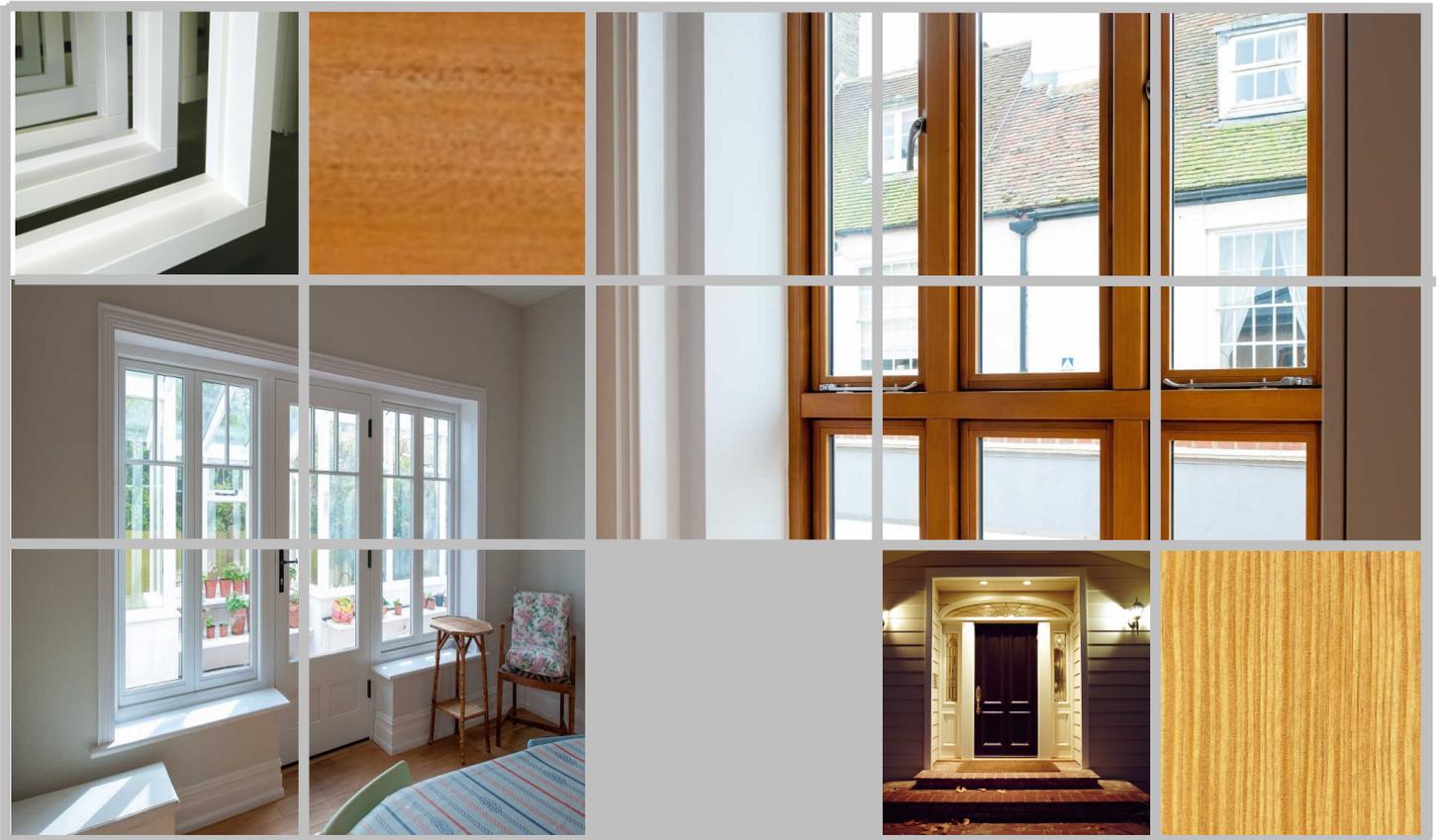


Remmers Care and Maintenance Advice for Window and Door Finishes

Enhancing Joinery Performance with Remmers



Initial care instructions

Timber windows and doors add value to homes and can provide well over 60 years lifecycle comparing very favourably to other materials. To achieve such extended lifespans the items must be maintained in a suitable fashion. Your timber windows and doors are treated with a high performance Remmers coating system. While this offers very long-term performance against the harsh UK climate it eventually requires renovation by a high quality, brush applied Remmers coating.

