

DOOR HARDWARE FINISH SELECTION CONSIDERATIONS

While the following considerations are very important in determining the finishes to use, the financial budget can also be a major factor in this decision. Always try to use the finish best suited for the application using the considerations below.

1) Application/Durability:

Building such as hospitals and schools require a durable finish that will withstand high traffic volumes. For these applications stainless steel and satin chrome is the best finish choice.

While some finishes look great, if they are not durable enough, they can change and look less appealing as years pass.

Oil-rubbed-bronze has a very artistic look however it must be noted that this is a “living finish” that changes over time. This finish process can also have variations in appearance for the same products upon delivery and will very likely be visible between different products, manufacturers and base metals. Aged bronze should be considered as an alternative to oil-rubbed-bronze because this finish lasts longer.

2) Base Material/Geographic Region:

The base material/metal is very important to consider. See FERROUS and NON-FERROUS METAL definitions below. Stainless steel hinges should always be used on the exterior of buildings.

Coastal regions with lots of moisture and salt are a challenge. Bright chrome, oil-rubbed-bronze or powder coats should be considered in these regions.

Sunbelt areas with extreme UV rays degrade clear coating finishes. Chrome or oil-rubbed-bronze should be considered in these regions.

FERROUS METALS: Ferrous metals are those metals that are primarily composed of iron and have magnetic properties in them. Some common ferrous metals include alloy steel, carbon steel, cast iron and wrought iron. These metals are easily recycled.

NON-FERROUS METALS: Non-Ferrous Metals do not contain Iron, are not magnetic and are usually more resistant to corrosion than ferrous metals. Some examples of Non-Ferrous Metals we deal with are: Aluminium & Aluminium Alloys, Copper, Brass, Lead, Zinc, Stainless Steel, Electrical Cable.

3) Matching Finishes:

In many instances’ door hardware is desired to match other products such as plumbing and lighting. This may be difficult due to the limited finishes that are available to match items such as lighting. Many finishes are not used for door hardware due to lack of durability and/or being too cost-prohibitive to produce.

										
605 US3 Bright Brass	606 US4 Satin Brass	609 US5 Antique Brass	612 US10 Satin Bronze	613 US10B Oil Rubbed Bronze	619 US15 Satin Nickel	625 US26 Bright Chrome	626 US26D Satin Chrome	629 US32 Bright Stainless Steel	630 US32D Satin Stainless Steel	643*/716 US11 Aged Bronze