



## CLEANING & MAINTENANCE OF YOUR VINYL WINDOWS AND DOORS



### Window and Door Frame Cleaning

Vacuum dirt from sill and track areas before washing.

Clean window and door frames with a mixture of mild dish soap and water.

Abrasive or caustic cleaners and solvents are never recommended because they can cause permanent damage to the frame finish.

Mild, nonabrasive soaps are usually safest for most dirt and stain removal.

Always rinse completely with clear water and wipe dry with a damp cloth (a dry cloth can build up static which attracts dirt and dust to the frame).

Check to make certain that drainage or “weep” holes are always clear of dirt or obstructions - both inside and outside the window or door in the bottom of the frame.

**NOTE:** If the window is “stacked,” there may be weep holes between units.

### Glass Care

Glass care today is more important than ever, as insulating, low-e or heat reflective glass requires proper maintenance to ensure their complete effectiveness.

To avoid damaging the glass surface, the insulating glass seal, or component parts, never use any petroleum-based cleaners, or caustic chemicals on the glass, and never use a razor blade, putty knife or abrasive pad to clean the glass.

Do not use a high-pressure spray nozzle when rinsing your windows after washing.

Clean glass with a mixture of mild dish soap and water or an approved glass cleaner. Rinse completely with clear water, then wipe dry with a soft, damp cloth to avoid water spots. (A damp cloth is recommended as a dry one may create static which will attract dirt/dust to the frame.)

Abrasive or caustic cleaners are never recommended because they might cause permanent damage to the finish or the glass.

To clean screens—first remove them, then place on a flat, clean surface and wash with mild soap and water and a soft brush. Rinse, wipe dry and reinstall.

### Maintaining Smooth Operation

Follow these helpful maintenance tips to keep your windows and doors operating smoothly.

Periodically lubricate the moving parts in hardware components and tracks and rollers, in accordance with the manufacturer’s maintenance instructions. If you are located in a salt-air environment, you may need to do this at least monthly.

Check weather stripping around operable window and door panels to be sure it seals evenly.



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On sliding doors and windows, make sure the track area is kept clean, by vacuuming as needed to clear dirt or any debris.

Adjust sliding door rollers for proper height clearances. Most door rollers can be adjusted with a screwdriver through access holes in either the end or side of the sliding panel at the bottom.

To keep rolling screen doors running smoothly, regularly clean and lubricate the tracks.

### Condensation and Mold

Window condensation can be a natural occurrence. It can also be a warning that excessive moisture is present and may cause structural deterioration and the possibility of mold growth.

Condensation on the inside of a window is a result of a higher air moisture content contacting lower temperatures on the glass. The higher the interior humidity and the lower the outside window temperature, the more condensation can occur.

Excessive interior humidity can lead to structural damage and health concerns if high moisture levels are sustained inside wall cavities. Wood rot, mold and mildew can result.

To prevent these problems:

Regularly use exhaust fans especially when showering.



Install and use a dehumidifier.

Use ceiling fans to circulate air.

Open windows and doors whenever practical or possible to allow interior moisture to escape.

For more detailed information about condensation and windows, please visit our website and download our information sheet:

***Interior Condensation - FAQ***

### Drainage Systems

Windows and doors often have a simple drainage system or “weep” system designed right into the product. These water drainage pathways must be kept clear and clean for the window or door to operate correctly.

It’s normal for water to accumulate in the sill or track area with wind-driven rain. The water is intended to drain to the outside as water builds up or outside pressure subsides.

Keep sill or track areas clean of dirt or debris. Make sure that outside and inside “weep” holes and sill area are kept clear of any dirt, stucco, sand, or building materials.

Use a small, soft bottlebrush to clear openings.



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