

Therma-Tru® Smooth-Star® Fiberglass Entry and Patio Door Systems and Therma-Tru® Door Surround and Composite Door Frame Painting Tips



All Therma-Tru Smooth-Star fiberglass entry and patio door systems and Therma-Tru door surrounds must be finished within six months of the installation date for continued warranty coverage.

Painting the Door, Door Surround, and Therma-Tru Composite Door Frame

1. Clean first with mild detergent and water or use a TSP (tri-sodium phosphate) solution.
2. Rinse well and allow to dry completely.
3. Mask off hardware and glass, and remove weatherstrip before painting. Weatherstrip may be removed by gently pulling out. Re-insert after door is completely dry. (Door Only)
4. Use high-quality acrylic latex house paint, following manufacturer's directions for application.
5. Use exterior-grade paints for outside surfaces.
6. Paint edges and exposed ends of door and door surrounds.
7. DO NOT STAIN.

Painting Doorlite Frames

1. Remove any excess glass glazing sealant by first spraying with a window cleaner or water.
2. Use a single-edge razor blade to score the glazing along the edge of the frame. Holding the razor blade at a 45-degree angle, scrape glazing from glass.
3. Wipe remaining residue off with window cleaner or mineral spirits.
4. Clean frame with a mild detergent and water, or use a TSP solution. Rinse well and allow to dry completely.
5. Mask off glass.
6. Prime doorlite frames with an alkyd or acrylic-based primer. Allow primer to dry before applying finish paint coats.
7. Use high-quality acrylic latex house paint, following manufacturer's application instructions. Use exterior-grade paints for outside surfaces.

Helpful Finishing Tips



- Provide and maintain a properly installed cap or head flashing to protect top of surfaces from water intrusion and damage.
- Tape and properly seal the top flap of the Water Resistive Barrier over the head flashing.
- Caulk around entire “weather” side of the door system, sealing along the brickmould to the flashing material or siding and seal all joints between the jambs and mouldings.
- Seal the joints between the exterior hardware trim and the door face to prevent air and water infiltration.
- Place and set galvanized finish nails through the brickmould around the perimeter. Use exterior-grade screws if you are installing a storm door to the brickmould. Countersink all fasteners and cover with exterior-grade epoxy putty, or use provided hidden fastener system.
- Use a low-expansion window and door foam in the cavity between the opening and the unit to reduce air and water infiltration and heat transfer. Therma-Tru recommends OSI. QUAD. Foam.
- Paint (DO NOT STAIN) according to Therma-Tru. finishing instructions.* Do not paint or stain the weatherstrip, it is “friction-fit” and easily removed for painting or staining.
- All Therma-Tru Smooth-Star. door systems and Therma-Tru door surrounds must be finished within six months of the installation date for continued warranty coverage. However, all bare wood surfaces (such as door frames) should be primed, painted and top coated within two weeks of installation or exposure to weather. All PVC lite frames must be finished within 30 days of installation date.
- All doors and surrounds must have all sides finished. For outswing doors, the sides, top and bottom must be inspected and maintained as regularly as all other surfaces.
- Maintain or replace sealants and finishes as soon as any deterioration is evident. For semi-gloss paint, glossy paint or clear coats, do this when the surface becomes dull or rough. Doors exposed to severe climates will require more frequent maintenance.
- Visit thermatru.com for printable versions of the installation instructions and to view our troubleshooting video for minor installation issues and adjustments.



*For detailed information on finishing and warranty coverage see “Therma-Tru Fiberglass and Steel Door Systems Recommendations for Proper Finishing and Painting or Staining” located in the warranty section of the Therma-Tru website at www.thermatru.com.