

## CARE & MAINTENANCE GUIDE

### WINDOWS & DOORS

CONGRATULATIONS on purchasing your new timber windows & doors from Shamrock Joinery.

Proper care and maintenance of your windows and doors can enhance their longevity, performance, and appearance. Below is a comprehensive guide to help you maintain these essential components of your home.

#### **Cleaning Windows & Doors**

##### *Glass*

- Use a mild, non-abrasive cleaner and a soft cloth or squeegee. Avoid harsh chemicals or abrasive sponges that can scratch the glass.
- Clean both interior and exterior glass surfaces regularly to remove dirt, dust, and grime.
- Dry thoroughly to prevent water spots.
- For Low-E or coated glass please refer to the manufacturers website for cleaning instructions.

##### *Timber Frames*

- Dust regularly and clean with a damp cloth. Refinish or repaint as needed to protect the wood from moisture.

##### *Tracks & Sills*

- Vacuum or wipe tracks to remove dirt and debris.
- Wash with warm, soapy water and dry thoroughly to prevent buildup that can hinder smooth operation.

#### **Inspection & Repairs**

*Inspect windows and doors every few months for signs of wear, damage, or poor functionality.*

- Cracks or chips in glass.
- Warping, peeling, or discoloration on frames.
- Damage to weatherstripping or seals.
- Misaligned or sticking windows and doors.
- Address issues promptly:
  - Replace broken glass or damaged frames.
  - Reapply caulking around frames if gaps appear.
  - Replace weatherstripping if it's worn or missing to maintain insulation.

#### **Lubrication**

Apply a silicone-based lubricant to moving parts such as hinges, locks, and sliding tracks to ensure smooth operation. Avoid oil-based lubricants, as they can attract dirt and dust.

#### **Protecting Against Weather**

*Check and maintain weatherproofing:*

- Ensure seals and gaskets are intact to prevent drafts and water leaks.
- Reapply exterior caulking as needed to maintain a weather-tight seal.
- Keep drainage holes clear to prevent water from pooling in the frame.

## Screens & Hardware

### Screens

- Remove screens and clean them with warm soapy water. Allow them to dry completely before reinstallation.
- Repair small tears in screens to prevent further damage.

### Hardware

- Tighten loose screws on hinges, locks, and handles.
- Replace damaged or malfunctioning hardware to ensure security and functionality.

## Finishes & Coating

*Quality paints and coatings should be used to maintain the windows and doors properly.*

- Re-coating should take place before the existing finish has deteriorated to the extent that bare wood is exposed. Poorly maintained paint film can accelerate decay.
- Water can enter gaps between the paint and the timber or the joints between the glass and the timber and become trapped.
- Re-coat the timber before splits form or paint Peels. Prepare the surface carefully before re-coating.
- Ensure new finishes are compatible with previous coatings. Only paint the timber surfaces. Do not paint tracks or seals.

## Preventative Measures

- Avoid slamming windows or doors to prevent damage to frames, glass, and hardware.
- Keep trees and bushes trimmed to prevent branches from scratching or damaging windows and doors.
- Install blinds or curtains to protect interior finishes and glass from excessive sunlight, which can cause fading or heat damage.

By following these care and maintenance tips, you can prolong the lifespan and functionality of your windows and doors, ensuring they remain a durable and efficient part of your home.



## CONTACT DETAILS

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