Making a Custom ArchiCAD Door Panel

1) Model the door in your floor plan as if it was laying down flat on the ground. The bottom of the door should face the bottom of the sheet, the top should face the top. Use the 3D tools such as the Slab and Wall Tools to create the panel and details on the panel. Cut openings and insert thinner slabs to make glass or recessed panels.
2) Make the door panel the exact size it needs to be using the correct colored materials. If you need several panel sizes or several material variations for this panel, make one for each variation. Panels made this way cannot be resized without distorting their shape and the Material parameters don't apply to custom panels.
3) Select just the door panel items via selection or a single story Marquee. View the door panel only in 3D to make sure it looks correct.
4) When you are ready to save the panel: Go to "3D Projection Settings" in the "Image Menu". Make sure you are in the Axonometric type views. Position the camera at the bottom of the preview-270 degrees. Set the View Type Pop up to "Top View". Hit OK.
5) In the 3D Window the panel should appear as if you are looking straight at it from the side-in other words an elevation view.
6) From the "File Menu" select "GDL Objects" and from the sub-menu choose "Save 3D Model as…"
7) A Save Dialogue comes up. The format should be preset to "ArchiCAD Object File". Give this object a unique name and save it to your Job Library Folder. We usually add our job number to the name of Job Library objects-example: "0502-LIB-Door Panel 1". Write down the name or better yet copy it from the file name portion of the Save dialogue box.
8) A "Save as Library Part" dialogue box comes up. Save as "an Object" should be selected. Make sure "Remove redundant lines from symbol" is checked off, as well as "Non-editable binary 3D data."
9) Go to your door tool and select the door you want to use. Go to the "Door Panel Parameters" portion of the parameter list. Select the Custom Panel option from the pop up list. This will create a new field called "Custom Panel Name" immediately below.
10) Type the door panel name EXACTLY as you saved it (or paste it in the field). Do not use the ".GSM" file extension from the name-just the file name.
11) You should see your custom panel in the 3D previews for the object. You can apply door hardware to these panels. Remember that you'll need to make multiple panels to suit different sizes or material needs.

If this panel is for one job: store it in your Job Library. If you will use it on multiple jobs: put it in your Office Library.