

# CARE, HANDLING AND FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS MDF DOORS

THESE HANDLING, INSTALLATION AND FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS ARE IN PLACE FOR THE CARE OF YOUR DOORS AND FAILURE TO FOLLOW THEM WILL VOID ALL WARRANTIES, WRITTEN OR IMPLIED.

Thank you for buying an Architectural Concepts Door. We pride ourselves with constructing a superior door that is architecturally correct and will hold up for years to come and generations to enjoy. Please follow our handling and finishing instructions to insure you get the best finished product.

- 1. Architectural Concepts (AC) MDF doors are extremely solid and heavy, so please be careful when handling them. *Do not slide or drag the doors as you may damage the corners.*
- 2. Handle your doors with clean hands or gloves to prevent getting oil or contaminates on the door.

  Doors will need sanding prior to finishing if they become contaminated.
- 3. AC MDF doors acclimate to your climate extremely well and need to be stored in a dry, well ventilated area. *Never store doors outside exposing them to sun and moisture.*
- 4. Wait until all other trades are compete and all the drywall and cement work is dry. Do not expose your doors to extreme humidity changes. *Temperature should not exceed 90° F.*
- 5. Do not store your doors outside, directly on the floor or expose them rain or the elements. *Do not store doors in direct sunlight.*
- 6. Doors should be stored flat on a level surface in a dry, ventilated area. Do not store your doors in storage containers or places where extreme humidity and temperature changes could occur. MDF acclimates slowly, so extreme changes could cause your doors to bow or warp. It is very important to use a center support so that the doors do not sag in the middle.
- 7. If your door appears to be warped it has taken or given off moisture faster on one side. To remedy this, place your door with the crown side up across three stickers that are spaced evenly across the door and leave it around.
- 8. **DO NOT LEAN DOORS up against the wall!** This can cause the door to take on a warp and will void your warranty.
- 9. Our high-quality primer is not a sealer and will allow your door to acclimate to its environment.
- 10. Predrill for all hardware pilot holes to prevent material splitting.

STACK DOORS LIKE THIS...



...NOT THIS



#### DO NOT LEAN AGAINST WALL



# Architectural Concepts

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## Field Finishing Instructions:

#### **Acclimation and Storage Prior to Finishing:**

- Doors must be allowed to acclimate to the average job site humidity conditions for a minimum of 72 hours prior to finishing.
- If doors are to be stored at the job site for a long period of time prior to finishing (longer than one week), then doors should be sealed on all six sides to prevent undue moisture absorption prior to painting. Factory primer is not a sealer.
- 3. Do not paint a door with a bow, as it will lock the bow in permanently.

# Tolerances for Architectural Concepts MDF Doors:

- 1. 3' x 7' Doors- 1/4" gap is allowed, measured diagonally
- 2. 3' x 8' Doors- 3/8" Gap is allowed, measured diagonally
- 3. 1/16" or gaps are allowed at construction joints
- 4. +/- 1/16" in width and Height
- 5. +/- 1/32" on machining tolerances for hardware preps

#### **Finishing Instructions:**

- Allow your doors to acclimate to its relative humidity that
  it will be installed in. This can take up to 72 hours at a
  minimum. If you are located in a high humidity region, it
  could take longer for this to occur. MDF is extremely dense
  and takes on and gives off humidity slowly.
- 2. Be sure to patch any minor dents, scratches that have occurred during handling. *Do not finish doors that have obvious defects.*
- All doors must be scuff sanded prior to finishing. This insures
  a good bond with your paint and get knock down any fiber
  pop that might be present.
- 4. Use a high-quality Paint to topcoat your door and strictly follow the manufacturers specifications. All six sides must be sealed. *Improperly sealed doors can take on moisture which can cause the door to warp.*
- Do not leave on side unfinished for long periods of time.
   This can cause the door to take on a warp. Architectural
   Concepts will not be responsible for warranty of doors that had obvious defects prior to field finishing.

## Special Note Regarding the Finishing of Exterior Doors

- Our Exterior doors receive two coats of high-grade exterior primer and must be finished with three coats of high-quality exterior grade paint on all six sides of the door.
- 2. Exterior sealers will deteriorate overtime due to exposure and will require annual maintenance. Inspect finish at least once per year to determine whether re-finishing is necessary.
- 3. If door is trimmed in the field, the portion that is cut, must be resealed with high performance Exterior Primer (Kilz One Premium Exterior Sealer & Primer) prior to repainting with a High Quality Exterior Grade Paint.
- Architectural Concepts will not be responsible for door failure if the finish is not maintained.

