



GENERAL TREATMENT

Joinery is a precision made and costly building component that should be treated with respect. External joinery may generally be treated in a manner similar to that for structural components with support being chosen carefully to avoid warp or twist due to unnatural loading. Priming offers little protection against the uptake of moisture. Should the horns or any other sections of primed timber be cut off, the exposed bare timber should be re-primed. Similarly, in the case of timber that has been preservative treated, all cut ends borings, nothings' etc should be liberally swabbed with preservative.

Ideally internal joinery and flooring should be kept in a heated dry store to maintain the correct moisture content. If that is not possible a garage or other dry and weatherproof storage area could

be used, providing it is well ventilated. The stored components should not rest directly on fresh concrete and the material should be close piled and fully wrapped. Good ventilation is essential. In general, joinery items should be stored flat on closely spaced bearers but in all cases the manufacturer's recommendations should be followed. Protective coverings should be retained as long as possible and do not mean that components can be stored outdoors without further protection.

Factory-finished components, such as doors and windows, may be treated in a manner similar to that for internal joinery and flooring. Additionally, however, particular care is necessary to avoid damage, especially with completed units.

WINDOWS AND DOORS : Care and Maintenance

During the Build Process

1. Keep the coating intact at all times.
2. Protect surfaces from plaster, render or concrete damage. Clean off any spatters while wet, with clean water – do not use any acid based cleaners. Plaster damage will cause damage to coating and timber staining.
3. Use any brick or stonework wash with extreme caution. These products are usually acidic. Spatters will cause paint, timber and hardware damage.
4. Pay particular attention to the protection of window sills and door thresholds from damage by plaster, render or cleaning products.
5. Keep moisture content of timber at acceptable levels. Dry and ventilate the building. Excessive moisture levels will cause expansion of timbers, jamming of doors and growth of mould and algae on the timber surface.
6. When the house is completed, heat and ventilate.



Maintenance

1. This product has a factory applied coating. Where any damage or marking of the product has occurred during the build process, brush coating with a single coat of paint on the outer face will restore a good decorative finish and prolong the coating life. In a location which is exposed to severe weather conditions this treatment will also give added protection against moisture damage
2. Inspect windows at least annually. Pay particular attention to lower areas, glazing beads and sill. Repair any small patches of coating damage promptly.
3. Wash surfaces with a solution of warm water and mild detergent – change water frequently. Rinse thoroughly with clean water. The build up of dirt on joinery surfaces encourages mould growth.
4. Redecorate when the lower parts of the joinery show general signs of wear. The time taken for this to happen will depend on the climate and level of shelter. Redecoration time must be based on physical inspection of the windows.
5. Remember that timber is a natural product – it expands and contracts with varying climatic conditions. With a paneled door this may give rise to lines on the paintwork around the panel. Sand down any unevenness and touch up the coating in this area.
6. Keep moving parts – hinges, locks, handles etc. clean and free of grit, dirt or mortar. Clean regularly. Apply acid free oil, Vaseline or WD40 to all moving parts at least twice a year.
7. Do not paint over rubber gaskets or ironmongery
8. Important When closing door always lift handle up to engage multi point locking, to ensure security and protect door against warping.

Glass

1. Protect glass from all alkali materials and fluoride bearing compounds
2. Never use scrapers, razor blades, steel wool or other metal tool on glass – the window supplier is not responsible for scratches occurring during construction or cleaning.
3. Water used to wash the face of the building may contain contamination taken from mortar, cement, organic coatings etc. – it will damage the glass surface.
4. Remove glass labels promptly after installation – prolonged exposure to the sun can make the adhesive very difficult to remove.
5. Protect glass from splatter during welding/cutting – will cause permanent damage.
6. Protect glass from concrete splatter – dried on concrete is impossible to remove without glass damage
7. Organic solvents, oils and plasticizers' must not come in contact with the glass.
8. Protect glass during surface treatment of masonry – acid washing, sand blasting, grouting and waterproofing.
9. Prolonged exposure to sprinkling or spraying with hard water can lead to the minerals in the water precipitating out on the glass and becoming chemically bonded to the glass causing permanent damage.

Standard Glass Cleaning Procedures

1. Clean glass from top of building to bottom
2. Never clean glass in direct sunlight – the cleaning solution will dry on the glass – the dry surface will allow scratching to occur
3. Use a solution of water and mild detergent – e.g. wash up liquid
4. Use clean grit free cloths or a clean grit free sponge
5. Rinse the glass immediately with plenty clean water to remove all detergents
6. Use a clean, lint free cloth or squeegee to dry the glass