

Maintenance

Wood Doors

Your GlassCraft hardwood door has been handcrafted to last, but periodic maintenance is required to keep it looking great and provide proper protection against the elements. Regular finish maintenance is also a requirement of the warranty that's included with GlassCraft doors. If you maintain your door properly, it will give you years of enjoyment.

Here are some signs to watch for on your wood door. Ordinarily, your doors finish coating will first begin to deteriorate at the exterior lower portion of the door so look in this area first. These warning signs indicate that it's time for some simple, easy-to-perform maintenance:

- Hairline cracks in the top coat of finish.
- Changes in the color of the finish.
- Changes in the texture of the finish, such as flaking or scaling.
- Dullness or chalkiness in the finish.

If you live in a severe climate area or your entry or door receives lots of direct sunlight and/or direct precipitation from a southern or western exposure, you'll want to examine your door's finish often. Depending on the conditions, you may also need to maintain the door finish more frequently.

Glass Panels

All exterior GlassCraft doors that include a glass panel use a double-thick or triple-thick Insulated Glass Panel Unit. These insulated glass (IG) panels do not require any maintenance, and will last for years with regular installation and use, and are warranted against IG seal failure. Do not clean the glass with a razor blade, as this can scratch the glass.

Wrought Iron Grilles

Your GlassCraft door may include a handmade wrought iron grille. These grilles are real wrought iron, and each is unique. All wrought iron grilles are coated to inhibit rusting. But they are iron, and, like any iron or steel item (such as your car), will rust if the painted surface is damaged or scratched. Maintenance is easy. Please refer to "Rust on your wrought iron grille" below.

Problems with Your Door

Appearance of the Finish:

Stain-and-clear finishes perform better if protected from direct sunlight, moisture, and other weathering conditions. Refinishing will be required less frequently if a proper finish is initially added to the door. Some finishes on exterior doors deteriorate relatively quickly with exposure to the environment. In order for your exterior door to continue receiving the protection required, inspect the condition of the exterior finish at least twice a year and refinish as often as needed to maintain the protective integrity of the finish. If required refinishing is not completed as needed, you will allow moisture to enter the wood in the door. This will cause the door to warp or crack, and will void any warranty claims. Inspect the finish all six sides of the door.

Binding or sticking of the Door:

Insure that the door(s) continues to swing freely, does not bind in the frame, and that all hardware remains completely functional. If the door begins to stick or bind in the doorframe you may sand or plane the edge of the door (use an electric sander or a hand plane) to trim the door so that it does not bind or stick. Be sure to refinish the newly sanded exposed area. Usually it takes as long as one year for a wood door to acclimate to its installation surroundings.

Cleaning the Door:

Cleaning of the door is best performed with a clean cloth. If required, a very mild soap and water solution may be needed to remove dirt from the door. Do not use any abrasive detergent or solvent-based product, as these products will harm the quality of the finish.

White or unfinished wood lines around the edges of a door panel are caused by the normal contraction and expansion of the “free floating” panels in the doors. This is due to varying climatic conditions such as dry or hot weather. Use a standard wood stain to touch-up and eliminate this line.

Rust on your wrought iron grille:

Like any product made of steel or iron, your wrought iron grille will rust if the painted coating is damaged. Should rust appear on your wrought iron grille, simply burnish the affected area with a wire brush, and repaint using a “matte” black paint for steel, such as Rust-Oleum®.