

Storage of your new Doors

Upon receipt of your doors, and after inspecting them, but prior to fitting, doors should be stored flat on the floor (never on edge or on end) on a level surface and be kept clear of the floor on at least three level bearers. The bearers should be longer than the doors. External Oak Doors should be left in storage in a cool dry place, and not subjected to any moisture until they are sealed fully.

Any moisture coming into contact with the surface will cause staining, and if trapped below your finish coatings, could cause black mould.

Hanging Your new External Oak Doors

On the width where a size reduction is necessary, always take equal amounts from each side up to a maximum of 10mm on external doors unless otherwise stated on the literature which comes with the door. When reducing the height you can usually take more from the bottom, than the top, but please check with us for maximum amounts if in any doubt. Usually, up to 20mm can be removed, but as long as the edges are properly sealed using a proprietry sealer, or wood glue, the construction of the door will not be affected – the key is sealing the cut edges professionally.

Always try and hang external solid core doors using 1 ½ pairs of 4" heavy duty hinges hinges. Stable Doors must have a minimum of 4 hinges (1 pair per door leaf)

Any cut edges, inlcuding where you have drilled thorugh for the handle and latch, letterbox etc, must be sealed with a proprietry sealer.

Finishing your Oak External Doors

PAINTING: Our oak external doors can be painted if required. They must be treated with a least one wooden exterior grade primer coat, two wooden exterior grade undercoats and a top coat prior to installation (including cut outs for hinges, locks and more importantly letterboxes)

Once fitted it is essential that both faces, all cut outs, all four edges, and corners (as the top and bottom of doors contain end grain which are more susceptible to moisture penetration) are sealed with enough further coats of finishing treatment once the door has been hung. (as edge / corenr damage can occur during hanging. Always apply the correct number of coats and at the right time intervals to enusre coatings are not mixed, or spread too thinly. Always sand the door lightly between applying coats, and all sides and edges must be treated. Failure to follow these instructions will invalidate any Guarantee.

STAINING or VARNISHING: We advise the use of a "MICRO-POROUS" wood stain or varnish, We recommend at least one base coat followed by 3 top coats (two of which must be applied prior to fitting).

If you are looking for our advice, the best exterior finishing treatments come from recognised brands like Exterior grade Sadolin, or Sikkens. The time take in properly finishing your door will pay off, for sure, in the extended life of your door. Pay particular attention to applying a finish to all 4 edges and any cut outs. Failure to follow these instructions will invalidate your Guarantee

WAXES, OILS and WATER BASED PAINTS: Under no circumstances should you use oils, waxes or water based fast drying paints on engineered oak veneered external doors. Some manufacturers of coatings say that they are suitable, but our experience suggests that they are not, and the life of the door will be severely affected, (we have seen delamination occur within weeks) when cheaper none suitable coatings are used. If you choose to use these kinds of coatings, your Guarantee will be invalidated.