

# FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

## Fiberglass & Steel Entry Door Systems



Thank you and congratulations on your purchase of a premium entry door system. Please follow the instructions carefully for proper finishing methods. For questions concerning this product, please contact Clopay Building Products, 1400 West Market Street, Troy, Ohio 45373 USA, 1-800-2CLOPAY or 1-800-225-6729.

Unfinished door systems should be completely painted or stained within one month of purchase and before installation. Failure to do so may void your warranty.

### FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS:

Staining or painting an unfinished fiberglass door has never been easier. The fiberglass door does not require any special stain kits or primer. Use the same exterior stain or paint you would use for finishing your home's other trim. Note that all door types must be finished within one month after the door is purchased. When finishing, remove the door from the frame and place door on a flat level surface off the floor. Finish all sides of the door. Do not paint or stain the flexible door sweep on the bottom edge. Sidelites will need to be finished while attached to the frame. Mask off all glass and hardware.

**CAUTION:** Paint or stain in a well ventilated area. Keep combustible paint, stain and topcoat away from heat and flame. Keep out of reach of children.

### Stain Finish:

All surfaces of a woodgrain door are stainable. The textured fiberglass door surface yields superior stain adhesion without sanding. Select a high quality stain or gel stain (check to see if it is recommended for staining non-wood surfaces) such as from Minwax® Behr®, Zar® or Woodcote®

### Clean the door :

Before applying a stain, wipe the fiberglass door and door liteframe with a damp cloth to remove any dirt, oil, or debris. Using a mild all purpose cleaner Allow the surface to fully dry before staining.

Apply an even amount of stain with a brush or lint-free cloth in the direction of the wood grain as shown in figure 1. starting with the interior panels first. Work the stain into the surface. Lighten stain and remove excess with a brush removing the excess stain from the brush using a rag. before stain dries completely. Use a brush gently brush in the direction of the grain using long sweeping motion to even out the color. For a darker appearance, allow the stain to remain on the door longer or apply a second coat after first coat dries. Follow the application instructions on the stain container label. After stain has dried for at least 24 hours, apply 2 coats of high quality exterior grade satin or low gloss UV resistant topcoat such as, Minwax® Spar Urethane or equivalent) in the direction of the wood grain. Follow the topcoats manufacturer's directions and cautions for the correct use and drying time between coats.

**IMPORTANT:** Use only exterior grade Spar Urethanes with ultraviolet (UV) inhibitors.

### Paint Finish:

Woodgrain fiberglass, smooth fiberglass, and all steel doors are all paintable with most high quality exterior grade acrylic latex or oil based paints. For the smooth doors, we recommend pre-sanding the door unit with 600-grit sandpaper to obtain a uniform paint surface. Before applying paint, wipe the door and liteframe with a damp cloth to remove any dirt, oil, or debris. (Do not use solvents or lacquer thinner on the door.) Allow the surface to fully dry before painting. Paint the door in the directions shown in Figure 1. Apply at least two coats of paint. Follow the brand's recommended drying time between coats.

### Finishing Wood Jamb Components:

The unfinished and prefinished doors come with a factory applied prime coat on the jambs and brickmolds, unless clear wood components are specified in the order. The clear wood components can be painted or stained, while the primed components are to be painted only. Use wood filler or putty to cover any nail or screw marks on the wood components before staining or painting. Do not paint or stain the door threshold or aluminum sill plate.

Staining the clear jambs, brickmolds, and other clear wood components should be performed per the above stain finish instructions. Painting the primed jambs, brickmolds, and other wood components should be performed per the above paint finish instructions.

### Finishing Composite Jamb Components:

All composite jamb components can be painted or stained per the above finishing instructions.

### CARE AND MAINTENANCE:

Over time, harsh weathering and exposure will degrade even the best fiberglass door finishes. On stained doors, we recommend reapplying an exterior grade UV resistant topcoat such as Minwax® Spar Urethane or equivalent over the existing topcoat every 12 to 18 months We do not recommend stripping the finish unless it has begun to fail and peel off the door. In locations of severe weather exposure, more frequent maintenance may be required. Repaint your doors, jambs and brickmolds as soon as deterioration occurs. Replace weatherstrip, door sweep or sealant when deterioration is apparent. Failure to do so may void your warranty. Cleaning the door regularly with an automotive vinyl protectant with UV inhibitors such as Armor All can prolong the life of the finish.

### STRIPPING TO REFINISH:

Choose a non solvent base stripper such as 3-M safest strip of Bulls Eye Safer paint & finish Remover.

Apply the stripper to the door panel and allow the stripper to rest on the door surface. Follow the paint strippers manufacturer's directions and cautions for correct use of the paint stripper.

Using a brass wire brush, nylon bristle brush will allow for easier removal of the paint and/or stain to be removed from the fiberglass wood grain texture.

Wash of the remaining stripper and debris. Scrub the door with a mild non residue cleaner to insure all of the stripper has been removed. Rinse and let dry. Make sure door is completely dry before finishing.

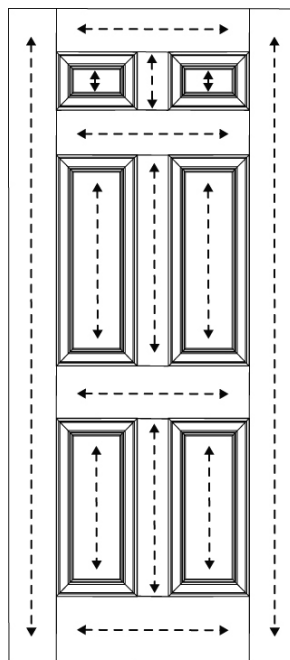


Figure 1