Door care & maintenance



Important information

This important information will help keep your Corinthian Door looking beautiful and working for many years, while maintaining warranty coverage. Regular inspections and minor maintenance are the best ways to keep your doors in good condition. We gladly offer a five year warranty on every door we make, failure to adhere to door care and maintenance advice will void warranty.

Preparing your door prior to finishing

Storage

Always store your door/s in a dry covered building, not in wet, exposed or freshly plastered areas where moisture can get to the door. Your doors should be stored flat, off the ground/floor.

Sanding

Generally paint/stain manufacturer's will specify that you should give timber a light sand before finishing. Always refer to the paint/stain manufacturer's advice. The surface should be prepared with appropriate sand paper, under no circumstances should you use steel wool or other metal scourers. Light sanding is recommended for veneer doors. Do not sand veneer doors back more than 0.2mm as the substrate may be exposed. Do not use sand paper with a lower grit value of 240. Always sand in the direction of the grain, avoid cross sanding, as this will only exaggerate when stained.

Finishing your door

All Corinthian Doors are supplied unfinished and need to be either (a) painted or (b) stained and sealed (all of which are referred to as <code>Finished</code>). Timber is a natural product that is greatly affected by changes in moisture. This change in moisture will cause the timber to warp, crack or in some cases rot. Unprotected timber can physically deteriorate if exposed to extremes of atmospheric change over a period of time. All timber products should be Finished before being installed to help protect them from changes in moisture – regardless of whether they are being used in internal or external applications.

The entire door should be Finished immediately after fitting and before hanging; this includes behind hardware and most importantly, the top and bottom edges should be Finished. Always follow the paint/ stain manufacturer's instructions on the number of coats required. The top, bottom and sides of the door need to receive the same number of coats as the door face. Trials have shown that doors with the correct number of coats of paint, stain or sealer (as per the paint/stain manufacturer's recommendations) outlast and perform better than those not finished adequately. Failure to seal doors with two coats of paint or sealer/varnish to both faces and all edges, including top and bottom, will void warranty.

Paint/stain and sealer systems

Always use good quality paint, stain or sealer systems and always follow the paint/stain manufacturer's advice. Be sure to pay particular attention to "internal" vs "external" paint, stain and coating systems and use one that is appropriate to where you are hanging the door. Never use automotive or two pack paint on doors. A sealer must be used when staining a door, as stains do not offer any protection against the elements.

Paint colours

Doors exposed to sunlight should be painted with light reflective colours as dark colours absorb light and heat. Using dark colours will cause a drying effect on the doors and could cause the doors to warp. The use of a light coloured topcoat is essential. Your paint supplier or paint manufacturer can advise you on the light reflective value (LRV) of the colour you have selected – the higher the LRV the less heat the substrate will absorb and the longer the expected life of the paint finish.

Black has a LRV of approximately 5. White has a LRV of approximately 95. Choosing paint colours with an LRV of greater than 50 is a wise choice. Your paint manufacturer should be able to advise you of the LRV for a selected colour. Using different colours on either side of the door (external/internal) will cause uneven heat/moisture absorption, particularly for doors in exposed applications. The finishing paint should be the same colour on all six sides. Using different colours may cause the door to warp.

High gloss paints

Honeycomb doors with a 3.2mm skin should be painted with flat, semi-gloss or satin finishes. Honeycomb doors with 4.75mm or thicker skins can be painted with gloss or high gloss paints. We do not recommend painting Blokdor core doors with gloss finishes. Show through of frame and core components is not considered a defect.

Stain colours

Given a light reflective value (LRV) is a measure of the final colour, the LRV for stains (semi-transparent in nature) can vary hugely depending on the substrate it is applied to. If you choose to apply a darker stain to lighter timber doors, always follow the stain manufacturer's instructions. We recommend using a good quality stain when finishing your door. The finishing stain should be the same colour on all six sides. Using different stains may cause the door to warp.

Merbau doors

When finishing Merbau timber doors ensure you use an oil based undercoat and finish specifically designed for Merbau. This will help reduce bleeding of tannin. If your Merbau door becomes exposed to moisture, and the door bleeds tannin, wipe the door over with a damp cloth to restore an even appearance.

