



All AutumnWOOD doors must be properly sealed on all six sides of the door within ten (10) days of receipt.

Because your door is made from solid wood and is unfinished, it will be affected by the climate around it. Until it is properly sealed, the wood will absorb moisture from its environment and is subject to panel expansion or contraction. Full warranty details can be found at our website at autumnwood.com or call 800-760-1582.

All AutumnWOOD doors are stain-grade and are not meant to be painted. Painting the door voids all factory warranties.

Recommended Items to have on-hand:

- 220 grit Sandpaper
- 0000 Steel Wool
- Quality Sealer (Satin or Matte finish)
- Paintbrushes to apply sealer (see sealer instructions)
- Sawhorses or other methods to allow you to seal all sides of the doors
- Clean, lint-free rags
- Stain (if required)
- Rags or Paintbrushes to apply stain (see stain instructions)

The first step is to determine if you want to stain the wood. Staining adds color to the wood and to the grain of the wood based upon the stain color you choose. Keep in mind that different woods take the stain colors differently. It is best to test on the outside side of a prehung door's jamb or on scrap wood before staining your door. Oil based stains penetrate the woods best. With the environmental and personal issues surrounding petroleum products, you may only find water based stains. Again, test to see which you prefer. Follow the instructions from the stain manufacturer as to the best method of applying their product.

Wood conditioners are gaining popularity because they can even out the porosity of the wood which can deliver a more consistent stain color throughout the door. You must follow the instructions to get the best results and again, test to make sure you like the results.

All AutumnWOOD Doors are hand sanded at the factory to a 180 grit finish. All AutumnWOOD Doors may require some finish sanding prior to finishing and sealing your door due to shipping and handling. Minor scratches can be simply sanded out. Always sand with the grain of the wood. Dings or indentations may be raised by putting a damp cloth over the indentation and using a steamer or a steam iron over the cloth to raise the grains. Deep scratches or penetrations can be filled using a wood putty.

During the handling and hanging process, your door may have dirt, fingerprints or other blemishes that need to be sanded off prior to finishing. We suggest using 220 grit sandpaper before applying any stain or sealer. Additionally, the application of conditioners or stains will often raise the grain of the wood. They can make it feel fuzzy to the touch. This should be sanded off using the 220 grit sandpaper as well. Always sand with the grain of the wood.

You want a pristine surface before you seal the door.

AutumnWOOD Interior Door Staining & Sealing Recommendations

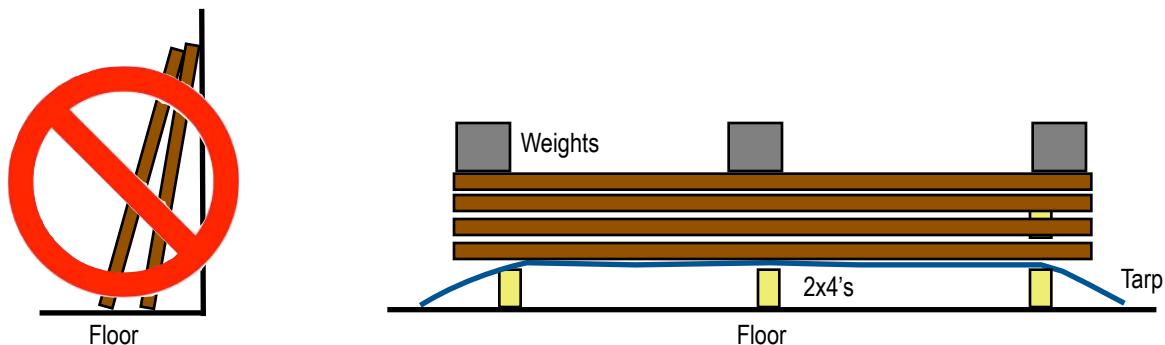
AutumnWOOD Interior doors must be properly sealed regardless of whether or not stain was used. There are many sealers available including lacquers, urethanes, and varnishes. Check with your local paint department to see what they suggest for your area and wood species. Sealers come in different sheens, we suggest a 'Matte' or 'Satin' finish which gives the wood a more natural appearance.

All hardware must be removed from the door prior to sealing. This includes doorknobs/levers and hinges. You need to apply the sealer to the hardware bore areas as well.

Follow the instructions on the sealer for best results. You should apply at least two coats of a sealer to ALL SIX SIDES OF THE DOOR. People tend to forget to seal the top and bottom edges of the doors. Allow plenty of time for the sealer to dry before applying the next coat or before flipping the door. The end grain of the wood will be exposed on the top and bottom edges of the door. End grain tends to absorb the sealer quickly and you can go heavy on the sealer on the end grain. Be careful to brush out drips and over application areas like corners BEFORE the sealer dries as you will not be able to remove this later.

Before applying the next coat of sealer, we suggest using '0000' Steel Wool to smooth out any dried bubbles or imperfections in the sealer coat. After using steel wool, use a clean, lint-free cloth to wipe any dust from the door surfaces prior to applying the next coat.

Once you have at least two dry coats on all six sides of the door, you can attach hardware and prehang or store the doors. If you are going to store the doors, the best method is leaving them flat, not leaning against a wall.



Do not store doors on concrete until you have spread a tarp or moisture barrier first. A good method is to lay out some 2 x 4's across the floor, cover them with a tarp and then lay the doors flat onto the 2 x 4's. Stack the doors from largest to smallest. Use weights or stacks of books on the four corners of the stack and in the middle to minimize any warpage.

Interior doors typically do not need to be refinished unless the door is subjected to extreme conditions such as humidity from a bathroom or direct sunlight.

You should write down the name and colors of all of the products that you used on your doors in case you ever need to match the process in the future. Unused products should be labeled and stored safely.

Sometimes a panel may shrink which may expose some unfinished portions of a panel. You can simply refinish this area with the stored product.