

**Before you purchase any product to finish & treat your doors, please ensure:**

- The product is suitable to use on Exterior American White Oak Veneer or Hardwood Meranti Engineered Exterior Doors?
- What product will be required for the base coat?
- What product will be required to seal the edges, top & bottom of the door?
- What product will be required for the top coats?

**Guide for Treatment of your External Doors**

- External Doors
- La Porte French Doors
- La Porte Vista Folding Doors

The above Oak Doors are Engineered American White Oak Veneered & the manufacturer offers a 10 year manufacturing guarantee defect if the door has been treated in compliance with the manufacturers recommendations (supplied with the contents).

Although we do not impose any formal edict that our unfinished products are finished using the Sikkens or Sadolin High Build Wood Stains system, we stipulate that only the use of a treatment affording at least the same level of protection as provided by the Sikkens & Sadolin products constitutes an acceptable alternative and consequently it is only in these circumstances that any conditional Guarantee can be offered.

For your reference, below is a précis of the widely published Sikkens International finishing instructions which is for practical guidance only and not intended to be promoted as being “de jure”.

The acclaimed Sikkens range, produced by global chemicals giant Akzo Nobel and widely available from retail stores throughout the UK and ROI, comprises microporous, clear & translucent woodstains and opaque paints.

The key advantage of using Sikkens & Sadolin microporous or breathable products is the finish will not

peel, crack, deteriorate or suffer from premature erosion of the film if the decorative finish is correctly maintained.

**For optimum protection, each door leaf should undergo an intensive 3 stage finishing process.**

Always check the drying times between coats: In extreme cold and/or damp conditions some damage to a poorly dried film may / can be expected. Damages can be minimised by ensuring freshly applied coatings are not exposed to extreme conditions for at least 5 days.

### **Stage 1**

In respect of Oak and Hardwood timber species, the first stage involves the use of Base Coat, which is comprehensively applied to all surfaces of the door, to ensure maximum protection. 2 Coats recommended as per manufacturers guarantee. Completely sealing the end grain of the wood at the top and bottom of the door stiles and cut outs.

### **Stage 2 involves**

- Completely sealing the end grain of the wood at the top and bottom of the door stiles. Particular attention should be paid to ensure end grain is thoroughly treated to saturation by applying the first coat "wet on wet" until no more product is absorbed. All coatings should be laid off in the direction of the grain, with the minimum number of brush strokes required to give an even finish.

(Coat all joints / cut outs for hinges/ letterplates & handles with Sikkens special Kodrin products).

### **Stage 3 involves**

Finally, **three coats of Top Coat of High performance wood stain** should be applied to all surfaces, including the wood at the top and bottom end grain of the doors/frames, which in respect of Oak doors is Exterior Light Oak stain. **Seal the end grain of the wood at the top and bottom of the door stiles & frames.**

The final result is a fantastic, durable finish, which affords superior protection and enhances the door's aesthetic appearance.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON TREATING DOORS & FRAMES BEFORE INSTALLATION**

All timber surfaces on the frame and doors must be given a total of three coats of high performance wood-stain. It is important to apply the treatment to the doors and frame before they are installed.

**Failure to treat all the timber surfaces before installation may lead to excessive changes in moisture content which will cause the timber to shrink or swell, perhaps causing splits and distortion.**

**When applying the stain pay particular attention to sealing the timber end grain on the tops and bottoms of the frame, side and doors and the ends of the sill. Sikkens Kodrin WV 456 End Grain Sealer.**

All products should be found at your local decorators merchants and you should ask them for further guidance.

**Also ensure that the lock and hinge cut outs are stained the same as the timber surfaces, and in particular the undersides (unseen faces).**

**IMPORTANT**

**WE DO NOT RECOMMEND YOU USE:**

**OIL / WAX / VARNISH / LOW BUILD STAINS /**

**ON THESE DOORS OR FRAMES AS THEY WILL NOT BE FULLY PROTECTED TO THE CLIMATE.**

Depending on location and weather conditions, Oak doors will typically require re-coating every 12 months, whereas it is recommended re-coating Hardwood doors every two to five years, but it is also equally important to check the finish every six months, and re-coat as necessary to properly maintain the decorative finish.

Please note that the clear finishes offer comparatively less UV protection than translucent woodstains or opaque paints, which contain more pigment and therefore afford better protection against UV. Consequently, Oak doors require re-coating more regularly than Hardwood doors in order to maintain the integrity of the protective finish, so if longer maintenance schedules are preferred any colour from the Sikkens Filter 7 Translucent range is recommended.

Full details & Technical Advice are also available at – [www.sikkens.co.uk](http://www.sikkens.co.uk)

Akzo Nobel Specialist Coatings, Wexham Road, Slough, Berkshire, SL2 5DS, Tel: 08444 817 818

<http://www.oakwooddoors.co.uk/FAQ.html#faq7>

& [www.sadolin.co.uk](http://www.sadolin.co.uk) where you can locate nearest stockists on line.

**Maintenance**

The need for maintenance is indicated by a lightening in colour, reduction in sheen as the coating erodes, and a loss of water repellence. All defective coatings should be completely removed. Any grey denatured exposed timber surfaces must be thoroughly sanded back to clean, bright timber. Organic growths must be removed and infected surfaces should be treated with a suitable fungicidal solution. Remaining sound surfaces should be cleaned using a warm water and mild detergent and rinsed thoroughly with clean water. Bare timber should be patch primed with one or more coats of the appropriate colour to match existing colour and allow to dry. Finish with top coats as required.

**The information is correct at the date of issue, April 2009.**