Recommended

Finishing Instructions

Masonite® Interior Doors

Masonite® the beautiful door™

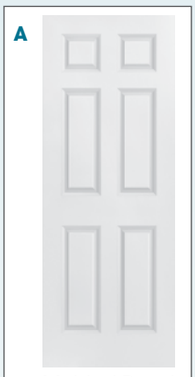
FLUSH. MOLDED PANEL. MDF PANEL. WOOD PANEL. FRENCH. LOUVER.

IMPORTANT

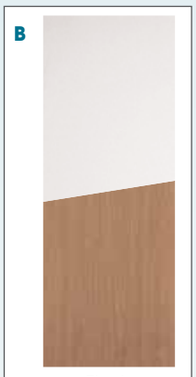
Please read and understand the entire procedure before attempting to finish your doors. Be sure to follow the coating manufacturer's warnings and instructions on all product labels. Masonite does not warrant any coating unless applied by Masonite. Any damage caused by or resulting from the application of a stain or paint will void the door warranty.

IDENTIFY YOUR DOOR

A Molded Panel	Paint Option
B Flush (primed or raw)	Stain/Paint Option
C Wood Panel	Stain/Paint Option
D Louver (primed or raw)	Stain/Paint Option
E French	Stain/Paint Option
F MDF	Paint Option

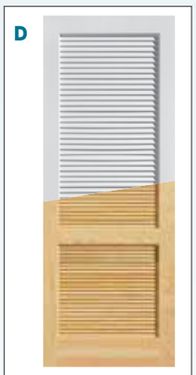


A Molded Panel



B Flush

C Wood Panel



D Louver

E French

F MDF Panel

PROFESSIONALLY FINISH YOUR MASONITE DOOR

SET-UP YOUR FINISHING AREA

Field finishing of interior doors can be accomplished by several methods, using a variety of materials. First, assemble all the materials needed for your door finishing project. See list on page 2.

Your work area should be clean, well-lighted, dust free, well ventilated, out of direct sunlight and in a climate controlled environment. When painting and staining avoid carpeted areas, cover all areas subject to paint or stain exposure.

STORAGE AND HANDLING

- Deliver doors to the building site after the plaster, drywall and/or concrete are dry.
- Store flat on a level surface in a clean, dry, well ventilated building. Protect from dirt, water and abuse. Allow air circulation. Cover the top door with a moisture barrier.
- Doors should not be subjected to abnormal or sudden variations in heat, dryness or humidity, and should not be exposed to direct sunlight. Recommended humidity and temperature are 25% – 55% RH and 50°F – 90°F (10°C – 32°C).
- Doors should be stored at least 10' away from any heat source. Excessive heat on a door creates uneven drying which results in warping, splitting, and bowing on the door surfaces.
- Doors should be climatized to the average prevailing humidity and temperature before hanging for at least 48 hours. In below-zero or extreme temperatures, doors should be stored properly in a dry building at normal room temperatures for at least 72 hours before hanging.
- Handle with clean hands or gloves and do not drag doors across one another or across other surfaces.
- For additional details reference Window & Door Manufacturers Association guidelines on how to store, handle, finish and install wood doors.

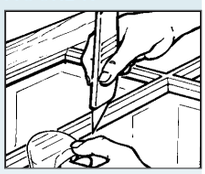
PREPARATION

Doors should acclimate to the environment where they will be installed for a minimum of 48 hours under normal room temperatures conditions (72 Hours in extreme weather conditions). Avoid finishing immediately after a rain or damp weather and during periods of higher than average humidity. In very dry conditions, the door should be finished right after the wrapping is removed. Ensure adequate air flow around all surfaces of the door when conditioning. Follow paint/stain manufacturer's instructions noting both temperature and humidity recommendations. Remove all hardware before finishing.

STAIN/PAINT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Finish doors with the door laying horizontal on a bench or workhorse. Spraying is recommended for uniform results.
2. Remove any excess paint or stain from the corners of the panels or lite grilles by feathering with a dry 1" brush.
3. Allow paint/stain to dry thoroughly before applying a second coat. Consult the paint manufacturer's instructions for drying times. Sand in-between coats. Do not sand the final top coat.
4. All six sides of the door must be sealed. (See figure J)
5. After the door is painted or stained and completely dry, install hardware.
6. French doors or doors with glass: Remove protective film immediately after finishing the door. Use a sharp blade or utility knife to cut away the protective plastic film leaving clean edges around the lites. Use protective gloves during this process. (See figure K)

FIGURE K



7. If finishing more than one door, complete one door and evaluate the finish before finishing multiple doors.
8. All doors must be finished within 7 days of installation.

