

PRESS RELEASE

Frame of mind

15 December 2015, Johannesburg: When building or renovating your home, the question of what door and frame to choose will inevitably arise. “We’re often so absorbed in choosing the actual door that we forget to give thought to the frame it will be fixed into,” notes Cobus Lourens, from South Africa’s leading door and window manufacturer Swartland. Cobus believes that it is important to carefully consider your door frames and as such has taken the time to share his knowledge about the various door frames on offer, what to lookout for, and how best to install them.

Assembled and Kit-Form Frames

Doors, door frames and accessories are often sold separately, giving you the choice to buy elements that suits your functional and aesthetic considerations. “When choosing a door frame, pre-made door frames are particularly favorable as they come ready to install, saving you time and giving you peace of mind that they have been assembled correctly,” advises Cobus. When making your choice, remember to determine the size of the opening you require, and weigh up the technical requirements of the frame so that it interacts with your door and other equipment accordingly.

“Swartland has a wide offering of door frames to suit a variety of requirements, all crafted to perfection,” points out Cobus. The exclusive Cape Culture collection of door frames for example, boast thick solid laminated hardwood sections that provide extra strength and durability, and come with a 10-year guarantee. The frames are fitted with composite gaskets to ensure superior thermal performance by preventing leakage and drafts, complying with SANS 613 (Fenestration Products). Only Cape Culture door frames are offered with priming to the back of the frame. They are also dipped in a mixture of turpentine, linseed oil and pigment to nourish the raw timber before finishing. Door frames are delivered assembled and are ready to fit 42mm to 44mm doors once installed.

The Winstar door frames come in a variety of sizes and applications. They are compliant with building regulations SANS 613 (Fenestration Products) and come with a 5-year guarantee. These solid laminated hardwood frames are also fitted with composite gaskets to ensure superior thermal performance by preventing leakage and drafts. Whilst they are not back-primed like the Cape Culture collection, they are dipped in a the same mixture to nourish the timber. Winstar door frames are delivered assembled and are suitable for a door thickness of 40mm 42mm.

Swartland’s Kayo door frames offer an unbeatable combination of quality and value for money. These solid laminated and finger jointed timber frames are available in hardwood and pine. Unlike the Cape Culture and Winstar collections, Kayo frames do not have gaskets fitted and are not back-primed. Hardwood frames are supplied dipped, whilst pine frames can come dipped or undipped. Kayo door frames can be delivered assembled or in kit form, unassembled to save on storage and transport costs. They are made to fit a

door thickness of 38mm to 40mm and come with a 1-year guarantee.

Top notch

Entryways are hardwearing features in a home, and have to be as durable as they are good looking. “Door frames are highly visible features in the home, so it’s important that they complement the aesthetic of your interior. Over and above style, they also need to withstand the weight of the surrounding wall and daily usage. The last thing one wants is a door frame that warps over time, as this can compromise the entire door and opening,” notes Cobus. He explains how the timber used in Swartland’s door frames is kiln-dried, keeping the wood in perfect balance with atmospheric conditions, which helps minimise the natural movement of wood. “In addition, Swartland’s Ready-2-Fit range of door frames are professionally sealed with a top quality German engineered water-based Maxicare sealant even before they leave the factory, thus saving time on installation and ensuring excellent durability,” points out Cobus.

Quality is key when it comes to door frames, as they need to be stable and durable enough to provide long-lasting performance and beauty. “When buying door frame options, be sure to choose ones that are manufactured to the highest joinery standards and engineered to provide guaranteed performance. Swartland for example, laminates and, in some cases, also finger joints the timber, providing added support and strength to the door frames,” explains Cobus, who believes Swartland’s 100% guarantee on their door frames is a good yardstick to proving just how durable and long-lasting they are.

Spoilt for choice

“As the saying goes, ‘variety is the spice of life’, and this applies to everything, including the door frames you choose,” smiles Cobus, noting how people are looking to stamp their personal style on the smallest of details when designing their homes, and want a wide variety of options to choose from.

When picking a frame, be sure to choose one that matches or complements the door that will be hung in it. “Whilst interior door frames need to withstand a lot of wear and tear, exterior door frames have to withstand the elements. As a result, there’s more flexibility when it comes to choosing what type of wood you wish to use for your internal door frames, really taking aesthetics into consideration,” notes Cobus.

Swartland offers a wide variety of finishes to choose from, with the Ready-2-Fit frames being available in five colour tints: White, Mahogany, Imbuia, Teak and Light Oak. “Our colour selection makes it easy to find door frames that suit your taste and match existing door frames throughout your home,” explains Cobus. The other benefit of the Ready-2-Fit range of products is that they are low-maintenance, simply requiring a wash and wipe down with Swartland’s special maintenance kit products.

“Once you’ve chosen the colour that works for you, you can further personalise your door frames by hand picking accessories such as fan lights, arches, side lights and top lights,”

nods Cobus, adding that customers can even design their own frame for a custom application that's totally unique.

Tips for installing a door frame

Installing a door frame requires time and precision. But with some research and the right tools at hand it can be a breeze. "Swartland's range of door frames have been designed so that they are as easy to install as they are on the eye," nods Cobus. Here are his handy installation hints:

- Ensure your door frames are tied to the brickwork during building work with adequately spaced ties on each side.
- Door frames must be built in plumb and square with a pre-stressed lintel overhead to bear the weight of the bricks.
- Position door frames at a height that takes into consideration the finished floor level. This will prevent excessive height trimming when fitting doors.
- Adequately support the door frames during building. Stretchers/struts/braces, must be kept in place until walls are dry to prevent movement and inward sagging.
- Once built in, protect your door frames with boards to prevent damage from wheelbarrows and other equipment.

For sales enquiries, contact Swartlands National Call Centre on 0861 10 24 25, or visit www.swartland.co.za to find out more product information and to download our sustainability report.

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