Oxidation/
Chalking cleaning
and maintenance

“Composite and fiberglass products are low-maintenance and easy to care for, they will perform their best with some occasional attention. In rare cases, products can be affected by solar energy or chemicals that can cause a change in color – including fading, darkening or yellowing. In most climates and with many mild chemicals, a change may not even be noticed. In other cases, however, the color change may be more dramatic and become cause for concern.

A chalky white substance on your patio doors panels maybe caused by oxidation, which occurs most often during damp or wet weather. Oxidation can be cleaned from most doors, but the process can be time-consuming and labor-intensive.”

Suggested cleaning and maintenance...

1. Rinse with a light spray of water to remove dust, dirt and debris. Use a garden hose and spray the water downward to avoid getting any beneath the door panels, where it can damage the floor beneath.

2. Wear safety glasses to avoid spraying cleaning solution into your eyes as you work. Mix 5 cups of vinegar into 1 gallon of hot water, and pour some of this solution into a spray bottle.

3. Apply the vinegar and water solution onto a small section of trim and scrub with a long-handle, soft-bristle cleaning brush. Work from the bottom of the trim up to avoid streaking. Sections of about 10 feet or less are usually easier to work with than larger sections, because the vinegar and water solution won’t have time to dry on the panels before you rinse.

4. Hose off the trim with a gentle spray of clean water, again spraying downward.

5. Continue to spray and scrub the oxidation until you have cleaned all of the trim. Use a ladder to reach sections of trim on the upper levels of your home.

6. HPVD handle sets should be wiped down with a non-abrasive, clean, damp cloth once a month. The protective coating on the HPVD handle sets naturally have a dull appearance. Do not attempt to polish the HPVD handle set as it will destroy the protective finish.”