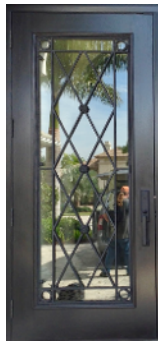


Door Buying Guide

Selecting the appropriate door is a crucial decision to guarantee the enduring quality of the unit. Given that every project encompasses unique designs, dimensions, and requirements, we have created this comprehensive door buying guide to assist you in addressing questions and meticulously choosing the optimal doors for your project.

1. Door configuration:

The door configuration consists on determining if you need a single or double door. See the two examples below.



a) Single Door

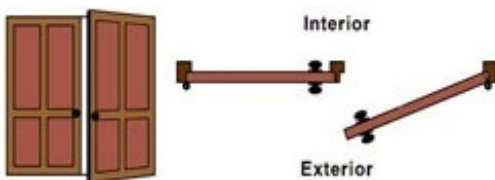


b) Double Door

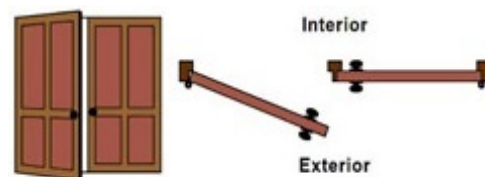
2. Door Swing & Active Door Selection:

The door swing is a critical detail about the unit, specially for exterior doors. We strongly recommend to select outswing doors for projects in Florida and any region that deals with extreme weather. Outswing is the strongest because of how the door slabs are supported by the jambs. In many counties and municipalities of Florida, the Florida Building Code requites and or recommends to have an outswing entry door. **Note that the swing is determined by looking at the door from the exterior.**

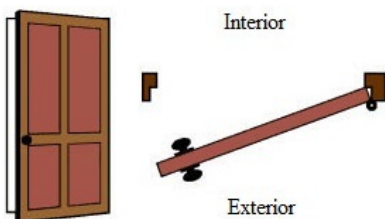
- Here are some examples of **OUTSWING** configurations:



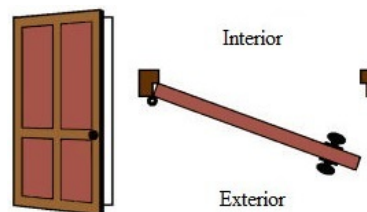
Right Hand Outswing Double Door



Left Hand Outswing Double Door



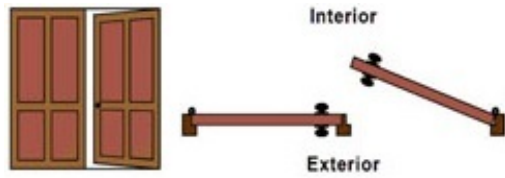
Right Hand Outswing



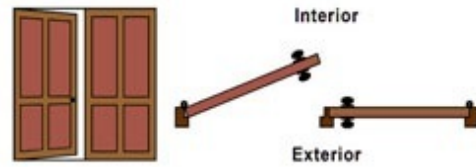
Left Hand Outswing

2. Door Swing & Active Door Selection -Continued:

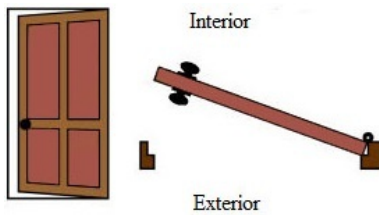
- Here are some examples of INSWING configurations:



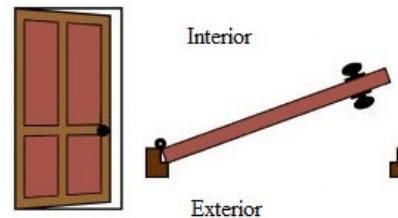
Right Hand Inswing Double Door



Left Hand Inswing Double Door



Right Hand Inswing

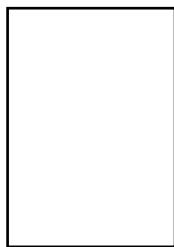


Left Hand Inswing

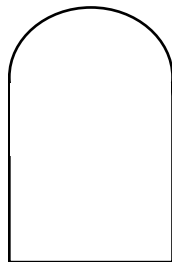
3. Shape and Design:

The shape of your opening often dictates the form of your unit. Three primary shapes — square, radius, and elliptical — can be employed in crafting the door, side windows (sidelites), and the top window above your door (transom).

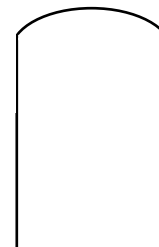
- Here is an example of the three most typical shapes:



a) Square Shape



b) Radius Shape



c) Elliptical Shape

At Unique Custom Doors, our extensive range of designs offers abundant inspiration for your project. Alternatively, you may share a design that has piqued your interest, or seek suggestions from our experienced design team. Having a specific design in mind is crucial for accurate quoting, as our prices are contingent on the design and size of the unit.

It is perfectly acceptable not to have a comprehensive understanding of all the features you desire or do not desire in your door. However, establishing a starting point can be beneficial. While there may be some limitations due to the impact approvals, it is noteworthy that numerous possibilities are still viable and can be accommodated. Do not hesitate to seek assistance!

4. Dimensions:

Dimensions are extremely important for accurate quoting and figuring out what you need. You could provide us with the size of the masonry opening or rough opening. The rough opening indicates the space for the unit to fit buck to buck. If you are remodeling an existing unit, it is advised to remove the trim casing and measure an accurate rough opening.

As we make progress on your project you will be provided a scaled drawing with the unit size dimensions and rough opening, subjected to verification of the client. In the event of any ambiguity regarding measurement procedures, please do not hesitate to contact us, and we will gladly provide assistance.

5. Application and Exposure:

The exposure to the environment (sun and rain) that the unit gets determines the amount of maintenance it will need. Protecting your door properly and selecting the right door type can lower maintenance, improve performance and extend the durability of the door. Here are a few items to consider:

- **Exposure:** Units facing south or west are the most exposed to the sun and require the most protection. Dark stain will attract more heat which is a harmful application if the unit is not protected with a 1:1 (height of the unit to length of the overhang) ratio overhang.
- **Overhang:** All exterior doors need a proper overhang to increase the durability of the door. Please refer to the warranty for guidelines and requirements on overhangs.
- **Design:** The design can help significantly to doors that are heavily exposed to the elements. A full light design is encouraged in these cases which minimizes chances of the wood being affected.
- **Finish:** As previously mentioned, darker color will attract more heat to the door and can lead to higher maintenance specially if the unit is oriented South or West and if it does not have an adequate overhang.