

Real Wood Veneer Finishing Tips

This bulletin provides real wood veneer staining and top-coat finishing recommendations, along with any inherent product limitations. Quanex Window and Door Systems permanently applies both soft and hardwood veneers of various species directly to extruded PVC vinyl window and door frame components, providing a hard, smooth, impervious substrate material. A key item to remember is that the wood veneer itself is only approximately 0.008" thick, and therefore that is all the wood you need to treat, stain, finish or clean.

GUIDELINES

Usage and Limitations:

Unfinished, wood veneered interior surfaces must be finished prior to, or immediately after product installation for maximum protection. Unfinished wood surfaces that experience water damage at the jobsite or are left unfinished after installation and become stained or damaged will not be considered as defective in materials and workmanship.

Any quality stain should work on veneer profile-wrapped parts.

- Deep penetrating stains are not necessary, and in fact are counterproductive to obtaining a quality stain finish.
- It is generally best to apply a light stain coat, and then wipe off.
- It may be necessary to apply several light coats rather than one heavy coat.

The topcoat is key to protecting the wood veneer.

- The better the top coat, and the better the inter-coat adhesion between coats, the better the protection.
- As even the best windows may develop some moisture that might run down the window frame and accumulate on a bottom horizontal surface, the top coat is critical to providing an adequate moisture seal.

If opaque paint is to be used, once again select a top quality paint for best protection.

- All good quality house paints should work fine, yet consult with your paint supplier first.
- Again, inter-coat adhesion is an important part of the protection desired.

When cleaning, remember that you are cleaning the surface of the clear top coat or paint.

- Strong, aggressive cleaners, along with any cleaners that are solvent-based, should be avoided.

Repair to the veneer surface may be accomplished before finishing.

- Use fillers and light sanding with fine grade abrasive if a minor surface repair is necessary.
- Take care in sanding - again, you are working with only 0.008" of veneer thickness.