

# Painting and Windows

## PAINTING

**Cleaning:** Before painting your door, it must be free of dirt, oils, chalk, waxes and mildew. The pre-painted surfaces can be cleaned of dirt, oils, chalk and mildew with a diluted solution of trisodium phosphate. Trisodium phosphate is available over the counter at most stores under the name SOILAX®, in many laundry detergents without fabric softener additives, and in some general purpose cleaners. Check the label for trisodium phosphate content. The recommended concentration is 1/3 cup of powder to 1 1/2 to 2 gallons of water. After washing the door, always rinse well with clear water and allow to dry.

If the door has ever been waxed, the wax must be removed before painting. Doors are not waxed during the manufacturing process. This can be accomplished by wiping the door surface with a rag saturated with Xylene (Xylol), available at most paint or hardware stores. Wiping should be done at moderate pressure and Xylene must not be allowed to sit on the door for an extended time. Damage to your door's paint system can occur if overexposed to this or other solvents.

**Caution:** Safety instructions on the solvent's container must be followed. After de-waxing the door, clean with trisodium phosphate, as stated previously.

**NOTE:** Sanding could remove rust-inhibiting compounds, therefore, sanding should be done only to damaged areas where bare metal has been exposed. Refer to the “**Repair**” section of these instructions.

**Repair:** Should your door's paint finish become damaged, exposing the bare metal, it will become necessary to repair this area to prevent rust from forming. The damaged area should be lightly sanded with a medium to fine sandpaper making sure to remove all visible red and white rust. Wipe this area with a dry, clean rag. Coat the sanded area with a high quality, rust inhibiting, zinc enriched primer. This type of primer can be found at most paint or hardware stores, and should be labeled for covering bare and galvanized steel. Once the primer is applied, wait the time specified on the primer's instructions before you finish painting your door.

**Paint:** Your steel garage door can be painted with a high-quality latex (flat, satin, or semigloss) exterior grade paint. Since all paints are not created equal, the following test needs to be performed: paint should be applied on a small area of the door (following the instructions on the paint container), allowed to dry, and evaluated prior to painting the entire door. Paint defects to look for are blistering and peeling. An additional test is to apply a strip of masking tape over the painted area and peel back,

checking to see that the paint adheres to the door and not to the tape.

After satisfactorily testing a paint, follow the directions on the container and apply to the door. Be sure to allow adequate drying time should you wish to apply a second coat.

Window frames & inserts can be painted with a high quality latex paint. The plastic should first be lightly sanded to remove any surface gloss.

**NOTE:** Do not apply paint when door surface temperature is different from manufacturer's suggested temperature range for application.

## SNAP-IN DECORATIVE INSERT

### Removal and Replacement:

**NOTE:** DO NOT REMOVE SCREWS from the window frame. Decorative inserts are designed to snap-in and out of the window frame.

Some doors with windows have a decorative insert attached behind the window. They may be moved to the outside of the glass, or can be removed for cleaning or painting purposes.

- 1) Remove the four tabs of the insert from under the edge of the inside window frame. There is one tab on each side and one on the top and bottom of the insert.
- 2) The insert can be firmly pulled out of the window.
- 3) Replacing the insert is the reversal of the process described for removal. The four tabs must be pressed under the lip in the window frame.
- 4) If preferred, the insert can be snapped into the frame on the outside of the glass.

## WINDOWS



### WARNING

**To avoid injury, use extreme caution in handling glass window pane. When the frame is removed, the exposed steel edge of the door may be sharp. Avoid contact with the steel edges.**

**Glass Replacement:** If your door is equipped with windows and the glass should need replacement, follow the steps below:

- 1) With someone holding the outside frame, remove the ten screws from the inside window frame.
- 2) Pull the inside frame out of the door.
- 3) **Carefully** remove the broken or old glass.
- 4) Insert the new (replacement) glass. The glass size should be 11" by 18 1/2".
- 5) With someone holding the outside frame, reinsert the screws into the inside frame, trapping the glass.