

# Important Finishing Instructions for Vinyl and Vinyl-Clad Steel Carriage House Doors



Fimbel Architectural Door Specialties (FADS) warrants that its door sections are manufactured to meet or exceed industry standards at time of shipment. Failure to follow the recommended finishing instructions MAY lead to premature failure and void the factory warranty.

THESE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY TO THE FOLLOWING FADS PRODUCTS:

Euro-Dor (UVV, UVB, UVH), Roaring Twenties Vinyl (RVV, RVB, RVH), RT Raised Panel Vinyl (RVR), and American Legends (LTW, LTB, LTG, LVW, LVB, LVG)

## VINYL DOORS

Fimbel Architectural Door Specialties vinyl doors are constructed with the highest quality materials which are not affected by moisture and will not suffer the damage that moisture causes. They are also impervious to salt and insects, and thus offer the homeowner a door constructed to last for years in the harshest of environments.

In order to ensure years of trouble-free performance, the face of our vinyl door products are UV-resistant and may be left in their natural white color. For general cleaning, use warm water and a dishwashing liquid soap. DO NOT use cleaners containing acid or solvents like MEK, acetone or Toulon. For more stubborn situations, Soft Scrub, Clorox cleanup, or Clorox outdoors, can be used. Be sure to scrub with the grain. For the most stubborn of stains, lightly sand with 100 to 200 grit paper, and always sand with the grain.<sup>1</sup> After cleaning and before painting, the door surface can be wiped with denatured alcohol to remove any soap or cleaner residue. No primer is generally required; you are now ready to paint.

Since plastics expand and contract with temperature change, understanding how color affects vinyl doors is CRITICAL. In the past, the general rule of thumb was, that the darker a vinyl product was painted, the more possibility for expansion and contraction, which could result in potential product failure. Today, heat reflective latex paints and gel stains meant specifically for painting vinyl products are available. These paints are not only specially formulated to bond to vinyl surfaces, the heat reflective pigments reflect the sun's rays off the vinyl surface, cooling and protecting the surface. This allows for a wide range of color choices.

The most commercially available and affordable paint system is Sherwin Williams VINYLSAFE. VINYLSAFE comes in 3 different formulations: Super Paint, Resilience, and Duration. For best results, we highly recommend the Resilience formulation. The Duration formulation should not be used because it remains tacky for a long period of time, and could cause the joints of the door to stick together.

Aside from Sherwin Williams, there are currently two other manufacturers of high performance heat-reflective vinyl paints and gel stains who can formulate custom colors (even black) if desired. These paints and stains should be professionally applied and typically come with a 15 year warranty from the paint manufacturer. Fimbel ADS also offers doors prefinished in both paint and gel stain. Please Contact your dealer for pricing or information regarding application and availability of these products.

Use of any paint or stain other than the recommended products mentioned here will be done so at the customer's risk. Damage resulting from failure to follow these finishing instructions will void the warranty. Please contact us at 908-534-1732 x 11 or [sales@fimbelads.com](mailto:sales@fimbelads.com) with any questions.

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<sup>1</sup> CAUTION: When Cleaning the American Legends door, do not sandpaper on the Vinyl Coated Steel, only on the Overlays and Grilles.