



Finishing Instructions for Interior Wood Doors by Harris Door and Millwork

Welcome to Harris Door and Millwork! We're here to help you achieve the perfect finish for your doors. Follow these straightforward instructions to ensure a beautiful and lasting result. Please read them carefully before beginning.

Preparation

1. **Lay It Flat:** Start by removing the door from its frame and placing it on a flat, clean surface.
2. **Smooth It Out:** Gently sand the entire door with #180 grit sandpaper, especially if it has heavy veneers. Always sand in the direction of the grain to avoid scratches.
3. **Clean It Up:** Before you start finishing, ensure all dust is removed from the door. We recommend using a tack cloth for this purpose. Just be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions.
4. **No Air Blowing:** Avoid using compressed air to remove dust, as the moisture can cause water spots on stained finishes.

Painting Your Door

1. **Primer Selection:** Choose a high-quality oil-based pigmented primer. Avoid water-based finishes, as they can cause grain raising.
2. **Water-Based Products Warning:** Do not use water-based primers or paints. They can adversely affect the wood, and their use will void all warranties.
3. **Exterior Door Paint:** If you're painting an exterior door, make sure to use exterior grade paint.
4. **Full Coverage:** Ensure all surfaces of the door, including the top and bottom, are evenly covered with paint.
5. **Top Coat Times Two:** Apply at least two top coats, sanding between each coat. For glazed doors, overlap the top coat onto the glass by about 1/16" to protect it from moisture.
6. **Sunlight Precaution:** Avoid using black or dark-colored top coats on doors that will be exposed to direct sunlight for extended periods.

Staining Your Door

1. **Start with Oil:** Begin by applying an oil-based pre-stain or conditioner. Using a wood conditioner is imperative for achieving an even finish, as it helps prevent blotchiness and allows for more uniform stain absorption.
2. **Water-Based Stain Warning:** Refrain from using water-based stains, as they can lead to veneer peeling and are not covered under warranty.
3. **Staining Steps:** Apply an oil-based semitransparent stain or clear undercoat. Follow with three coats of clear top coat varnish or polyurethane, sanding lightly between coats. For exterior doors, use products with UV inhibitors.
4. **Protecting Glazed Doors:** If your door is glazed, overlap the top coat onto the glass to shield it from moisture.

We're dedicated to helping you achieve a stunning, long-lasting finish for your doors. If you have any questions or need further assistance, don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Visit our website at www.harrisdm.com for more information on our products and services.