

Maintenance Suggestions

Protection From The Elements

Aside from the initial finish, proper maintenance is the most important step a homeowner can take in promoting longevity and lifespan of their windows and doors. As with all components of your home, a routine check-up can decrease the likelihood of larger issues from developing. The following recommendations should serve as a guide to help you maintain your Cherry Creek windows and doors.

(For products other than Cherry Creek, always refer to manufacturer for maintenance instructions)

Inspect:

Paint does not last forever; and under most circumstances here in the Northwest, the paint on your windows will take quite a beating. Because your paint is all that stands between your windows and the harsh elements, it is essential that you look after your paint finishes to make sure they are still adequately covering your windows. For starters, annually inspect the finish on the exterior of your windows and doors. Look for areas that may have any cracks or flaking in the top coat of finish. Pay special attention to horizontal surfaces that may be more susceptible to damage particularly in the location where the glass and bottom rail meet. Don't forget to check the bottoms and tops of the windows. Contaminants such as dirt, dust, mildew and salts are not good for your windows and doors. If built up and left to sit over time, they can become key factors in the degradation of your windows and doors. Keep you windows as clean as possible. Also, caulking tends to shrink over time. Look closely at caulked areas for any shrinkage or cracks. Always remember, raw wood is a no-no. For Southern facing or high exposure locations, semi annual inspections are recommended.

Act:

Immediately seal (putty, caulk, finish, etc.) any areas where moisture could intrude behind the finish. Refinishing may be necessary in areas that have had a breach in the finish. For tips on refinishing, refer to the *General, Storage, and Finish Instructions For Cherry Creek Windows And Doors* documents.