



## Keep your French doors looking like new

Your new quality, professionally installed double glazing will look stunning in your home. However, weathering, traffic fumes, damp and general wear and tear can sometimes discolour double glazing and spoil the look. So to help keep your new doors looking as good as the day they were installed, here are our top tips:-

### Cleaning your doors

- ◆ All parts that are exposed when the doors are closed, should be washed down with warm mildly soapy water using a soft cloth, and dried thoroughly.
- ◆ Parts exposed when the doors are open should be simply wiped clean, removing grime from old lubricant, airborne debris and remains of insect life, etc.
- ◆ Wipe the gaskets with a damp cloth, avoid getting any soapy water onto the gaskets, as this can cause damage to them, leading to moisture getting underneath.
- ◆ To make your glass sparkle, a good tip is to use a rolled up pair of old socks with a traditional cleaning solution of vinegar and water to polish the windows (avoiding the gaskets). This is super cheap and will make your glass gleam!
- ◆ Although high pressure water sprays work wonders on patios & driveways, do not be tempted to use them on your double glazing. It might seem like a quick and easy option but the intense pressure can weaken the sealant and could even cause the glass to crack.

### Operating your doors

Press the handle down from the horizontal position until the latch is released and the door will open. To close, simply press the opening sash until it meets the frame and the audible click of the latch is heard. Lift handle fully up until you hear another click. This will make your door water tight and **MUST BE DONE EVERY TIME DOOR IS CLOSED**. To dead lock, lift handle and turn key fully.

### Maintaining your doors

- ◆ Never use anything abrasive – even cream cleaners are mildly abrasive. Using abrasives will scratch the surface which will trap the dirt.
- ◆ By regularly vacuuming the frames, openings and seals you can avoid dirt building up and discolouring or damaging your doors. Regular vacuuming can save time too as it will mean you'll need to use soap and water less often to clean them.
- ◆ Handles should be lightly lubricated (twice a year) with a light machine oil between the handle and backplate.
- ◆ Where humidity levels are high, condensation may occur on cold surfaces in the room. This can easily be counteracted with correct ventilation. Your doors should be opened on a daily basis sufficiently frequently to allow the moist air out and fresh air in.