Field Painting and Finishing Fiberglass or Steel Door Sections

This installation instruction is to be used as a supplement to the main Installation Instruction and Owner’s Manual provided with the door. All warnings and cautions listed in the main manual are applicable to this supplemental instruction as well.

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Personal Protective Equipment Required:
- Leather gloves
- Rubber gloves (only when using acetone or mineral spirits)
- Safety glasses
- Dust mask (only when sanding)

Tools required:
- Electric drill with screwdriver and socket bits
- Scotch-Brite™ Fine buffing pad, 0000 steel wool or 400 grit sand paper
- Sawhorses
- Clean rags
- Stir sticks
- 2.5” Wide synthetic-bristle paint brush
- Masking tape (optional)

Materials required:
- Mild detergent solution (one cup detergent, with < 0.5% phosphates, mixed with 5 gal. warm water)
- Acetone or mineral spirits
- Acrylic latex, satin exterior house paint
- An acrylic latex, satin exterior house paint (solvent-based paints are not recommended)

IF APPLYING CLEAR COAT: An exterior, water-based, satin finish clear coat.
IF PAINTING: An acrylic latex, satin exterior house paint (solvent-based paints are not recommended).

NOTE: Dark colors are not recommended; especially for doors facing south and west. The rate of heat absorption can lead to excessive bowing of the sections and fading of the paint.

IMPORTANT: Prior to laying a door section on sawhorses, protect it from scratches by covering each sawhorse with clean rags or other protective material.

Door Removal

Uninstall the door sections from the door opening.

NOTE: Prior to laying a door section on sawhorses, protect it from scratches by covering each sawhorse with clean rags or other protective material.

Preparing Door Section Surface

IMPORTANT: FOR ADEQUATE ADHESION THE SECTION SURFACE MUST BE FREE OF DUST, DEBRIS AND OTHER SURFACE CONTAMINANTS.

Dampen a clean rag in a mild detergent solution and thoroughly rub the entire door section surface with the rag. Prior to laying a door section on sawhorses, protect it from scratches by covering each sawhorse with clean rags or other protective material.

CAUTION: DO NOT USE ANY BLEACH IN THE MILD DETERGENT SOLUTION.

Finishing Door Section

Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for these applications by using either a brush or a handheld sprayer.

FOR BRUSH APPLICATION: Before starting and occasionally throughout the project, stir the paint using smooth strokes until the texture is creamy - avoid creating bubbles. Apply paint as evenly as possible. Brush strokes should follow the grain direction of the selected area.

FOR SPRAY APPLICATION: Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for thinning the paint for better atomization and spraying results. Strain paint before filling the spray pot. The paint should be applied in continuous strokes extending past the edges of the door section. This will ensure uniformity across the entire surface of the section. Multiple light coats are better than one heavy coat, to avoid runs as a result of over spraying.

Drying

IMPORTANT: LET THE PAINT DRY COMPLETELY, FOLLOWING THE PAINT MANUFACTURER’S RECOMMENDED DRYING TIME BEFORE HANDLING THE PAINTED SURFACE OR APPLYING A SECOND COAT. ALLOW THE DOOR SECTION TO DRY IN A HORIZONTAL POSITION TO MINIMIZE PAINT RUNS. HIGH HUMIDITY OR LOW TEMPERATURES MAY EXTEND YOUR DRYING TIME.