BOVALLS
dörrbyggeri

Mould on doors - facts and maintenance

Moulds thrive in damp or humid conditions. Moulds can grow anywhere on natural materials so it is possible that they may occur on our oiled doors. This is not something that we, as a door manufacturer, can control. Nor is it something oil manufacturers can control. It can be frustrating that mould occurs on a door but not necessarily on the façade adjacent to it or on other doors/woodwork. This depends entirely on the different materials and finishes. Plastic paints etc. are not as attractive, and consequently mould does not as easily occur.

If mould arises you should wash the door clean. Folksam's annual test in 2008 gave eco-labelled agent Biokleen Alg & Mould detergent the best results. But even an washing-up liquid detergent such as Yes Original works well. You can also use Boracol.

If the mould attack is very marked, first clean the door with dilute ammonia and a sponge, then use any of the aforementioned mould agents or detergents. Rinse off with water. After you have cleaned the door carefully, the fibres in the wood may lift slightly. You can correct this by sanding with fine sandpaper in the direction of the grain. Then re-treat the door with oil again. If you have not cleaned the door thoroughly, the oil may act as feed for the mould spores. A good preparation produces the best results. If you do have mould on your door, maintenance should start immediately to prevent the mould from taking a firm hold on the wood.

Stainless Steel - facts and maintenance

In industrial areas with increased levels of sulphur and nitrogen oxide and in coastal environments with raised levels of chloride, the protective oxide film on stainless steel may be attacked. This means that it looks like the material is beginning to rust. In truth this is only a superficial attack on the steel and discolouration can be both prevented and removed by general cleaning of the surface.
For cleaning use water, soap, a soft sponge, but not steel wool or a wire brush.

You can also use a cloth with oil (e.g. cold pressed linseed oil, tung oil or teak oil) and rub the stainless steel parts. Leave the oil for a while and then wipe it off so that it does not become sticky. Vinegar based silicone has been found to be particularly useful. Rub into the stainless steel parts and then wipe it off so that the surface does not become sticky. Even ordinary household vinegar can provide a protective layer.