Lewis Aldridge

Recommendations on handling doors

Storage

Doors should be stacked flat, raised off the floor on not less than three bearers on a level surface and protected by waterproof coverings on all sides.
Veneered doors should be stored so as no part is exposed to the light as this would result in fading and disclouration.
Doors for polishing should be stored as no part is exposed to the light as this would result in fading and disclouration.

Handling

Doors should be handled using clean gloves to avoid finger marks. Care should be taken due to the weight of the doors. At least two people should be used to lift a door.

Water content

On leaving our workshop, doors have a moisture content of between 8%- 14%. this should suit the intended eventual use and all precatuions to ensure that this remains the case should be taken.
As timber doors are hydroscopic they will absorb or lose moisture after leaving the factory if not properly protected. care should be taken to ensure a relative humidity of between 40%-60% and that the doors are maintained in a clean and dry environment while in storage, during installation and thereafter. Any variation of the above will cause the door to absorb or lose moisture which will result in core telegraphing and shadowing. furthermore, if moisture is not equal on each face of the door, it will case distortion.

When to buy?

Doors should be ordered so that the period of storage on site before erection is kept to a minimum. The building programme should be planned so that the period between the fitting of the door and occupation of the building is kept to a minimum.
Ensure that doors are not taken on site before the building is roofed and glazed.

Heating

If heating is to be introduced it should be gradual and equal to all surfaces of the doors, otherwise serious distoration of the leaves can result.
Heating should be switched on initially at low levels and gradually raised to desired level over a period of time.

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Care of timber doors on site

How to get the most out of your Timber Doors after delivery

Doors and doorsets manufactured by Lewis Aldridge are designed and manufactured using the best available techniques to produce performance rated components. After delivery it is vital that doors are correctly treated to ensure that the moisture content is appropriate for the situation and that they are not physically damaged in unloading, storage and installation. Good practice avoids damage, maintains quality and saves money. Internal and external doors and doorsets may be supplied 'in the white', with a primer or stain base coat applied or as fully finished components. Each type needs careful handling and protection although the actual requirements vary slightly.

Delivery and storage

Check doors at the time of Delivery

All components should be checked at the time of delivery to ensure that they are in accordance with the order schedule, the delivery is complete and that the components, including any protective packaging, are not damaged.

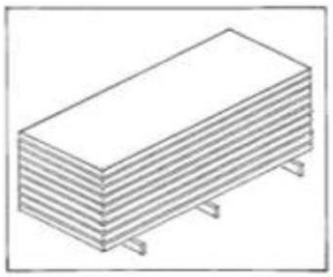
Timber used in the manufacturer of doors will be graded in accordance with BS EN 942:1996 Timber in joinery - "General classification of timber quality" and the workmanship will meet the requirements of BS 1186 Part 2:1998 "Timber for and workmanship in joinery" - Specification for workmanship. The moisture content of timber in the doors should be in the range of 10% and 16% depending upon their type and location. For long term performance of the door and finish, it is important that the appropriate moisture content is maintained during storage on site and during the construction process. Wherever possible the sequence of deliveries should be co-ordinated to site requirements in order that doors are not kept on site unfixed for longer than necessary.

Handle doors carefully

Doors and doorsets should be handled carefully to avoid physical damage (do not lift by glazing bars) and to keep them clean. When door leaves are protected by shrink- wrapping or other packaging this should be kept in place as long as possible. Doors delivered in the white should be sealed and primed on all faces and edges immediately after delivery. Never hang a door before applying a protective coating.

Store Doors Under Cover in a Dry Ventilated Building

Doors should be stored flat (never On edge or on end) on a level surface and kept clear of the floor on at least three level bearers. The bearers should be longer than the width of the doors and the gap beneath the doors should be at least 90 mm. Doors should be protected from dirt and damage but without restricting air circulation. Natural finish doors should be stacked so that they are not partly exposed to daylight and opaque wrappings must not be torn. Exposure to ultra violet light can cause fading or discoloration of timber and veneers. Whenever possible store doors and doorsets in the sequence they will be needed with codes or identifying marks visible to avoid double handling. Avoid dragging them across each other in the stack. Doorsets which have projecting sills or have the hardware fitted must have spacers between them in the stack to avoid damage.