Even before the redecoration of the coating is required, it is essential to make sure that any damages are repaired promptly and the coating is cared for in the right way. This document gives advice on the care and maintenance of the high quality Remmers factory finish.

Installation damages

If the windows or doors are damaged during installation and this has caused opening of the joints, or damages to the glazing sealant, these damages must be rectified as soon as possible. Failure to do this promptly will lead to problems with the coating system.

Cut ends

In the event that it has been necessary to cut cill ends to fit a window, it is essential that the cut end is properly treated and coated before installation is complete.

A suitable brush-applied preservative is necessary to treat any cut ends if the timber is non durable such as Scots Pine. The relevant Remmers stain or in the case of opaque finishes, a coat of Remmers Aqua AG-26 Primer must then be applied liberally to the cut end. Once dry Induline SW-910 end grain protection is required and should be applied to the cut end (minimum of 2 coats) and allowed to dry. Finally, two coats of the appropriate Remmers finish should be applied to finish off the cut end. Allow drying between coats.

Opening of joints

Over time it is possible for joints to open up due to the differential movement between two pieces of timber at a joint. Joints can also open when the joinery is put under certain stresses during transit and installation. If this should happen the joint must be repaired promptly by filling any gaps and then repainting them with a suitable finish.

Fill any open joints with Induline AF-920 v-joint filler. This must be allowed to dry for 2 hours before application of subsequent coatings. Drying is at 20°C and 60% relative humidity. Please note the AF-920 is only dry enough to overcoat if the filled area has gone clear. If it remains white and milky do not attempt to overcoat.

Induline AF-920 can be over-coated with a wide range of Remmers coatings. To provide the best match to the factory applied finish it is wise to apply the same top coat finish as used in the factory. These products must be modified to make them suitable for application by brush. Remmers (UK) Ltd supply an additive (Mix & Go), for this purpose. Either obtain the factory applied coating finish incorporating the additive from your joinery supplier or contact us at sales@remmers.co.uk

Physical damage to the coating

When the surface of the coating becomes damaged by knocks and heavy abrasion the protective envelope is breached, this can allow moisture ingress and degradation of the timber surface by sunlight.

To any damaged areas of coating, sand the damaged area (feather in), to try and remove any step between the damage and the rest of the sound coated surface. Once this is achieved apply Induline GW-306 (in the desired shade) to any bare timber. For opaque finishes once the GW-306 is dry, apply Remmers Aqua AG-26 primer. Finally apply 2-3 coats of the relevant finish incorporating Remmers Induline Mix & Go additive. Allow 3-4 hours drying between coats. Drying is at 20°C and 60% relative humidity. It is vital that a good quality, long haired, synthetic brush suitable for the application of water-borne finishes is used.

Maintenance

Simple steps such as wiping down the joinery finish on a regular basis to remove dirt and insects will help extend the lifespan of the decorative finish and therefore the joinery and can be done at the same time as cleaning the glass.

Twice annual maintenance using the Remmers Care Set, as detailed below, will help to extend redecoration intervals, as will the following household maintenance steps:

- In autumn, clear guttering and downpipes and repair any leaks.
- Each spring, inspect the joinery and spot repair any minor areas of coating damage, shakes and open joints.
- At the same time inspect the glazing lines to ensure the seal is intact and will shed water away from the timber sash.



- 1) Clean coated timber surfaces on a regular basis. This can be done when the window panes are cleaned. If mould or algae are present these should be removed by washing with a diluted solution of household bleach (3 parts water, to 1 part bleach). Rinse with clean water after washing with bleach solution.
- 2) Twice yearly (early spring and late summer), clean coated timber surfaces with the Remmers cleaning product (included in the care sets). Ensure residues are wiped off and allowed to dry.
- 3) After the above cleaning procedure using the Remmers cleaning product, apply the Remmers care balsam with a soft lint free cloth, (both included in the care sets).

The care set offers the following benefits.

