



Care, Handling, & Finishing Guide

Finishing Instructions

Short-Term Storage

Job Site and Opening Preparation

Contractor Instruction

Caulking Instruction Details

PRODUCTS MUST BE FINISHED WITHIN 10 DAYS OF ARRIVAL TO ENFORCE WARRANTY

Rev SMC 08//26/16
Part Number 5010-0119



FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

At Sawmill Creek Doors, we believe that the best garage doors in the industry deserve the best finish. Our experience through many years and many products has guided us to make firm recommendations about finishing your wood doors. These instructions have been written based on experience and information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forestry Products, and the Western Red Cedar Lumber Association (wrcla.org). **Products must be finished within ten (10) days of arrival to enforce the warranty.**

An exterior door-finishing product must accomplish 3 objectives:

1. Repel moisture
 2. Protect the wood fiber from UV damage
 3. Allow the wood to “breathe” and eliminate moisture
- For a translucent wood-finish appearance (stained) we recommend the Sikkens Cetol brand of finishes. We have done numerous hours of research and development with other brands and they have failed to produce the results that match the performance of Sikkens, due in part to a patented process that blocks the UV light in a way other products can't match. Sikkens requires a 3-coat finish; one coat of Cetol 1, 2 coats of Cetol 2-3 plus. Sawmill Creek Doors can apply Sikkens Cetol finishes in standard colors at the factory. Sikkens finishes are the only finishes that will enforce your warranty unless written approval is given by Sawmill Creek Doors.
 - For a painted finish, two coats of high quality paint (exterior grade and either latex or alkyd based) over a high quality primer is recommended. We recommend Sawmill Creek Doors apply the primer to protect the door during shipping. When painting doors with light colors, tannin bleed-through may occur. Spot-seal tannin areas with a high quality stain-blocking primer.
 - Any exposed beaded or v-groove openings that could pocket water need to be sealed with a bead of high quality exterior grade caulk after finishing. **Do not** caulk vent holes drilled in the bottom of intermediate sections or in the SuperPly backer of the bottom section.
 - **Do not** use a coating that does not allow the wood to “breathe.” Examples of what **not to use** are: polyurethane, varnish, and especially marine varnish. These will trap moisture in your door and cause it to rot from within, **and will void your warranty.**
 - Whether you finish the door in a translucent look or a solid color, the doors should have finish applied **prior to installation** to allow total coverage of the wood, including the areas to be covered by hardware. The installer may refuse to install doors not properly finished.
 - Whatever finish is applied, always follow the manufacturer's recommendations, and apply the product **to all six surfaces**: the top and bottom of each section, the ends, interior as well as the exterior.

We do **not** recommend very dark color finishes using either stain or paint. Dark colors such as ebony, black, or very dark green increase energy absorption from the sunlight, raising the temperature of the doors dramatically. These high temperatures, (up to



180°F), will dry out the wood significantly more than the ideal 8-12% kiln dried moisture level, creating stress in the wood that could lead to:

- 1) Gapping between the trim boards due to shrinkage across the grain.
- 2) Cracking of the boards due to shrinkage.

These normal exterior wood behaviors are amplified by high temperatures and are therefore not covered under your warranty.

Whether a door is shipped with stain or paint prime coat, the surfaces will require the customary preparation with which professional painting contractors are familiar. This would mean that final sanding and touch up of minor dings from shipping and handling would be expected of your painting contractor.

- For stain-grade doors, we follow Sikkens recommendation of sanding with 150-180 grit papers for the best adhesion; finer sanding can create adhesion problems. Other than minor touch-up, no additional sanding between coats is required. By following the required procedure of finishing the doors prior to installation, you will ensure that all surfaces are easily accessible and that the areas under the hardware are protected. If the doors are finished prior to shipment or on the site and you experience any sticking issues, apply wax or Vaseline to the section breaks and allows the door to open and close, wiping off any excess.
- For painted doors, please note that the prime coat alone will not protect the product against moisture. Priming allows for better paint adhesion only. Two finish coats of paint are required to fully finish your Sawmill Creek Doors product. We recommend at a minimum, the first finish coat be applied prior to installation, followed with the second coat after installation and used as a touch up after handling.

The Tannin properties of cedar, which inhibit mold and rot, pose an issue when a door is to be painted white or other light colors. The issue is referred to as “tannin bleed-through” and usually appears as yellowish-brown areas bleeding through the paint. When painting light colors, the recommended procedure is to either prime the door with a high-quality, alkyd-based primer, or to apply additional coats of 100% acrylic primer *with stain blockers* prior to the paint application. If tannin bleed-through occurs after painting, spot seal the tannin areas using a high quality, stain-blocking primer and then paint the desired color. Spot-seal the tannin bleed area only; do not coat the entire door – on large surfaces, it could become brittle and crack.