Protect Doors During Site Operations

Ensure that the moisture content of the wood is kept close to the level at which it was when the door was manufactured. Internal doors must be conditioned to the service conditions before fixing.

They must be protected from abnormal heat, extreme dryness, humid conditions or sudden changes of temperature or humidity. Doors should not be stored or fitted in the building until the wet trades are finished and the building has dried out.

Treat Prefinished Doors like a Piece of Fitted Furniture

Factory finished door frames or door linings should ideally be fitted into pre-formed openings and not built into masonry walls. Pre-finished doors should retain their protective packaging until the latest possible time, ideally until after internal decorations have been completed.

If it is necessary to separate the doors from doorsets each door and frame should be given an identification mark so that the correct door is returned to the frame.

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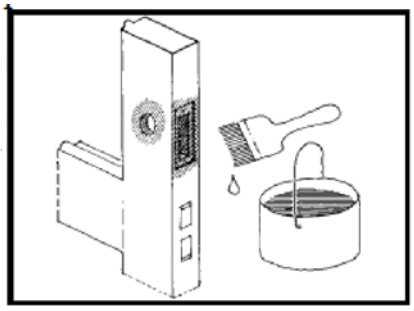
Care of timber doors on site

Mortices for locks must not be cut through joints in the door framing

Cutting through joints in the door framing will impair performance of the rail joint. If any part of a previously treated external door or door frame is cut or drilled, swab the newly exposed timber with a suitable organic solvent preservative treatment and re-coat with primer or stain.

Use good glazing practice

Glazing rebates and backs of beads should be sealed with an appropriate sealant. Glazing panels in doors must satisfy the requirements in respect of safety glass. Bead glazing must be correctly fitted using compound or glazing tapes to both sides of the glass



FINISHING

Start finishing as soon as possible

It is recommended that decoration be commenced as soon as possible after installation (preferably within days). Prolonged exposure of bare timber or priming/base coats will effect the long term performance of subsequent coats. External doors and frames with factory applied primer or base coat stain should have at least one of the finishing coats applied as soon as possible after delivery or installation. The back of external frames should be coated before installation.

Ensure surfaces and edges are in good order before applying finishing coats

If the primer or base coat stain has deteriorated, or the surface has been exposed to light for longer than three months, it should be re-coated before further finishing coats are applied. Finishing of external doors and frames should be carried out in dry weather using only good exterior quality materials in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. On external doors, the finish should be an exterior quality paint or a 'high build' stain. ('Low build' types of stain should not be used on external doors.) It should be noted that the use of dark coloured paint or stain finishes on external doors, particularly if located on the south or south west elevations of buildings, will result in high surface temperatures on the door and can increase the risk of distortion and of resin exudation through the finish.

Ensure all surfaces and edges are painted

It is important that all surfaces of doors are painted. For external doors or other doors subject to high humidity or take up of moisture it is especially important that the full finishing system is applied to the top and bottom edges of the door leaf. The bottom edge should be coated before fitting the door. Factory finished doors should be checked for damage to the finish and any small areas made good in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. The door manufacturer may disclaim responsibility for any defect or failure that may subsequently occur which is attributable to non-compliance either wholly or in part with the advice given in this information sheet.

Installation

Doors should be fitted square

Doors should be fitted square, true and plumb and fixed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions or the project specification. Three hinges

should be fitted to all external doors, doors weighing more than 20 kilograms and internal doors where large differences of temperature or humidity on opposing faces can be expected (e.g. bathrooms and airing cupboards). Ideally, external door frames should be set well back from the outer face of the wall or else be protected by a canopy. If not, the head of the frame should be provided with a projecting head drip. External doors opening outwards should be particularly well protected by finishing as these are the most exposed.