



## CARE AND HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALUMINUM CLAD PRODUCTS

The following instructions are intended for the use of homeowners in caring for all AG Millworks aluminum clad products, and are required to maintain warranty protection for all products.

### REGULAR MAINTENANCE

Aluminum clad products require regular maintenance to remain in good condition and appearance. The integrity of the interior and exterior finishes must be maintained to insure continued warranty protection.

### WOOD SURFACES

On a regular basis (ideally once per month), wipe down all wood surfaces with a clean DAMP (not wet) cloth. This will remove airborne dust, dirt and pollution particles, which can scratch, damage and embed in the finish, leaving a dull and dirty appearance. Treat wood surfaces as you would a fine piece of furniture, and never use caustic or abrasive cleaners. Immediately wipe dry any water that contacts wood surfaces, including the top and bottom edges of doors or sashes, where water absorption is most likely to occur. Wood surfaces are NOT designed to be exposed directly to water. Every six months, check the wood surfaces, and especially look at the top and bottom edges of doors and window sashes. It is imperative that these critical edges be fully protected with topcoats that are free from cracks or scrapes in the surface of the clear finish. Any void in the topcoats on any surface will allow moisture to get into the wood and may cause cracks, splits and warping. The same is true of painted surfaces. If needed, sand lightly with 280-grit sandpaper, wipe clean and recoat with exterior grade topcoat.

### ALUMINUM CLAD SURFACES

In typical environments, clean the aluminum clad surfaces of your product every three to six months with a mild detergent soap and water. In harsh environments, such as within one mile of a sea coast, clean the aluminum clad surfaces of your product with mild detergent soap and water once per month to ensure that corrosive/abrasive airborne salt and other damaging substances are not permitted to build up on clad surfaces. Any breaches in the exterior paint coating such as scratches, chips or abraded areas, no matter how minor in appearance, must be repaired immediately. Under no circumstances can the metal substrate be left exposed to the elements.

### FOLDAWAY PATIO DOORS: TRACKS AND BEARINGS

Remove surface contaminants by wiping visible track surfaces with a damp soft cloth and a mild detergent, then wipe dry with a clean cloth. Using a suitable applicator spread a small amount of

clear petroleum jelly or similar lubricant. Ensure that the carrier wheels pass through the lubricant so that it is distributed evenly along the track. Place additional lubricant around the bearings. In severe environments, apply a thin film of WD40. Always keep bottom guide channel free from debris.

#### HANGERS, PIVOTS, BRACKETS AND HINGES

Exposed surfaces should be wiped down with warm soapy water and a soft rag, and then rinsed clean before applying new surface protectants. A light spray application of WD40, followed by a light wipe with a dry cloth to remove excess is recommended for all hangers, pivots, brackets and hinges. Be careful not to get these compounds on wood items as they may cause staining. For oil-rubbed bronze finish, care should be taken when cleaning or re-applying surface protectants.

#### WEEP SYSTEM IN RAISED SILL

Keep the drainage holes (weep system) in the raised sill free of dirt and debris so that water can easily exit the recessed channel and keep water from building up and entering the house in heavy rain. A pipe cleaner works well for this purpose, or you can use a can of compressed air with a narrow tube attachment to force dirt and debris through the tubes and out of the holes at the front of the sill. Do not allow dirt and debris to collect in the recessed track in the sill. NOTE: Please keep this guide with your limited product warranty. These procedures must be followed to maintain warranty protection for your AG Millworks aluminum clad products.