Maintenance: Annually check the door’s finish for fading and cracking to verify that moisture is prevented from reaching the wood surface. Refinishing requirements will vary with exposure and climatic conditions. We recommend an additional coat of finish every one to two years for south and west exposed doors, and two to three years for north and east facing doors. Proper maintenance will prevent flaking and peeling conditions that would require extensive preparation prior to re-coating. A simple re-coating of a door would require washing the surface with a mixture of: 2 oz. TSP (TriSodium Phosphate), 1 qt. bleach, and 3 quarts of water, and non-abrasive brush, followed with a thorough rinsing. Allow ample time to dry prior to re-coating. When refinishing the doors, remember to remove the rubber astragal and retainer on the bottom of the door and ensure that you apply a generous amount of finishing to that area, as this will protect from rot. During this maintenance you will also need to re-apply the clear DAP acrylic caulking to any water pooling areas (see diagrams in Caulking Instruction Details). If using the Ilva system, simply apply a coat of the maintenance clear coat every year or two. Contact our main office to purchase: 715-426-1100.



SHORT-TERM STORAGE

For centuries, men have tried various ways to imitate the innate beauty of wood. It is probably the most imitated product known to man. Metals, plastics, and gypsum board have all tried to capture the grain and color of wood. Sawmill Creek Doors builds the finest wood garage doors available in the industry and we believe strongly in using only the very best materials.

Quality millwork is a combination of good materials, manufacturing, installation, and maintenance. We ask that you read the following carefully to make sure your investment is protected. **If you choose not to follow these recommendations, you will void your warranty.**

If you must store your doors, please do so for a minimal time (ten or fewer days from delivery) and follow these recommendations:

1. Place the package, or door sections, on a flat, dry surface with 2 x 4s supporting the sections at least every 3 feet, with even weight distribution. **Do not** store sections on edge! Refer to diagram 1B on the Contractor Instructions page for an illustration.
2. Protect door from moisture, sunlight, and extreme temperatures.

If prolonged storage is required, (more than 10 days from delivery), please contact our office for recommendations.

Damage Reporting

If you notice any signs of damage upon receiving your doors, please take photos and contact our office (715-426-1100) immediately.



JOB SITE & OPENING PREPARATION

Accuracy of Opening Size

It is critical that the finished opening is the exact size as the ordered door; differences as small as a half inch can throw off the overall appearance of the door. We supply doorstops in the same material as the overlay with weather strip applied that will compensate for very minor variations in size and provide a tight seal. The installer will apply the doorstop in most applications and when the finished wood jamb is available. Door installers are not finish carpenters and do not perform miters or sharp bends. Final installation of complex doorstop applications or masonry jambs will be the responsibility of your contractor. Refer to diagrams 1A and 1C on the Contractor Instructions page for jamb detail information.

Preparation of Opening

Spring Pads are either 2x6s or 2x8s located above the doorjamb providing a secure anchor for the spring hardware. Jamb materials called “Bucks” are usually 2x6 or larger structural lumber.

Wiring

Installers are not certified as electricians. They can only connect your operators and safety devices to your existing outlets. The standard cord on operators is 4 feet long, so it is recommended that you have an electrician wire an outlet within 4 feet of the operator location. Refer to diagram 1D on the Contractor Instructions page for pre-wiring instructions.

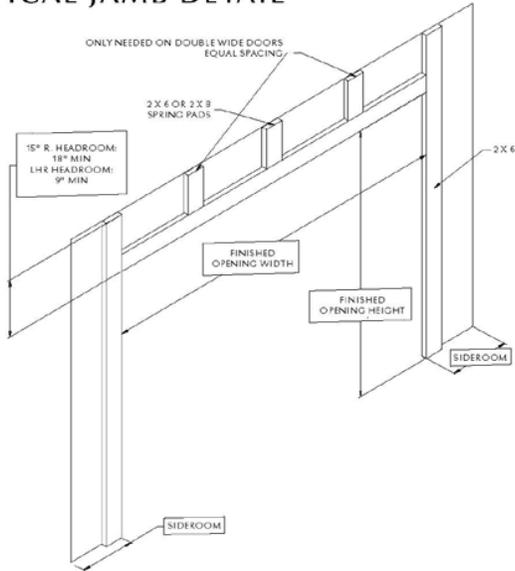
Day of the Install

The garage needs to be emptied 12 feet back from the opening. If a work area is not cleared, and the finished opening not ready, the install cannot be completed.

Electricity needs to be provided. Even if your garage electric system is not finished, the installers need access to electricity to test the operator and its safety mechanisms.

