

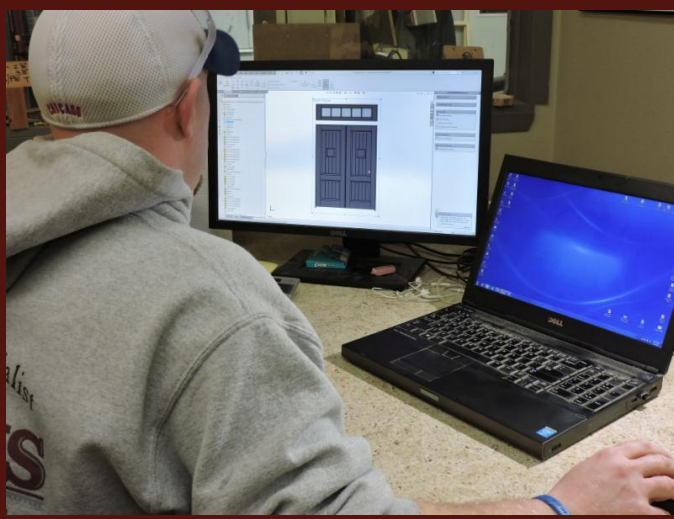
This month we are highlighting a beautiful specie of wood--Knotty Alder. Found in northwestern United States, it provides a rustic look to any style door. The wood maintains an even color, however, it takes stain unevenly because of sap wood. This variation in coloring provides even more dimension when combined with the knots and burls found in the wood.



These are the completed double doors with no stain or finish. The left image shows the outside view of the doors and astragal; the right image shows the interior view. There is a speak-easy on each door, set off with black hinges and slide bolt for opening and securing.

Project Details

We were provided a photo of a door that the customer wanted to replicate as a set of double doors. These 36" x 96" doors feature a speak easy and v-grooves in the panels. (Be sure to check out our Facebook page where you can see the panel edges being cut on the CNC!)



Our CAD drafter creates a 3-D drawing of every door that we make. It is provided to each customer for approval before fabrication. Using the CAD system, we can see what the finished door will look like and it provides us with accurate specifications for the shop.



Stiles and rails waiting for assembly.

Fairly easy to work with, Knotty Alder is a wood specie where you need to be mindful of the end cuts so that it does not split. We were also diligent in selecting cut lines in order to avoid knots along the edges. This custom door is made more unique with the knots and whorls in the wood grain.



Stiles and rails glued up.

Speak-easys became prominently used during the Prohibition era, but are reminiscent of castles or Mediterranean villas. They are a great accent for a rustic style door. You can see a few stages in the process of creating the speak-easy. We used a weatherstripping seal to keep it air tight. Ensuring everything lines up perfectly is necessary and can be seen in the finished, close up view! Our customer wanted this to remain open, however, we could easily include a piece of tempered glass with or without the speak-easy door.



To complete the impressive look of the entrance, this double door includes a transom fabricated from Knotty Alder that contains five tru-divided lites. Below is the view from the interior. The grooves found near the outside edge of the unit as well as near the tru-divided lites is an additional design feature that was included to bring cohesion between the V-grooves of the doors and transom.



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You can click on the following link to view a few projects that we have completed in the past:

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