

UNDERSTANDING GRIDS, WELDED DOORS, AND FAUX DOORS

When it comes to glass doors, it's important to know the differences between grids, welded doors, and faux doors. These terms are often confused, but each has its own construction, appearance, and limitations.

1. Grids

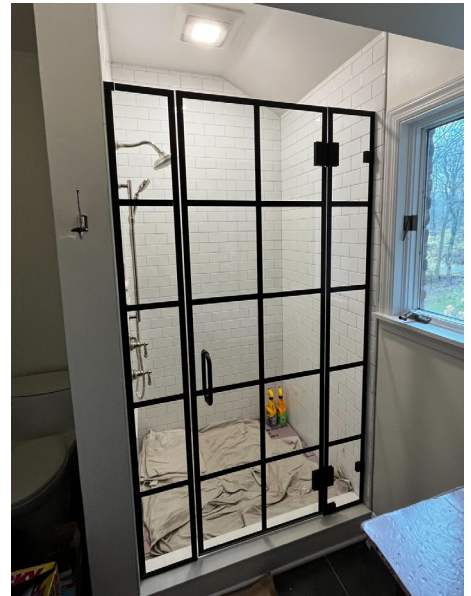
Grids are decorative elements that give glass doors a “divided lite” look, similar to traditional windowpanes.

Types of Grids:

- **Faux Grids (VHB Applied):** Strips applied to the glass surface using VHB tape.
- **Digital Grids (Ceramic Paint):** Grids digitally printed directly onto the glass with ceramic paint for a clean, seamless look.
- **Grids on Welded Doors:** A welded door can also include grids, where the glass is surrounded by jambs for a more enclosed appearance and seal.

Key Limitation: Surrounding jambs prevent the door from swinging both ways.

Swing Options: Inward swing (except shower doors) or outward swing.



2. Welded Doors

A welded door is built with a fully welded metal frame—jambs, head, and threshold all connected into one solid structure. This creates a tighter seal and a more enclosed design.



Types of Welded Doors:

- **True Welded Door:** Entire front and back of the glass are framed, with surrounding jambs for a more enclosed seal.
- **Welded Door with Grids:** Same as above, but with decorative grids added.

Swing Options: Inward (except shower doors) or outward.

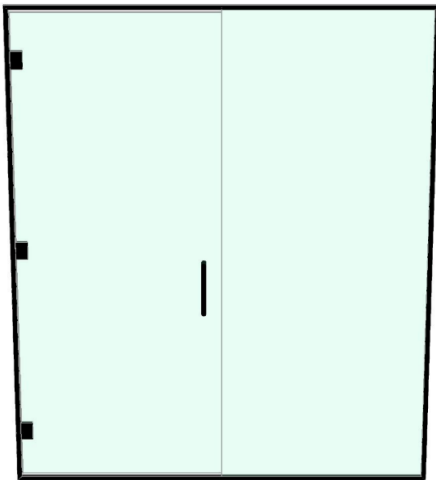
Key Limitation: Surrounding jambs prevent the door from swinging both ways.

3. Faux Doors

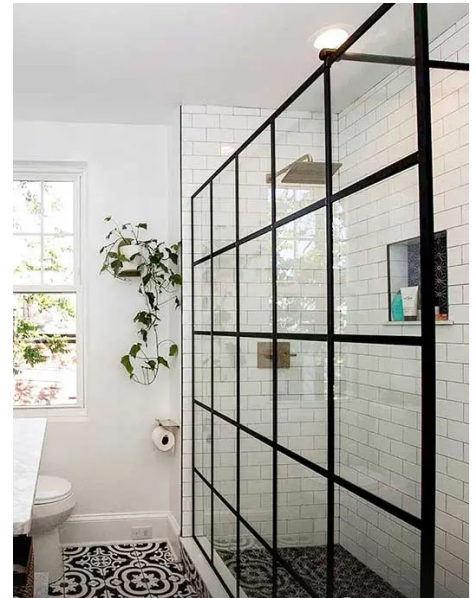
Faux doors are designed to mimic the appearance of welded doors, without the cost or full welded frame.

Types of Faux Doors:

- **Faux Welded (U-Channel):** A u-channel is applied around the perimeter of the glass to imitate the look of a welded frame.
- **Faux Digital (Ceramic Paint):** Ceramic paint is applied around the edges of the glass to create the illusion of a framed door.



Key Note: Faux doors provide the look of welded doors but do not perform the same in terms of enclosure or seal.



4. Temperature-Controlled Insight

For **wine rooms, humidity rooms, or steam rooms**, concerns often come up about seals and gaps.

- **Our Experience:** Seals and gaps generally do not have a significant impact on maintaining temperature.
- **Practical Effect:** The more gaps, the more frequently the HVAC unit will need to run.
- **HVAC Expert Insight:** In many cases, units may run continuously—this is not problematic.
- **Key Note:** Even with welded doors and seals, depending on the room size and HVAC system, the unit may still run continuously.

The real consideration is not whether the system cycles off, but whether it maintains the desired environment.

Key Takeaway

- Grids are purely a design feature and can be added in different ways (taped, printed, or incorporated into welded frames).
- Welded Doors are fully framed for a more enclosed seal and refined look, with optional grids.
- Faux Doors create the illusion of welded framing without the same enclosure.
- Temperature Control: Seals and gaps don't make or break performance. The HVAC system, if sized properly, will do its job—even if it runs continuously.