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After Care Guide

We hope you enjoy your new joinery. Below are some guidelines to help you keep it looking its best throughout the year.

This document provides guidance on the care, maintenance, and preservation of spray-painted timber windows and doors. Following these procedures will help optimise durability, maintain appearance, and protect against environmental exposure.

Routine Inspection and Cleaning

To ensure continued performance and visual appeal, it is essential to conduct 6-month inspections of windows and doors for any changes attributable to natural settlement or seasoning. During these inspections, carefully check for cracks, chips, or signs of wear. Typically, a thorough rinse or cleaning is sufficient to preserve the manufactured finish. For properties in coastal areas, quarterly cleaning is strongly recommended due to the intensified environmental conditions.

Paint Finish and Cleaning Protocol

All windows and doors are finished with a water-based paint or stain system, consisting of a base coat primer and two topcoats. End grains are sealed with a dedicated end grain sealer to enhance resistance and longevity.

For cleaning, use a soft, non-abrasive cloth with a mild, colour-free detergent in warm water. Change the water frequently to eliminate contaminants and dirt. Ensure cleaning cloths are completely free of grit or debris to prevent any scratching.

Do not use aggressive or acidic cleaners, ammonia, bleach, strong detergents, solvents, or abrasive materials, such as scourers, metal scrapers, or knives. After cleaning, rinse thoroughly with clean water to remove all residues. Detergents or liquid cleaners should not remain on the timber for extended periods to prevent absorption; do not saturate the wood. Dry paintwork with a soft cloth or chamois. Any observed damage during cleaning should be addressed immediately to preserve the integrity of the coating system.



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Inspection and Repair Procedures

Inspect all joints for cracks and carry out spot repairs as required using TEKNOSEAL 4001 or another appropriate Teknos product. Glazing joints should be inspected and repaired as necessary with a compatible sealant.

Review the coating surface and overall construction for damage. If remediation is necessary, follow the protocol below:

1. Sand the affected area with fine-grained sandpaper (120-180 grit).
2. Clean the sanded section thoroughly and ensure it is dry.
3. Check moisture content to verify the timber is suitable for redecoration.
4. Note that low temperatures and high humidity may affect the curing process. The surface temperature must be at least 3°C above the dew point to avoid moisture condensation during the curing phase.
5. Apply a layer of repair paint in the specified colour using a high-quality synthetic brush for water-based acrylic paints. Apply a second coat to the area after four hours.
6. If the damage is extensive, lightly sand the entire frame and repaint following the procedure detailed above.

Application: An even coating film is important for durability and for appearance, particularly in the case of translucent wood stain. With practice, an even coat can be applied quickly, following a three-stage application technique:

1. Load the coating generously and disperse quickly over the surface.
2. Even out the coating with light diagonal cross strokes. Do not overbrush; the coating will flow and level naturally.
3. Finish with light brush strokes in the direction of the grain.

A systematic approach: when painting apply and finish each length section systematically. On a window, paint one component at a time e.g. top rail followed by the stile and then the bottom rail. If painting a door start from the bottom and work your way upwards.

Brush quality: the quality of the brush is very important. A long-haired synthetic brush will give the best results; short haired or worn brushes may leave lines in the dry film. Thoroughly wet the brush with water before starting, ensuring the base of the bristles (the heel of the brush) is fully wetted. Tested brushes include Woodwork: Axus Mink Series, Nour Smooth Finish and Hamilton Perfection Pure Synthetic



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Glass Cleaning

Glass should be rinsed off with warm water and a sponge or soft cloth to remove grit and other particles. The glass can then be cleaned with warm soapy water before removing excess water and drying with a squeegee or dry soft cloth/chamois.

DO NOT use abrasive cleaners, chemicals (particularly methylated spirits), Nilglass or other alcohol-based glass cleaners, scourers, metal scrapers or knives to remove dirt/items from the glass. If required a non-spirit/non-alcohol based cleaner and a soft cloth can be used.

Do not leave the windows to dry naturally as in some areas water contains minerals and salts and these can/will form deposits on the glass over time. All water and cleaning solution residue should be dried from window frames, seals etc to avoid any potential deterioration of these materials.

Ironmongery Maintenance

To ensure the longevity and performance of your new timber windows and doors, it is important to remember that the hardware and ironmongery also require regular maintenance. We have carefully selected these components to complement your joinery, and we recommend the following care techniques based on your specific finishes.

Window Hinges

All hinges with sliding shoes need to be kept free from debris, dirt, or other obstructions. Use a soft damp cloth with a mild solution of warm soapy water to clean the friction hinges, you must thoroughly dry afterwards. For optimum performance lubricate all pivot points with PTFE.

For Stainless Steel, Solid Brass, Matt Black Lacquered, and PVD Finishes:

Please dust handles regularly with a soft, dry cloth. We recommend washing these monthly with warm, soapy water and drying them immediately. If your property is in a coastal area, this should be done more frequently to prevent corrosion. Additionally, please lubricate all moving parts every six months using a PTFE grease or specialist dry lube spray.

For Antique Stainless Steel, Iron, and Cast-Iron Finishes:

Regular dusting is also essential. For iron and cast iron specifically, please use a lightly oiled cloth every three to six months to wipe down the hardware and apply lubricating oil to any moving parts or areas where the finish may have worn. For antique stainless steel, clean with warm, soapy water and dry thoroughly. We then recommend applying a high-quality, non-abrasive car wax polish for added protection, followed by PTFE lubrication every six months.



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When cleaning any polished finishes, please ensure you wipe in the direction of the polish lines rather than across them. To protect the integrity of the metal, avoid using bleach, acid-based cleaners, or abrasive materials, as even fine powders can cause permanent scratches.

Proper care will ensure your hardware remains functional and aesthetically pleasing for years to come. Please let us know if you have any questions regarding these maintenance steps.