- Cleans surface removing any damaging dirt or mould
- Restores gloss level helping improve water shedding properties of the coating system
- Provides a sacrificial coating that reduces the erosion of the factory applied coating system

Maintenance Guidelines

The maintenance period is greatly affected by exposure and building and joinery design. The table below demonstrates the maintenance schedule for **fully factory finished** windows and doors made from timber. It is important that the wooden parts of the windows are cleaned when the glass is cleaned, especially in highly built up areas where there is a lot of dirt pollution. This helps to avoid dirt contamination and reduces the chances of mould growth.

On sharp edges the coating film has a lower thickness. On these areas maintenance may be required sooner. In coastal locations where dry sand blasting occurs, care & maintenance will be required on a far more regular basis than indicated in the table below.

Dark colours are highly susceptible to solar heat gain and therefore may create higher levels of substrate instability (mostly shown on and around joints). This may be further exacerbated with significant fluctuations in relative humidity.

Coating type	Window position	Ground floor & first floor	2nd floor and above or on a hill side	Mountainous or Coastal regions
White or light coloured paint	Set Back	8 – 10 years	6 - 8 years	4 - 6 years
	On facade	6 - 8 years	6 - 8 years	4 - 6 years
Dark coloured paints or medium and dark stain finishes	Set Back	6 – 8 years	4 - 6 years	3 - 4 years
	On Facade	4 - 6 years	4 - 6 years	3 - 4 years
Highly translucent stains such as light oak and pine	Set Back	3 - 4 years	2 - 3 years	1 - 2 years
	On Facade	2 - 3 years	2 - 3 years	1 - 2 years

Please note the timescales given above are just rough indications of what may be achieved and do not constitute a guarantee. Certain hardwoods with a natural red or pink colour such as Sapele and Eucalyptus Grandis will tend to lighten significantly under light translucent shades such as light oak. For our very light shades such as Native Oak the lifespans in this table do not apply. They may require yearly maintenance and the colour of the timber under these will significantly change. For further advice and to select the most suitable shade for your project, contact the Remmers Woodcoating Technical Team at sales@remmers.co.uk.

Redecoration of weathered coating surfaces using Remmers coatings

For opaque finishes apply Remmers Aqua DL-65 (water-based). For translucent finishes apply Remmers Aqua DSL-55 (water-based).

Procedure

- 1) All surfaces require a thorough clean before any coating application takes place.
- 2) Ensure the temperature is above 10°C when redecoration is being carried out. It is also important that the relative humidity does not exceed 80%. Do not apply in rain or when there is mist in the air and avoid application on days where there is a very high risk of rain.
- 3) If there is any doubt about the substrate or underlying paint film, apply the appropriate product to a small, inconspicuous area, allowing to dry for 24 hours and then inspect for appearance and adhesion to substrate.
- 4) Check for damaged coatings and rectify as follows: - Remove all loosely adhered coatings by first scraping with a sharp scraper then sanding with a P100 abrasive. Sand back any grey timber to a sound clean surface, as new brush applied coatings will not perform well on the loose timber fibres present on grey denatured timber. Where there are sound coatings that are not easily removed by the above process, feather the edge between sound coatings and bare timber with a P120 abrasive so it is as smooth as possible..
- 5) Bring forward by applying a full coat of primer/base stain, ensuring that the end grain is also coated if exposed.
- 6) Once a clean and sound surface is obtained apply a coat of the appropriate Remmers maintenance product. Always use a good quality, long haired, synthetic bristle brush for the application of the water-based products.
- 7) Allow 3-4 hours between coats for the water-based products. After drying a light de-nib with a very fine abrasive paper (p240 grade or finer) may be required.
- 8) Apply a second coat of the appropriate Remmers maintenance product.

Applying water-based paints.

- Load the coating generously onto the surface and disperse the paint briskly.
- Even out the coating with light diagonal cross grain strokes – do not over brush – the coating will level and flow naturally.
- Finish the application with light brush strokes in the direction of the grain, taking care to do so around the joint intersections. Apply and finish each section systematically, one component at a time e.g. top rail followed by the stiles and then the bottom rail.

With practice, an even coat can be applied quickly. An even coat film is important for durability, but also for appearance, particularly in the case of translucent wood stains.

Further advice and support should be taken for any remedial repair and redecoration where dark discolouration is present.

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