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FINISHING YOUR **MOLDED PANEL, MDF PANEL** & **FLUSH** DOORS

Masonite's **PAINT & STAIN** Instructions

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Rubber gloves
- Other personal protective gear as needed (eye protection/ventilator)
- Drop cloth
- Paper towels
- 220 grit sandpaper and sanding block
- Tack cloths
- Masking tape or painter's tape
- Stir sticks
- 1" High quality brush
- 3" – 4" High quality brush
- Scraper
- Putty knives
- Utility knife or sharp blade
- Wood filler (for wood doors or jambs)
- Water based or oil based primer (needed for sanded and unprimed products to be painted)
- Conditioner and wood sealer (to be used when staining wood doors or wood veneer doors for even color)
- Water based or oil based top coat (paint) – semi-gloss
- Mineral spirits – for cleanup, if oil-based paint is used
- Sawhorses

WARNING

Some issues are caused by incorrect topcoat and/or improper coating techniques. Masonite is not responsible for issues related to incorrect topcoats. Always follow the recommended instructions or the instructions of paint or stain manufacturers.

TELEGRAPHING OR FIBER RISE Rough or raised straw-like protrusions, appears as a result of incorrect topcoat (paints or stains), improper finishing techniques and or finishing conditions. These are caused by but are not limited to incorrect topcoat, watered down paints, high humidity environments, and excessive application of paints.

DISTORTION Warping, bowing and waviness, can appear as a result of incorrect topcoat (paints or stains), improper finishing techniques and or finishing conditions. These are caused by but are not limited to incorrect topcoat, watered down paints, high humidity environments, excessive application of paints, and doors not being acclimated properly.

GRAIN RAISE The visible rise of the natural woodgrain, can be caused by but are not limited to incorrect topcoat, watered down paints, high humidity environments, and excessive application of paints.

POOR PAINT ADHESION A poor bond of the paint to the door, can be caused by but are not limited to incorrect topcoat, watered down paints, high humidity environments, excessive application of paints, and painting an improperly prepared door.

ORANGE PEELING An orange skin-like, can be caused by some but are not limited to; incorrect topcoat, paint drying too fast, and excessive application of paints.

BEFORE YOU PAINT (All door types)

1. Inspect the door and sand imperfections as needed. (See figure A)
2. Wipe down with a tack cloth to ensure a dust free finish. (See figure B)
3. Paint in following order for door type. (See figures E – G)
4. Read paint/stain manufacturer's instructions.
5. If finishing more than one door, complete one door and evaluate the finish before finishing multiple doors.

FIGURE A

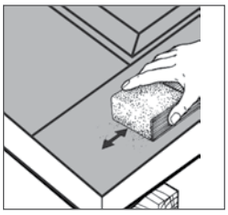
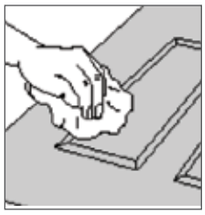


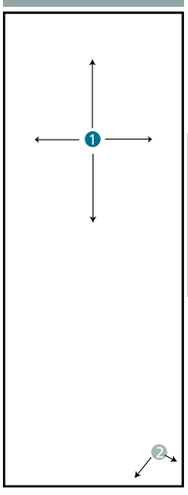
FIGURE B



HOW TO PAINT

FIGURE E

FLUSH PRIMED

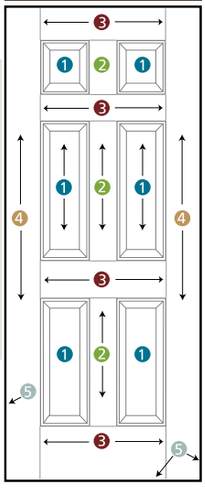


Paint in the following order:

