

# Assembled Arch Top Barn Door Use and Care

**IMPORTANT:** Sanding unfinished and primed doors is mandatory for all door surfaces, before you begin painting or staining the doors.

Using the incorrect topcoat product (paint, stain, clear coat or primer) and/or improper topcoat application techniques can result in issues not covered by the warranty.

**POOR PAINT ADHESION:** A poor bonding of paint to the door can be caused by using incorrect topcoat, watered down paints, finishing in high humidity environments, painting an improperly prepared door; and not sanding the door prior to applying the finish coat.

**START HERE BEFORE YOU BEGIN PAINTING OR STAINING** Note: Failure to comply with these guidelines will affect your warranty.

Gather Materials: \*\*

- Sandpaper (120, 150, and 220 grit)
- Tack cloth or microfiber cloth
- Wood filler
- Painter's tape
- Drop cloths or protective covering
- Brushes, rags, or foam applicators
- Wood stain
- Gloves and protective eyewear

- 1) Lay the door in a flat horizontal position on sawhorses for the best finishing results. Before applying the first finishing coat, inspect the door and remove all handling marks, scuffs, and other undesirable blemishes by block sanding all surfaces. -  
\*\*Initial Sanding: \*\* Start with 120-grit sandpaper to smooth out rough spots.  
\*\*Medium Sanding: \*\* Move to 150-grit to refine the surface further.  
\*\*Final Sanding: \*\* Use 220-grit sandpaper for a fine, smooth finish. Avoid cross-grain scratches by sanding in the direction of the grain. Sand front and back faces left and right edges. To ensure uniform moisture exposure and dimensional control, all surfaces must be sanded, treated and finished equally.
- 2) After sanding is complete, clean the entire door with a clean wiping "tack" cloth to remove all dust and foreign debris. Avoid use of caustic or abrasive materials. Do not use steel wool on bare wood. Do not finish during or after high-moisture periods. The door must be dry before finishing.
- 3) Please use stainable wood filler to fill minor imperfections in the wood surface, such as nail holes, cracks, **especially** for gaps between each board.
- 4) Apply primer: Use a brush to spread a coat of oil or water-based primer on the door.
- 5) Apply stain: Apply a liberal amount of stain with a bristle brush, foam brush, or cloth. For woods with large pores, like oak, mahogany, and ash, increase pressure to work the stain into the pores.
- 6) Let it dry: Allow the door to dry thoroughly.

**Note:** Before you begin staining your door, consider that wood contains natural chemicals that react unfavorably to some finishes. Softwood like Pine take stains differently and may appear uneven or blotchy after staining. It is recommended to test the stain on wood doors to ensure a satisfactory finish result. Follow stain manufacturer's recommendations.