

CARE AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

Sunflex SF80 Timber/Aluminium Composite Folding Sliding Door

You are now the proud owner of a Sunflex SF80 Timber/Aluminium Composite Folding Sliding Door system. Your door system has been manufactured to the highest standards and will be a pleasure to use. To ensure that your system is kept in its peak condition we recommend that you follow the simple steps below; these guide notes are intended to help you maintain your system. You will also find information on how to clean the system and re-coat when required.

1. Doors should always be opened and closed in accordance with operating instructions.
2. Doors must not be left in the open position for long periods of time, and must not be left open in adverse weather conditions.
3. Keys should not be left in the doors, when key locks are fitted to handle positions and doors are outward opening, do not leave keys in the lock after unlocking. This will cause severe damage when doors are folded.
4. The timber side of the doors can be cleaned with mild soapy water. Stubborn marks can be removed by using methylated spirits; this is suitable for all finishes whether a timberstain or a painted finish. On white painted finishes the more stubborn marks can be removed with a diluted cream cleaner.
5. The aluminium side of the doors can be cleaned by regular washing of the coating with a solution of warm water and mild detergent. All surfaces should be cleaned using a soft cloth or sponge, using nothing harsher than natural bristle brushes. (Cleaning of window sections etc. can be conveniently carried out at the same time as glazing cleaning.). Stubborn marks on **powder coating** can be removed by using a paraffin based cleaner or a liquid cream cleaner. If the atmospheric pollution has resulted in heavy soiling of the coating, then nothing harsher than white spirit should be used for cleaning.

The frequency of cleaning depends in part on the standard of appearance that is required and also the requirements to remove deposits that could, during prolonged contact with either the powder film or the metal substrate (if exposed) cause damage.

In hazardous environments the normal frequency of cleaning should be at a maximum of three monthly intervals. However where there is high atmospheric pollution or an extremely hazardous atmosphere (i.e., a combination of factors above or others) the period between cleaning should be reduced.

Where the atmosphere is deemed to be non hazardous, e.g., rural or a "normal" urban environments, then the period between cleaning can be extended up to a maximum of 18 months. However, if heavy soiling occurs more regular cleaning is required.

It is the condition of the powder coating company that records of cleaning schedules and frequencies shall be kept and maintained and made available if requested for guarantee purposes.

If the system is subject to any hazardous unusual environmental factors, or is close to salt water, an estuary or marine environment, then the coating company (Sunflex will advise on this on request) must be consulted on an individual basis.

An easy reference guide to follow for cleaning:

Normal Environment	Clean and check every 12 months
Marine Environment	Clean and check every 3 months
Industrial Environment	Clean and check every 3 months
Industrial & Marine Environment	Clean and check every 3 months
Swimming & Leisure Pools	Clean and check every 6 months

The category will depend on geographical location; environmental surroundings (industrial, swimming pools; marine etc); levels of atmospheric pollution; prevailing wind; protection of the building by other buildings; if there are environmental changes during lifetime (i.e., rural areas becoming industrial etc).

Do not, under any circumstances, use strong solvents or solutions containing: chlorinated hydrocarbons; esters; ketones; abrasive cleaner or polish.

Stubborn marks on **anodised** finishes (your contract will detail if the finish is a painted RAL colour or an anodised finish), an ink rubber can be used to remove any stubborn marks.

6. Bottom tracks to be kept clean; a vacuum cleaner is the easiest method. After cleaning it is recommended that the track is then lubricated with a silicone spray at the point where the wheel and guide discs (at the bottom of the running gear which is connected to the hinges) connect with the track; this prolongs the life of your system. You can also spray the running gear and guide discs for optimum performance.
7. In the unlikely event of a squeaky hinge, this can easily be remedied by spraying the hinge with some silicone spray.
8. Should the doors not be maintained according to these instructions, this will render your guarantee invalid.

RE-COATING OF FINISH

For doors finished in our standard range of finishes, the finish should be re-coated dependant upon the location and type of colour finish. Please find below a chart indicating the recommended periodic checks for re-coating. Your contract will detail the code number of the stain applied and you can obtain the stain from most retailers. Should you have any problems with obtaining the correct stain for your system, please do not hesitate to contact us on 0845 612 5 612.

<u>Colour Finishes</u>	<u>Visual Checks</u>	Re-Coating Period	
		Exposed to Sunlight /Adverse Weather	Sheltered/Where doors are under large Soffitts
Teak/Danish Oil	Annually	Annually	Annually
Ash	Annually	1-2 years	2-3 years
Pine	Annually	2 years	3 years
Afromosia	Annually	2 years	3 years
Antique Pine	Annually	2 years	3 years
Light Oak	Annually	2 years	3 years
Dark Oak	Annually	3 years	4 years
Mahogany	Annually	3 years	4 years
Teak	Annually	3 years	4 years
Walnut	Annually	4-5 years	5 years
Palisander	Annually	4-5 years	5 years
Dark Brown	Annually	4-5 years	5 years
Ebony	Annually	4-5 years	5 years
RAL Colour Painted Finish	Annually	4-5 years	5 years

The gaskets (rubber seals) can be removed for ease of application – they must all be put back in before using the doors after re-coating.

For the best results we recommend you follow the simple guide notes below when applying the finish:

1. Remove all gaskets.
2. Lightly abrade with a medium/fine grade silicon carbide paper to provide a surface 'key'. Remove all dust.

3. If the timber feels greasy (common on some types of timber) you should thoroughly 'degrease' with cellulose thinner or methylated spirits (not white spirit) and allow the solvent to evaporate before over coating. Both eye and hand protection is strongly advised. Use a lint free cloth and frequently change the face.
4. Decorate with two full coats of recommended finish to obtain uniform coverage over all areas to be decorated. Do not thin. Use a soft, long, fine fibre synthetic brush. Ensure the end grain is well coated. Finish in the direction of the grain. The wet film thickness of each coat must not be less than 65 micrometers. Allow a minimum drying time of five hours between coatings normal drying conditions.
5. Ensure all surfaces are dry and re-insert gaskets.

Should you have any queries when re-coating, please call us and we will be pleased to answer any queries.