FAQs about Primed Stile and Rail Doors

What should I do if my door has a small dent or ding?

If your door has a small dent or ding, clean the area to remove dust and debris. Apply wood filler, smooth it with a putty knife, and let it dry completely. Once dry, sand the area until smooth, then re-prime and paint to restore the finish.

How do I fix a scratch on the surface of my door?

To repair a scratch, lightly sand the area with fine-grit sandpaper (220-grit or higher). Clean the surface, apply primer, and repaint to restore the door's appearance.

What can I do if the edges of my door feel rough?

If the edges feel rough, lightly sand them with fine-grit sandpaper. Once smooth, re-prime and paint the edges to seal them and protect against moisture.

Can I trim the door to fit my opening?

Yes, you can trim the door, but only within the manufacturer's recommended allowances. Typically, this means up to 1/4" on each side. Trimming beyond the guidelines could weaken the door or void the warranty.

What should I do if my door is warped?

If your door is warped, place it flat on a level surface and add weights to the warped area to help it flatten naturally. If the warp persists, contact the manufacturer, as it may be covered under warranty.

How can I fix a crack in my door?

To fix a crack, fill it with wood glue and clamp the area until the glue dries. Once dry, sand away any excess glue, then re-prime and paint the repaired area.

What type of primer is used on my door?

Most primed stile and rail doors come with a high-quality factory-applied primer designed for smooth paint application. Refer to the product specifications to ensure your paint is compatible.

How do I know if my door is square?

To check if your door is square, measure diagonally from corner to corner on both sides. If the measurements are unequal, the door may need minor adjustments during installation.

What should I do if paint doesn't stick well to my door?

If paint isn't adhering well, ensure the surface is clean, dry, and free from dust or grease. Lightly sand the primer to create a better surface for the paint, and use high-quality paint designed for wood or composite surfaces.

FAQs about Primed Stile and Rail Doors, cont.

How do I fix gaps in the joints between the stiles and rails?

If you notice gaps, apply a thin bead of paintable caulk to fill them. Smooth the caulk, let it dry completely, and paint over it for a seamless finish.

What can I do if the primer coverage is uneven?

To fix uneven primer, lightly sand the affected areas with fine-grit sandpaper, clean the surface, and apply an additional coat of primer before painting.

What should I do if the primer feels rough to the touch?

If the primer feels rough, sand the surface lightly with fine-grit sandpaper, clean off the dust, and apply paint to create a smooth finish.

Can I stain a primed door instead of painting it?

No, primed doors are designed for painting only. If you prefer a stained finish, choose a door specifically designed with a stain-grade surface.

How can I protect my door from moisture?

To protect your door from moisture, paint all 6 sides, edges, and exposed wood after trimming. This is important to maintain the warranty. If your door will be in a high-moisture environment, consider adding a sealant or clear coat for extra protection.

What should I do if my door has an uneven surface or imperfections?

If your door has imperfections, lightly sand the area, fill it with wood filler if necessary, sand it smooth again, and re-prime before painting.

Can I drill hardware holes in my door myself?

Yes, you can drill hardware holes, but use the proper tools and precise measurements to ensure clean, accurate holes. If you're unsure, consult a professional.

What should I do if the primed surface on my door chips?

If the primer chips, sand the area, clean it, reapply primer, and repaint for a smooth, seamless finish.

How should I store my door before installation?

Store your door flat on a level surface in a dry, ventilated area. Avoid placing it directly on the floor or exposing it to rapid temperature or humidity changes. Keep it out of direct sunlight and maintain a humidity level between 30% and 65%. Be sure to finish or seal all six sides, including edges, within one week of delivery to prevent moisture absorption. Primers are not sealants.