Installation of your door

Hanging your door

Hang stile and rail joinery doors with the loose beads facing externally. Always hang doors as directed by the label on the door. Solid doors should always be hung with 3 hinges, with a minimum hinge size of 89mm.

Trimming allowances

Trimming allowances vary by range and design. Please check trimming allowances with the manufacturer.

Door furniture

Always use a good quality door furniture supplier. Make sure your door furniture is appropriate for external or internal applications. Always follow the door furniture manufacturer's advice for installation and fitting.

Always understand the construction of your door before attempting to fit it with door furniture or hardware. The utility or structural strength must not be impaired in the fitting of the door, the application of hardware or cutting and altering the door for lights, louvres, panels or any other special details.

Lock blocks and fitting of door furniture

A lock block is a piece of timber fixed inside the door. Hollowcore doors (such as Honeycomb construction) contain a lock block. As the construction is not 100% solid timber, a lock block is required to keep the handle and door furniture in place. It is extremely important that the position of the lock block is located before checking out of the hinges, before hanging the door or fixing the door furniture. To help indicate which side of the door the lock block is positioned, a lock block label is located on that side, this label is always on the spine/stile. The lock block will cover door furniture back set up to 60mm. An internal door lock block is 300mm high for a 2040mm high door. An external door lock block is 500mm in height.

Protecting your door from the weather

Entrance doors must be installed in weather protected openings to reduce the effects of weather exposure. The warranty will not cover door damage caused by the external environment.

Maintaining your door

Regular inspections

We recommend that you regularly inspect your door for any paint, stain or sealer breakdown, pay special attention to possible paint/ stain breakdown around glass openings and joints. Once the paint, stain or sealer system has begun to breakdown, you should re-finish your door.

Cleaning your door

You should avoid getting your doors wet, even after painting or staining and sealing.

Wipe your front door down with a damp cloth. Do not use harsh chemicals or detergents on your door.

Never hose your front door down or get your door wet.

Stainless steel

When cleaning doors with stainless steel inlays/inserts, thoroughly wipe down the surface with a damp cloth and dry with a soft cloth. Any discolouration or corrosion should be removed as soon as possible to avoid permanent discolouration and pitting of the surface from occurring. To remove discolouration, always use a good quality stainless steel cleaner and follow the manufacturer's instructions.

General

Variations in timber

Timber veneers can have significant variation in colour, grain patterns and textures. These variations in colour, grain patterns and textures are unavoidable and are part of the natural beauty of timber; they are not considered defects.

Show through

Show through is when the internal construction of the door has left a slight impression on the skin of the door. When this does happen it will generally be with doors with a 3.2mm skin. Normally show through is only seen at certain angles or when high gloss paints are used. Show through of frame and core components is not considered a defect.

Warp/bow

Warp/bow is the cupping or twisting of timber. When it comes to doors, it refers to the distortion within the door itself and not its relationship to jambs or the frame in which it is hung.

Inline with the Australian Standard, it is not considered a defect for a door measuring 2150mm high to have a warp/bow up to 4mm. In addition, it is not considered a defect for doors measuring between 2150mm and 2400mm high to have a warp/bow up to 6mm. Doors which exceed 24 00mm high or 1020mm wide are not covered by the Australian Standard or the warranty and are not guaranteed against warp/bow or twist.

You can determine cupping by applying a straight-edge to the concave face of the door, or twist by placing the door face against a true plane surface. Warp/bow can be caused by a number of factors, generally warp/bow is caused by improper storage or adverse moisture conditions. Using dark or multiple colours (paint or stain) can also cause the door to warp.

Corinthian does not accept responsibility of warp/bow when the moisture content of the timber falls below 10% or exceeds 15%. These guidelines are provided inline with the Australian Standard.

Prompt advice should be sought if excessive warping/bowing occurs to assist in overcoming difficulty.

It is the responsibility of the installer and homeowner to ensure that the advice in this document has been adhered to. Failure to follow these instructions will void the warranty.

For full warranty and terms & conditions of sale, visit corinthian.com.au