1. Flush surface
2. Finish all edges (see figure C)

FIGURE F

MOLDED & MDF PANEL

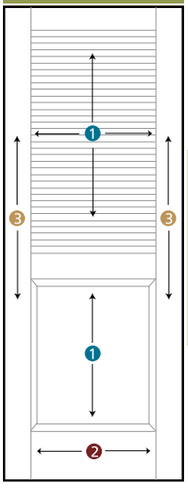


Paint in the following order:

1. Door panels
2. Center stiles
3. Horizontal rails
4. Vertical stiles
5. Finish all edges (see figure C)

FIGURE G

WOOD LOUVER PRIMED



Paint in the following order:

1. Start with the louvers/ panels
2. Horizontal rails
3. Vertical stiles

FIGURE C

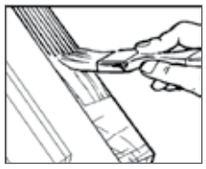
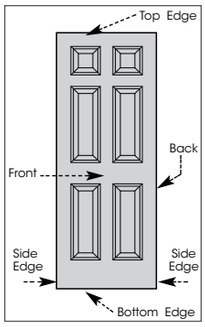


FIGURE D



PRE-PRIMED DOORS Light sanding of pre-primed doors prior to painting is recommended. If primer has been removed or damaged from any part of the door during shipping or handling, lightly sand and re-prime the exposed areas. Follow the primer manufacturer's instructions for application. If additional primer is used, ensure the primer meets the desired finished door results. Ensure the primer is compatible with both the paint and primed door.

PRIMER Molded panel doors and white flush doors are primed. If primer has been removed or damaged from any part of the door during shipping or handling, remove handling marks by lightly sanding before re-priming all areas where it is removed. If additional primer is used ensure the paint meets the desired finished door results. Follow the primer manufacturer's instructions for application. Ensure the primer is compatible with both the paint and primed door.

PAINT Masonite recommends a high quality semi-gloss, water-based or oil-based paint. Consult with your topcoat supplier for the correct paint to work with your Masonite door. Follow the paint manufacturers instructions. A quality finish is achieved with a minimum of two coats following the paint manufacturers instructions for drying time and application. Masonite does not recommend dark or high gloss paints. If a higher quality finish is preferred additional coats and sanding will be required following the coating manufacturers instructions.

AFTER YOU PAINT

1. Remove any excess paint from the corners of the panels by lightly brushing with a dry 1" brush.
2. Allow paint to dry thoroughly before applying a second coat. Consult the paint manufacturer's instructions for drying times. Sand in-between coats. Do not sand the final top coat.
3. All six sides of the door must be painted to maintain the warranty. (See figure D)
4. After the door is painted and completely dry, install hardware.

Read all instructions thoroughly before beginning. This is a guideline for painting and finishing interior doors. Consult a paint professional or local paint department/store for coatings best suited to the project.

FINISHING YOUR **WOOD**, **FRENCH**, **LOUVER** & **WOOD VENEER** DOORS

Masonite's **PAINT & STAIN** Instructions

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Rubber gloves
- Other personal protective gear as needed (eye protection/ventilator)
- Drop cloth
- Paper towels
- 220 grit sandpaper and sanding block
- Tack cloths
- Masking tape or painter's tape
- Stir sticks
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- 3" – 4" High quality brush
- Scraper
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- Wood filler (for wood doors or jambs)
- Water based or oil based primer (needed for sanded and unprimed products to be painted)
- Conditioner and wood sealer (to be used when staining wood doors or wood veneer doors for even color)
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- Mineral spirits – for cleanup, if oil-based paint is used
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ORANGE PEELING An orange skin-like, can be caused by some but are not limited to; incorrect topcoat, paint drying too fast, and excessive application of paints.

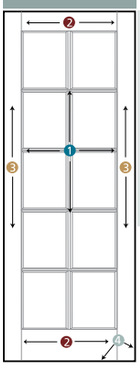
BEFORE YOU PAINT/STAIN

1. Inspect the door and sand imperfections as needed. When sanding wood or veneer doors always sand with the grain as seen in figure G. Use wood putty to fill holes and wood imperfections. When using wood putty ensure it is dry and sanded prior to painting or staining.
2. Doors with glass have a protective film on the glass. If any portion of the glass is exposed, use masking tape or painters tape to cover the area. Do not remove protective film until door is painted or stained. (See figure K)
3. Wipe door down removing dust and dirt with a tack cloth to ensure a dust free finish. (See figure H)
4. Paint in following order for door type. (See figures L – O)
5. If you are not using a stain with a sealer an additional sealer will be needed on top of the stain to seal the door. Consult your stain supplier and follow the manufacturer's instructions.