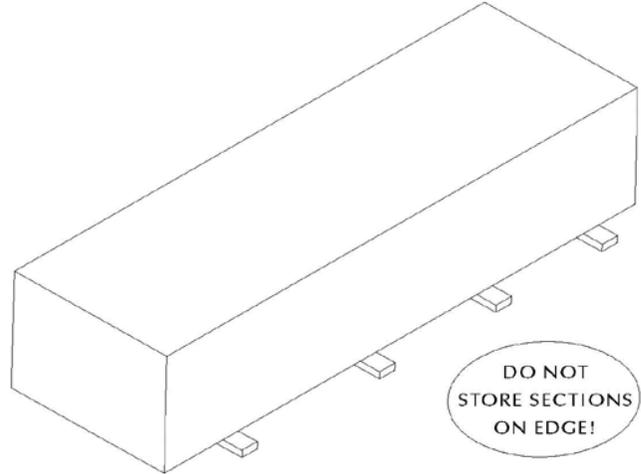
CONTRACTOR INSTRUCTIONS

1A TYPICAL JAMB DETAIL



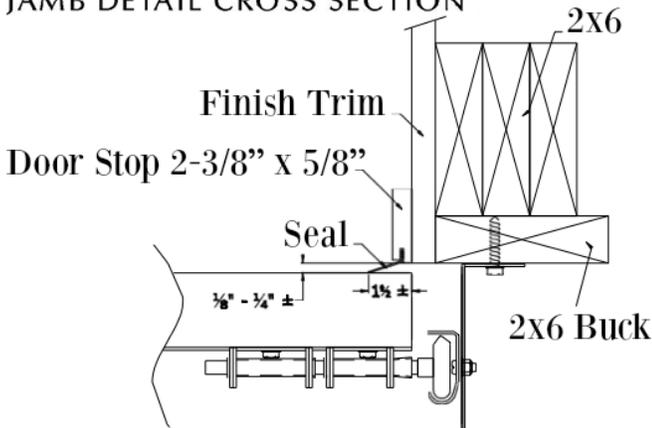
NOTE: FINISHED OPENING DIMENSIONS MUST MATCH GARAGE DOOR DIMENSIONS.

1B SHORT TERM STORAGE



STORE THE CRATED DOOR AS SHOWN: OFF THE GROUND, LEVEL SUPPORT EVERY 3 FEET AND COVERED SO AS TO BE PROTECTED FROM THE ELEMENTS. DOORS MUST BE FINISHED WITHIN 10 DAYS TO PREVENT WARPING.

1C JAMB DETAIL CROSS SECTION

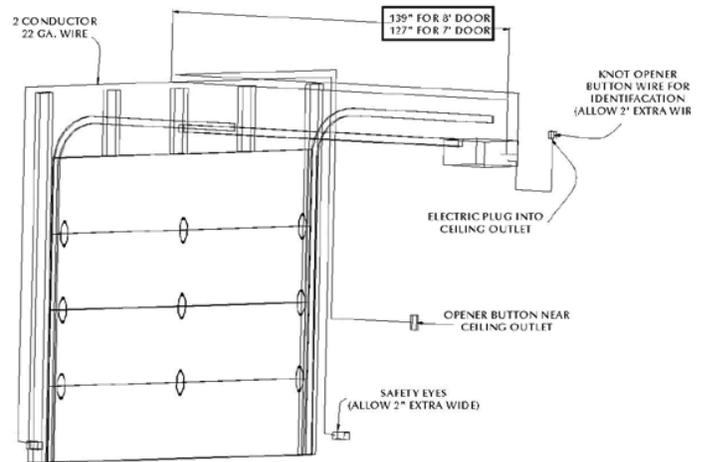


TRACK CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS

TO USE THIS TRACK:	MINIMUM HEADROOM	SIDE ROOM	CENTER PIER
15" RADIUS.....	18"	3 1/2"	7"
12" RADIUS.....	15"	3 1/2"	7"
LOW HEADROOM			
DOUBLE TRACK.....	9"	5"	10"

