

Care & Maintenance Guidelines

Wright's Impact Window & Door remains firmly committed to installing doors and windows that stand the test of time and surpass customer expectations. Guaranteeing that your purchased items retain their high performance and warranty coverage requires that you take steps to provide regular upkeep.

To ensure your products perform at their optimum levels, you must implement proper care and maintenance. Regular inspections and attention will help extend the longevity of your windows and doors, prevent costly repairs, and protect you from voiding your product's warranty.

KEY GUIDELINES TO FOLLOW

- When cleaning, apply gentle pressure to avoid scratching or other damage that could result from vigorous scrubbing.
- To stop cleaning solutions from seeping into surfaces, clean and rinse each window or door individually.
- Post-installation, it's crucial to meticulously clean aluminum frames. Chemicals used during construction could harm the frames if not promptly removed.
- Avoid leaning on the screens of windows or doors. These components cannot sustain heavy pressure and are not impact resistant. Screens may be damaged by storms if not removed.

WHEN TO CLEAN YOUR PRODUCTS

It is recommended to clean all the items mentioned below at least annually. Those residing in coastal regions should escalate this process to a monthly routine to combat corrosion caused by seawater. However, contingent on your specific environment conditions, more regular cleaning may be required.



CRITICAL SAFEGUARDS

Do not use the items below on your windows, screens, doors, or hardware. These improper tools may void your warranty and/or damage your products.

- A power washer or garden hose
- Metal tools or sharp objects, like razor blades, putty knives, and abrasive pads
- Petroleum-based products, abrasive or caustic cleaners/solvents, and hydrochloric/phosphoric acid

Cleaning Guidelines



GLASS

- Initiate the process by rinsing the glass with clean water to eliminate dirt and dust particles, which may cause scratches during cleaning. As noted earlier, refrain from using a power washer or garden hose.
- Use a soft, water-drenched cloth or a ready-made glass cleaner on the surface.
- Swiftly rinse and dry any dripping to avoid the cleaning solution from leaving residue on the glass or running onto the frame and sealant. If opting for a pre-mixed glass cleaner, adhere to the provided instructions diligently.
- Thoroughly rinse the glass with clean water to hinder the cleaning solution from forming a layer on the glass. As highlighted before, do not use a power washer or garden hose.

GLASS CLEANING TIP

For the best results, clean your glass during cooler temperatures without direct sunlight.

IMPORTANT

Wash your glass frequently to remove surface dirt and prevent stains.

FRAMES

- The frames should be cleansed with clean water to eliminate dirt and dust that could potentially cause scratches during cleaning. Avoid using power washers or garden hoses.
- A simple mix of mild soap and water should suffice in cleaning both the interior and exterior of your window or door frames. Always conduct a preliminary test on an unnoticeable area with your cleaning solution.
- It's advisable that, annually, a gentle car-wax solution should be applied to your frames. Prior to this, ensure the frames are clean to prevent the infiltration of sea salt, or other substances which can corrode the frames.

SCREENS

- Always ensure to carefully extract your screens, making sure that your cleaning area is flat and free from any residue or debris.
- Utilizing mild soap and water on a soft brush, gently cleanse off dirt, salt, and other deposits. Steer clear of rigorous scrubbing or metal tools that may potentially rip, weaken or harm your screens.
- Carefully reinstall your screen once total drying has occurred.

HARDWARE

- There is no need to grease or use lubrication on the wheels of your sliding glass doors.
- Preserve easy operation on moving parts like hinges and thumb turns with a light oil lubricant. Examples include mineral oil and light plant-based oils, like hemp, olive, or grapeseed.
- Simply use a damp cloth or a mild soap and water solution to clean weatherstripping. Don't forget to rinse thoroughly and dry afterwards. In case of any damage to the weatherstrip, replace it immediately to maintain effective sealing.
- Regularly inspect and clean the weather drainage (weep system) to guarantee peak drainage operation, and prevent water intrusion. Sliding Glass Doors and Horizontal Rolling Windows are designed to allow water to drain from the track. Seeing a small amount of water in these tracks is normal.
- Carefully clean tracks and sills by wiping them with a damp cloth. For hard-to-reach areas, you might find a vacuum cleaner useful to eliminate dust and dirt.

Condensation

Water on windows is condensation. It is formed when warm moist air comes in contact with cooler dry air. An example of this is when a bathroom mirror "steams up" after a hot shower. Just like that mirror, the inside or outside of your window can sweat or fog because of temperature differentials.



ARE MY WINDOWS/DOORS FAULTY?

Faulty windows do not cause condensation. Glass is usually the first place you notice condensation because glass surfaces have the lowest temperature of any surface in a house. Condensation is a natural effect.

WHAT CAUSES CONDENSATION?

The moisture in the air causes condensation. The reason you may observe more condensation in your home is because of modern energy-efficient homebuilding techniques and products.

The insulation and construction materials used today are designed to keep cold air outside. This is especially true of new windows. While energy-efficient designs and weather-stripping keep cold air outside, they also keep warm moist air inside. Older window designs were less efficient and consequently allowed moisture to escape.

If you didn't have as much condensation before replacing your old windows, it's probably because they were drafty. Good windows and insulation all create barriers to the air exchange of a home. When combined with the additional water vapor (moisture) from showers, cooking, or from clothes dryers not vented to the outside, the result is excess moisture and a high relative indoor humidity level.

REDUCED HUMIDITY?

The key lies in controlling the humidity inside your home. During the hot humid summer, your house absorbs moisture. This also applies to a newly constructed or remodeled home, due to the abundance of moisture from the building materials used in construction.

During the beginning of the winter when you start to heat your home, condensation occurs. After a few weeks, your home will begin to dry out, and you'll see less condensation. Opening a window briefly is a quick temporary solution.

Other solutions that may reduce condensation include:

- Cracking open a window or door daily.
- Opening a window or running exhaust fans longer in the kitchen, bathroom and laundry room.
- Opening drapes and blinds, allowing air to circulate.
- Turning off any humidifying devices in your home.
- Installing and using a dehumidifier.

If you live in a northern climate, the above steps, as well as the following points, may be relevant:

- Adding storm windows or replacing existing single-pane windows with insulated windows.
- Keeping plants in a sunroom or in rooms that are infrequently used during extreme cold weather. Adding waterproofing protection to basement floors and walls.
- Removing radiator pans until sweating has been eliminated.
- Making sure that open-faced gas heaters are connected to a chimney and using them as little as possible.

WHEN SHOULD I BE CONCERNED?

If you see condensation between the two layers of glass in an insulated window, the airtight seal has probably been broken, and the glass will need to be replaced.

Moisture spots on the ceiling or walls, peeling paint, rotting wood, delaminating plywood, moisture on exterior walls, and fungus, mold or mildew growth indicate a more serious indoor moisture issue. Please contact a heating and cooling contractor if these issues arise.