

## **Use and Care Statement**

Extreme variances in temperature and humidity will cause kiln dried and laminated wood products to shrink and/or swell. Caution should be taken to avoid these variances. **ALL SJS STAIR AND MILLWORK PRODUCTS ARE FOR INTERIOR USE ONLY!**

In order to further clarify the treatment that wood stair parts should receive, SJS Stair suggests that the following standards be observed:

### **STORAGE:**

1. Stairparts should be stored in an area free of excessive dust and dirt. Moisture is the enemy of any wood product and should be avoided. Wood and the cardboard boxes it is stored in may wick moisture from direct contact with concrete or any moist surface, including drying drywall. SJS Stair manufactures at 6-8% moisture content. Any condition which varies this will cause shrinkage or swelling thus causing excess stress on glue joints and the surface of the wood. Because SJS cannot be sure what has happened to the product after it's left our shop we can only guarantee items up to 30 thirty days after pick up or a year if SJS Stair and Millwork installed it.
2. Stairparts should not be exposed to direct sunlight. Storage in heated areas may cause additional drying of the wood which may cause cracks and splitting. Wood should be stored at a consistent temperature and relative humidity (recommended is 70° F and 35% relative humidity). Because SJS cannot be sure what has happened to the product after it's left our shop we can only guarantee items up to 30 thirty days after pick up or a year if SJS Stair and Millwork installed it.

### **FINISHING TIPS:**

1. It is important that all parts be lightly sanded before finishing. Any excess glue or oil from a human hand can mar the evenness of your stair finish. Make sure all dust is removed to ensure a smooth finish.
2. Apply stain to a scrap piece of wood as a test piece. This will help you determine how much stain to apply and how long to leave it on the wood before wiping off any excess. The color may vary somewhat depending on various properties of the wood, such as end grain. Stain should be wiped on in small areas, then wiped off to desired darkness after no more than 2 minutes. Follow the recommendations of the stain manufacturer.
3. After staining is complete and allowed to dry, apply finish. Polyurethane finishes provide the best protection and a fine finish as well as rapid drying time. After each finish coat is completely dry, buff lightly with steel wool (0000 grade) or 220 grit sand paper. Try this first on a test piece or any inconspicuous area to determine how much pressure to use and avoid damage. Next, remove debris left from buffing by wiping with a tack cloth. Generally, three or four coats of finish are required. Follow the recommendations of the finish manufacturer.
4. It is essential that a minimum of three coats of finish be evenly applied to all surfaces: top, bottom, and ends. This will help ensure that any excess gain or loss of moisture will be uniform thus reducing tendencies toward warpage and splitting. No coating entirely prevents wood from gaining or losing moisture, but a proper finish which is evenly applied will help reduce the transmission of moisture to levels which the laminated wooden parts might tolerate.
5. A fine furniture wax coat is recommended after finishing.

## **Prime Coat Use and Care Statement**

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### **PRIME COAT FINISHING TIPS:**

SJS Stair pre-primed wood products are finished with a base primer. It is considered to be a primer over which a top coat can be applied.