

# Staining Guide



## MATERIALS NEEDED

- A. Lint-free cloth
- B. Mineral Spirits
- C. Rubber gloves
- D. Masking tape
- E. 2" bristle brush
- F. Gel Stain, such as ZAR™ Stain, Wood Kote®, Jel'd Stain, Minwax® Gel Stain, etc.



## STEP 1: SURFACE PREPARATION

**Do not sand fiberglass.**

1. Lay door horizontally on saw horses or a table.
2. Remove all the hardware and mask off anything you don't want stained such as the glass insert.
3. Wipe the door with mineral spirits to clean any dust or residue from the surface. Allow all mineral spirits to dry from the surface before applying stain.



## STEP 2: STAIN APPLICATION

### FIRST COAT

1. Stain one panel at a time (refer to the door staining diagram). Starting with the center panel, apply a thin, even amount of stain with a lint-free cloth. Using a light circular motion, work the stain into the embossed grain.
2. Then, with a CLEAN RAG remove all excess finish. Using long strokes, move in the direction of the grain. Work quickly.
3. If lap marks appear, immediately apply more stain to dissolve them, working the area to an even color. This coat primarily leaves the stain in the grain pattern.



### SECOND COAT

**Allow the door to dry for at least 24 hrs. between coats.**

1. Work on one section of the door at a time.
2. Using a soft lint-free cloth, apply a liberal coat of stain.
3. Working quickly while the stain is wet, use a clean and dry 2" bristle brush to remove the excess stain and create a uniform look.
4. Make long, quick brush strokes in the direction of the grain.
5. Using paper towels or a rag, be sure to remove any excess stain as it accumulates on the brush.
6. If only the exterior face of the door is to be stained, stain the hinged edge of the door. If both sides of the door are to be stained, stain both edges.



## NORMAL MAINTENANCE

Even a well finished fiberglass door will be affected by exposure and weathering from sun, moisture, and air pollutants. It is considered normal maintenance to re-apply the topcoat approximately every two years.



## STEP 3 PROTECTIVE TOP COAT

Apply polyurethane top coat with UV inhibitors like ZAR™ Exterior polyurethane, Wood Kote® Flagship UV, Minwax® Fast Drying Polyurethane for exterior applications.

1. After stain has completely dried (24 hours), mix topcoat well and apply evenly using a clean dry 2" bristle brush to work topcoat into corners.
2. Apply two or three coats of finish, allowing at least 24 hours of drying time between each application.