HOW TO PAINT/STAIN

FIGURE L

FRENCH

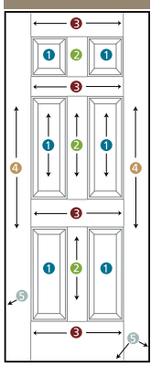


Paint/stain in the following order:

1. Grilles or muntins
2. Horizontal rails
3. Vertical stiles
4. Finish all edges (see figure I)

FIGURE M

WOOD PANEL

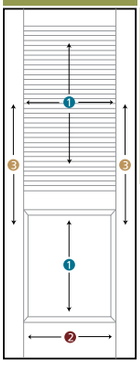


Paint/stain in the following order:

1. Door panels
2. Center stiles
3. Horizontal rails
4. Vertical stiles
5. Finish all edges (see figure I)

FIGURE N

WOOD LOUVER

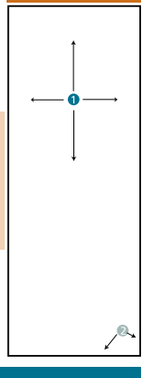


Paint/stain in the following order:

1. Start with the louvers/panels
2. Horizontal rails
3. Vertical stiles

FIGURE O

FLUSH VENEER



Paint/stain in the following order:

1. Flush surface
2. Finish all edges (see figure I)

FIGURE G

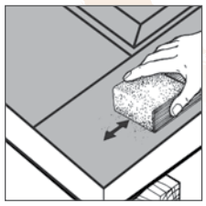


FIGURE H

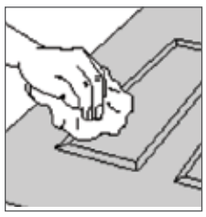


FIGURE I

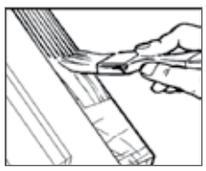


FIGURE J

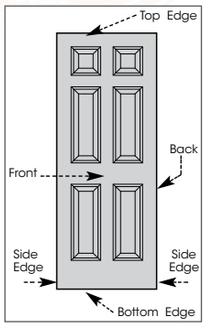
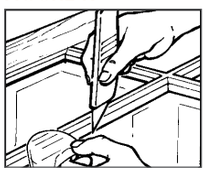


FIGURE K



PRE-PRIMED DOORS Light sanding of pre-primed doors prior to painting is recommended. If primer has been removed or damaged from any part of the door during shipping or handling, lightly sand and re-prime the exposed areas. Follow the primer manufacturer's instructions for application. If additional primer is used, ensure the primer meets the desired finished door results. Ensure the primer is compatible with both the paint and primed door.

UNPRIMED DOORS Fill any holes and blemishes with color matching wood filler. All doors will require a light sanding to ensure a uniform finish. Remove handling marks by lightly sanding before applying finish. Surface should be clean and dry, free of all dirt, grease, glue, stains and machine marks.

PAINT Masonite recommends a high quality semi-gloss, water-based or oil-based paint. Consult with your topcoat supplier for the correct paint to work with your Masonite door. Follow the paint manufacturers instructions. A quality finish is achieved with a minimum of two coats following the paint manufacturers instructions for drying time and application. Masonite does not recommend dark or high gloss paints. If a higher quality finish is preferred additional coats and sanding will be required following the coating manufacturers instructions.

STAIN Masonite recommends a high quality water-based or oil-based stain. Follow the paint or stain manufacturer's instructions. Do not thin stain with water or other chemicals. If humidity is high or difficult to control, high quality oil stain is recommended. It is recommended to test stains and paint on wood doors to ensure an acceptable finish. Finished doors must be allowed time to dry in accordance with the paint or stain manufacturer's recommendations.

Read all instructions thoroughly before beginning. This is a guideline for painting and finishing interior doors. Consult a paint professional or local paint department/store for coatings best suited to the project.