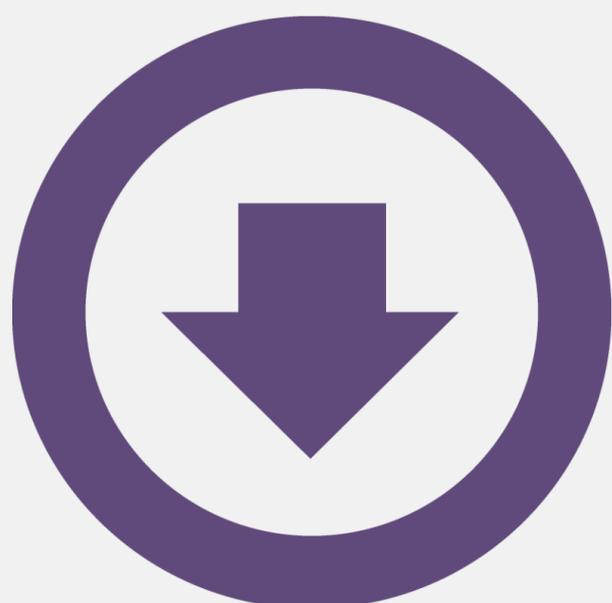


How to Update a Fire Rated Labeled Door

LAFORCE^{INC}



Do not paint over the fire label!
If a fire rated label is painted over, the door is no longer compliant until the label is again readable.

Removing paint from a label can be difficult.

A good suggestion: cover the label with masking or painters tape before painting, so you can just peel off the tape once the painting is complete.

If there are holes to be filled prior to painting, the existing holes smaller than 3/4" in steel fire rated doors can only be filled with like material (steel). There are a few ways of doing this. You fill the holes with a steel screw and grind off the head or you could weld the hole and grind it smooth.

You cannot fill a hole with Bondo or fire stop material. Bondo can be used to "smooth" out a door surface but not to fill holes. If you have holes bigger than 3/4", the fire door may need to be reapproved.



If you are replacing existing hardware with new hardware that is not exactly the same application, the holes that are left from the existing hardware need to be filled with steel screws or by welding the holes (see above).

Once the door is painted, the hardware is applied and extras are being added to the door, remember, only certain things can be added to the door's surface per fire code. Anything you install on a fire door must meet code. This is especially important when talking about kick plates.

Kick plates that go more than 16" above the bottom of the door must be UL rated. Also, signage applied to the face of a fire door is limited to no more than 5% of the doors surface. These signs need to be attached with adhesive. Nails and screws are not approved ways of attaching a sign.

Interested in learning more?

Check out the "LaForce Frame of Mind" blog, at www.laforceinc.wordpress.com.

LAFORCE^{INC}