

MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

Regular maintenance will help keep your Marvin windows and doors operating smoothly. Use this checklist as an annual maintenance reminder.

- Make sure the weatherstrip is still effective. If not, call your local Marvin dealer.
- Examine the window's interior and exterior finishes. Occasional repair to a damaged finish may be necessary.
- Don't let paints, stains and varnishes come in contact with the weatherstrip. Solvents can damage the weatherstrip's performance.
- Trim any old, loose caulking and seal any gaps with an appropriate, high quality caulk.
- Occasionally, an excess of silicone sealant, called "squeeze-out," appears around the edge of the glass. You can safely scrape off "squeeze-out" with a plastic putty knife without damaging the weather-tightness of your window or door.
- Make sure all exposed hardware screws are tightened securely. Apply a dry lubricant to the windows' gears to keep them operating smoothly.
- Clean sand, dirt or dust from door and window hinges, sills and tracks.
- Check energy panels and storm and screen combinations to make sure screws and turn buttons are securely fastened.
- Check doors for smooth operation.

Note: Wood doors require a stabilization period after installation, sometimes taking up to a year to adjust to humidity levels and other environmental factors.

- Location plays an important role in how often you should clean and maintain the exterior of aluminum clad windows and doors. A coastal home exposed to harsh elements may need cleaning four or five times a year, while in a drier climate, once or twice a year may be sufficient.

CLEANING

- Avoid cleaning glass while it is in direct sunlight, especially tinted and coated surfaces, to prevent streaking.
- Start cleaning windows at the top of the building and continue to lower levels.
- Soak the glass surface with clean water to loosen dirt and debris. Make sure no abrasive particles remain on the glass, then apply an approved cleaning solution with a non-abrasive cloth or other applicator.
- Quickly remove the cleaning solution with a squeegee, taking care not to allow metal parts of cleaning equipment to touch the glass surface.

- Avoid any cleaning product that has a strong chemical base or a high alcohol content, as chemical reactions could damage components.
- Wipe any remaining traces of cleaning solution from glass and other parts of the window and frame. Windows, including their parts and frames, are susceptible to deterioration if left damp.
- Some windows have an energy panel, often confused with a storm window. An energy panel is a removable, exterior glass panel and can be cleaned in the same way as other parts of the window.
- Don't use abrasive cleaning solutions or materials, don't allow metal parts of cleaning equipment to touch the glass, and don't use scrapers of any kind.

Note: Glass scratched by a scraper is not covered under the Marvin warranty.

WOOD SURFACES

- Remove surface dirt and check the exterior of your wood windows and doors at least once a year to ensure that wood is not exposed to the elements by failing caulk or paint that has cracked, peeled or bubbled.
- Remove superficial surface dirt by washing painted wood exteriors with water and a soft-bristled, long-handled brush (such as those used for washing cars). A toothbrush works well to remove build-up from cracks and crevasses.
- Heavier accumulations can be removed with an approved cleaning solution. Other cleaning solutions consisting of alcohol/water mixtures are also effective.
- Wash from top to bottom to minimize streaking.
- Use clean water to rinse off detergent solutions or cleaners, which can damage the finish if not removed.
- Grease or oily substances may require stronger cleaning compounds. Avoid solvents or abrasive cleaners. Don't let strong detergents, ammonia, chemicals or other harsh cleaning substances get onto finished exterior surfaces, which can be damaged.
- Nicks and scratches in a painted finish can be touched up with a matching, high-quality latex primer and paint. Contact your local paint supply store for product recommendations and instructions.
- If you have a brand new, bare wood or primed window or door, you must finish it immediately to prevent possible damage to the wood. Please view [Painting and Staining](#) for instructions.