



DOOR CARE & MAINTENANCE GUIDE

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SAFETY FIRST: IMPORTANT PRECAUTIONS

At Kitchen and Bath Direct, we prioritize your safety and the longevity of your doors. Please follow these essential precautions:

- ▶ **Avoid Mixing Cleaners:** Combining cleaning products or chemicals can be hazardous and ineffective. Use one product at a time, and always follow the manufacturer's guidelines.
- ▶ **Use Protective Gear:** When handling commercial cleaners or solvents, wear safety goggles, gloves, and protective clothing. Ensure proper ventilation to avoid exposure to fumes.
- ▶ **Handle Spills Immediately:** Clean up any spills as soon as they occur to prevent damage to the door's surface.
- ▶ **Stay Clear of Open Flames:** Solvents and cleaning agents may be flammable. Keep them away from open flames, heat sources, or sparks.

CLEANING DOORS: BEST PRACTICES

Maintaining the beauty and functionality of your doors requires consistent care. Follow these tips to keep them in top condition:

- ▶ **General Cleaning Guidelines**
 1. **Prepare a Gentle Cleaning Solution:** Mix a teaspoon of mild dish soap with a gallon of lukewarm water.
 2. **Start from the Top:** Use a soft sponge or cloth to clean the door surface from top to bottom, applying gentle pressure.
 3. **Rinse Thoroughly:** Wipe the door with clean water to remove any soap residue. Avoid letting the solution pool or dry on the surface.
 4. **Dry Completely:** Use a lint-free, absorbent cloth to dry the door. Ensure no moisture remains, especially near glass edges and corners.



What to Avoid

- ▶ Power washing or using a garden hose. Excessive water pressure can damage seals and allow moisture into the door structure.
- ▶ Abrasive tools such as steel wool, razor blades, or scouring pads. These can scratch or chip surfaces.
- ▶ Harsh chemicals, including vinegar, citrus-based cleaners, and industrial-grade solvents. These may strip finishes or cause discoloration.
- ▶ Cleaning in extreme temperatures or direct sunlight can cause streaking or damage to the door surface.

HARDWARE & MOVABLE PARTS:

INSPECTION AND CARE

Properly maintaining the hardware ensures smooth operation and extends the life of your doors.

Hinges and Locksets

- ▶ **Lubricate Regularly:** Apply a light oil, such as 3-In-One® oil, to hinges annually or whenever they squeak.
- ▶ **Tighten and Inspect:** Check screws and fasteners, tightening any that are loose. Replace damaged hardware promptly.
- ▶ **Clean Locks:** Use a graphite-based lubricant to maintain lock mechanisms. Tracks and Sliding Components
- ▶ **Clean Tracks:** Wipe tracks with a damp cloth and mild detergent, removing dirt and debris.
- ▶ **Lubricate Bearings:** Use clear petroleum jelly or similar lubricant on track wheels to reduce friction and protect against wear.

ANNUAL INSPECTIONS:

KEEPING DOORS IN PRIME CONDITION

To ensure your doors remain functional and attractive, inspect them regularly:

- ▶ **Surface Condition:** Look for cracks, warping, or peeling finishes. Repair and refinish surfaces as needed.
- ▶ **Glass Components:** Check for cracks, chips, or fogging between panes, which may indicate seal failure.
- ▶ **Structural Integrity:** Inspect wood and fiberglass doors for splits or gaps. Address issues promptly to prevent further damage.

DEALING WITH TOUGH STAINS AND LABELS

Even with regular care, stubborn stains and labels can pose a challenge. Here's how to handle them:

- ▶ **Removing Labels**
 1. Gently peel the label from one corner. If it tears or leaves residue, moisten with soapy water.
 2. Cover stubborn areas with a damp cloth for 10-15 minutes, then scrape gently with a plastic putty knife.

Tackling Stains

- ▶ Use commercial glass or door cleaners for persistent marks.
- ▶ For oil or grease, apply a paste of baking soda and water. Rinse thoroughly and dry.
- ▶ For dried paint, soften latex paint with warm, soapy water and gently scrape with a plastic tool. For oil-based paint, consult a professional.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST COMMON DAMAGES

To maintain the protective finish of your doors, avoid the following substances and practices:

- ▶ **Do Not Use:** Paint removers, brick cleaners, abrasive sponges, or industrial-grade products.
- ▶ **Protective Finishes:** Clean gently with mild solutions to preserve coatings and finishes.
- ▶ **After-Market Additions:** Avoid applying tints or films to glass components, as these may damage seals or cause cracks.

SPECIAL TIPS FOR FOLDING AND SLIDING DOORS

If you have folding or sliding doors, additional care is needed:

- ▶ **Track Maintenance:** Clean visible track surfaces with a mild solution, then apply a small amount of lubricant evenly along the track.
- ▶ **Hinge Care:** Apply a thin film of WD40® to maintain the finish and smooth movement. Avoid getting the product on wood components.
- ▶ **Flush Bolts:** Spray a light lubricant into sliding pin mechanisms to ensure easy operation.

Attach Trim

- For two-piece frames, slide the outer trim section into place. Using smaller finish nails, nail every 12-16 inches.

Final Adjustments

- Replace the screws in the upper hinge with longer, 2½" screws for added stability.

Seal & Finish

- Use a polyurethane sealant to fill all gaps in two-piece frames.
- Finish the door and frame with paint, stain, or varnish. Be sure to cover all surfaces, including the top and bottom edges of the door slab.

Step 4: Install Hardware

1. Follow the lockset manufacturer's instructions to install the hardware.
2. Test the door for smooth operation, ensuring it opens and closes without resistance.

SAFETY TIPS & BEST PRACTICES

- Always wear protective gear, including gloves, safety goggles, and a dust mask.
- Use caution when operating tools, and follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Doors should be installed by at least two people to prevent injury or damage.

STORAGE & HANDLING

- Allow doors to acclimate to the installation environment for 24 hours.
- Store upright in a dry, ventilated space, away from direct sunlight or moisture.
- Avoid stacking horizontally or dragging across surfaces.





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For any additional questions or concerns about your product or installation, contact **Kitchen and Bath Direct** customer service or visit our website for support.

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