperfections.

Surface Preparation

Proper surface preparation is the most important step of the finishing process. The door or window must be dry before starting the finishing process. Wood should be less than 16% moisture content. If necessary, remove and store door panel or window sash in a temperature and humidity controlled environment until the moisture content has equalized and adjusted to a more normal level.

1. Doors and windows should not be considered ready for finishing when initially received. Before finishing, remove all handling marks, raised grain, job site inflicted scratches and scuffs and any other undesirable blemishes by thoroughly block sanding all wood surfaces with 220 grit sandpaper. If unit is being painted, fill all nail and fastener holes as well as any other surface cracks or imperfections using exterior grade wood filler that is compatible with the paint or finish being used.
2. If unit has been supplied with a factory applied primed exterior, proceed to **Painting**.
3. Always sand in direction of grain with folded edge of sand paper facing direction of travel to prevent sandpaper from catching under a sliver of wood. Small amounts of grease, oil or pitch can be removed with mineral spirits.
4. Remove dust with a tack cloth or damp clean rag after sanding. Do not use caustic or abrasive cleaners as they may damage the wood.

Staining

1. All wood surfaces must be dry and free of dirt, dust and other contaminants. Application of a wood conditioner is recommended prior to staining to help reduce the color variations that are natural in all wood.
2. The first finish coat should be a “thinned” alkyd-resin base clear sealer or a combination of stain and sealer. This will seal the wood surface and help promote a more uniform stained appearance. Some very porous woods such as alder may require an additional sealing coat.
3. For stain, try to use a product with high quality ultraviolet blockers in it. Avoid using transparent or semi-transparent stains on exterior wood surfaces. Solid color stains are made with a higher pigment concentration and will better protect wood against ultraviolet damage from the sun.
4. For a clear topcoat finish, use a solvent based finish with an ultraviolet inhibitor. A Spar or Marine Urethane is recommended. Apply a minimum of three clear topcoats. Lightly sand between coats using 220 grit sand paper. Remove dust between each application.

NOTICE

Do not use lacquer or polyurethane finishes on exterior of wood doors and windows. Lacquer and polyurethane finishes tend to break down, are less flexible and offer low ultraviolet resistance.

Painting

1. After surface has been cleaned and prepped, apply a quality oil-based primer followed by a compatible quality oil-based topcoat finish. **Do Not** use a water-based primer on wood surfaces. A minimum of two finish topcoats are recommended. Compatible latex resin-base topcoat paint may be used but only over a quality oil-based primer.
2. Lightly sand between coats using 220 grit sand paper. Remove dust with a tack cloth after sanding.

CAUTION

Wood doors and windows facing sun exposure should not be finished with dark paints like black or dark green. Wood may experience excessive movement and may split or crack. Use of dark color paints under these conditions may void the limited warranty.

Maintenance

In order to enjoy the beauty of your door or window for many years to come and comply with all conditions of the limited warranty, the finish on your door or window must be properly maintained to resist moisture absorption. It is recommended that the condition of the finish be inspected at least twice a year. If any of the following symptoms are detected, it is important to restore the finish immediately.

- Hairline cracks in the topcoat of the finish.
- Changes in color or dulling of the finish.
- Changes in texture of the finish such as flaking, scaling, chalking, or bubbling.
- Water penetration between wood moldings, panels, or glass.
- Wood joint separation.

To restore the finish:

1. Lightly sand with 220 grit sandpaper and wipe away dust using a clean cloth dampened with mineral spirits.
2. Apply at least two coats of the same topcoat finish originally used to make sure finish is compatible. If original finish is not known, consult with your local paint professional.
3. Lightly sand with 220 grit sandpaper and wipe away dust between coats.
4. Finish all sides and edges of door panel or window sash.

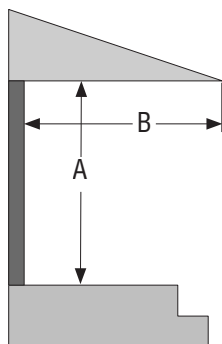
Construction Guideline

Overhang Protection

Where an entranceway is installed will play an important part in its maintenance requirements and long-term performance. Wood doors and entranceways that face South, Southwest, Southeast, or West are exposed to direct sunlight and/or harsh environmental conditions, and without sufficient overhang will require significantly more maintenance than an entranceway protected from the elements by an appropriate overhang. The direction the door faces, the location and climate must all be taken into consideration in order to determine the appropriate amount of overhang protection needed. For more severe climate regions such as desert, high wind or coastal exposures, the amount of protective overhang must be increased.

The following illustration and chart can be used to calculate the amount of overhang required for your door or entranceway based on the height of the overhang, direction the door faces, its location and climate.

- A = Distance from bottom of door to underside of overhang.
- B = Distance from face of door to outside edge of overhang.



Exposure Formula for Specific Conditions

Climate	Direction Door Faces			
	North	South	East	West
Desert	B= 1/2 of A	B= 1/2 of A	B= 1/2 of A	B = 2 x A
Ocean	B= 1/2 of A	B = A	B= 1/2 of A	B = A
Wet	B = A	B = A	B = A	B = A
Mild	B= 1/2 of A	B = A	B= 1/2 of A	B = A