CARE GUIDE · ALUMINIUM DOORS

Aluminium Door Care & Maintenance

Aluminium doors are low maintenance, not no maintenance. A few minutes every couple of months keeps them running smoothly and looking new. Here is how to use and care for your SOVU aluminium bifold, French and single doors.

Using your bifold doors

With a traffic door: open the traffic door and clip it to the magnet catch on the next panel. Release the shoot bolts on the other panels, then fold them back in pairs, starting with the pair nearest the traffic door. To close, slide each pair back, lock the shoot bolts, and close the traffic door last.

Without a traffic door: release the shoot bolts and fold the pairs to one side. Slide them back and lock each one to close.

Cleaning the frames and glass

Aluminium frames need very little looking after. Dust the top of the frame first and work down, then wash with warm soapy water and a soft microfibre cloth. Avoid scourers, abrasive creams and harsh chemicals, which can damage the powder-coated finish.

Clean the glass as often as your other windows, ideally on a dull day – in bright sun the water dries too quickly and leaves streaks.

Keeping the tracks clear

Grit and leaves in the bottom track are the most common reason bifold and sliding doors start to feel stiff, especially in summer when the doors are open a lot. Run a vacuum nozzle along the track regularly, and check the drainage slots are clear.

A simple care routine

- Every couple of months (more in summer): clean the frames, glass and tracks.
- Twice a year: check the drainage slots are clear and the seals are seated properly.
- Once a year: put a drop of light oil on moving lock parts and check the hinge screws are tight.
- Any time a door drags: check the track is clean first, then whether a panel needs adjusting.

Frequently asked questions

How do I clean aluminium bifold doors?

Warm soapy water and a soft microfibre cloth for the frames, and your usual glass cleaner for the glass. Vacuum the bottom track regularly. Avoid scourers and harsh chemicals.

Why are my bifold doors getting stiff?

Usually dirt in the bottom track. Vacuum it out and check the drainage slots. If they are still stiff, a panel may need adjusting.

Do aluminium doors need oiling?

Only the moving lock parts – a drop of light oil once a year is enough. The frames themselves need no treatment.

Thinking about new aluminium doors?

Browse our bifold, sliding and French door ranges.

Questions about your order or fitting? Call 01924 929600 or visit sovu.co.uk/contact. This guide is online at sovu.co.uk/help-and-guides/aluminium-door-care-and-maintenance/