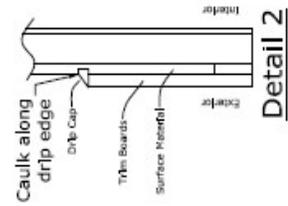
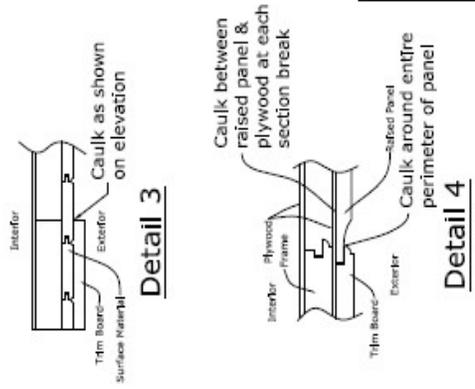
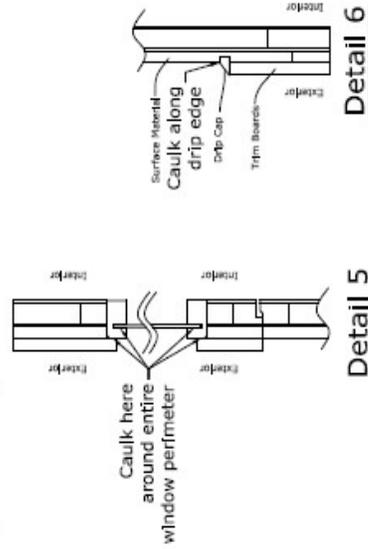
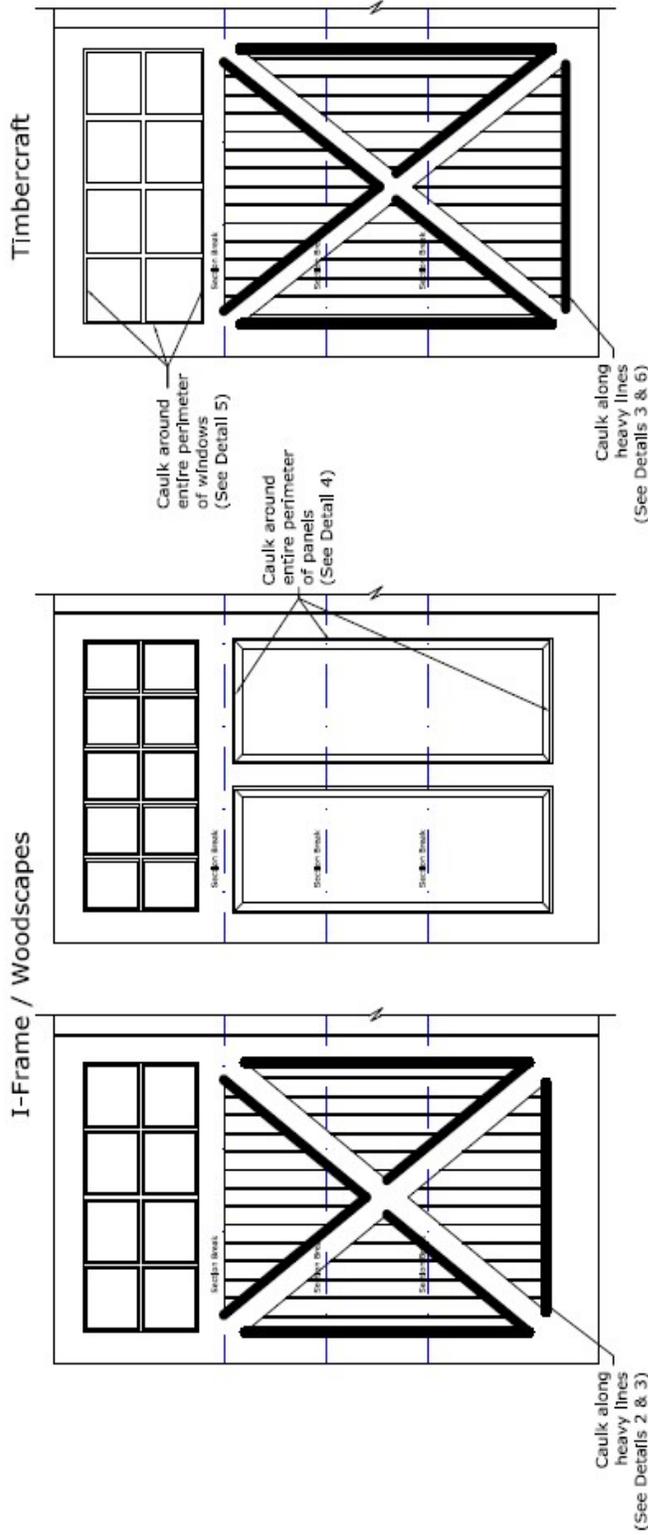
NOTE: THESE MEASUREMENTS DO INCLUDE OPENER RAIL

1D PRE-WIRING INSTRUCTIONS (CONCEALED WIRING SHOULD BE INSTALLED PRIOR TO APPLYING WALL COVERING)



NOTE: ASSURE THAT ANY DOOR OPENINGS, I-BEAMS, LIGHTING, OR DUCTING WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH GARAGE DOOR HARDWARE.

CAULKING INSTRUCTION DETAILS



Caulking Instruction Details