



Timber Side-Hinged Garage Doors

Installation / Fitting Instructions

1. Safety & Preparation

Safety First

- Two people recommended (doors are heavy)
- Wear gloves and safety footwear
- Use eye protection when drilling
- Ensure power tools are in good condition

Check Before You Start

- Opening is square, level, and plumb
 - Floor is solid and level
 - Opening size matches door size (allowing for frame)
 - Timber doors stored flat in a dry area before fitting
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2. Tools Required

- Spirit level (600mm & 1200mm)
 - Tape measure
 - Drill & masonry/wood bits
 - Screwdriver or impact driver
 - Packers / shims
 - Fixings (frame fixings or coach screws)
 - Hammer & mallet
 - Square
 - Pencil
 - Silicone sealant / weatherproof seal
 - Wedges
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3. Components Supplied

Typical kit includes:

- Pre-assembled or loose timber frame
- 2x side-hinged doors
- Hinges (usually pre-fitted)
- Lock & handle set.
- Shoot bolts (if included)
- Weather strips
- Fixing pack

4. Preparing the Opening

1. **Measure opening width & height! (Prior to installation and check with order)**
2. Check:
 - Vertical sides are plumb.
 - Floor is level.
 - Lintel is straight.
3. Clear any debris.
4. Dry-fit the frame to confirm size.

 *Tip: Always measure diagonally — both diagonals should match.*

5. Frame Installation

Step 1 – Assemble Frame (if supplied loose)

- Fix head to side jambs.
- Ensure corners are square.
- Do not fully tighten yet.

Step 2 – Position Frame

- Place frame into opening.
- Use packers at:
 - Bottom corners
 - Mid-points
 - Top corners
- Check:
 - Plumb (side to side)
 - Level (top)
 - Square (diagonals equal)

Step 3 – Fix Frame

- Drill through frame into masonry.
- Fix using frame fixings or coach screws.
- Do not overtighten (prevents twisting)

 Recommended fixings:

- 2–3 per side
 - 2 across head
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6. Hanging the Doors

Step 1 – Fit Hinges (if not pre-fitted)

- Usually 3 hinges per door
- Ensure hinge knuckles align vertically.

Step 2 – Hang Doors

- Offer door into frame.
- Insert hinge screws loosely.
- Check gaps:
 - **5-7 mm between door middle meeting rails very important**
 - Even gap around frame

Step 3 – Adjust

- Adjust hinges until:
 - Doors swing freely.
 - Meet evenly in centre.
 - No binding on floor or frame
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7. Locks, Bolts & Furniture

Centre Lock

- Fit lock body (if not already Fitted) and handles
- Ensure latch aligns with strike plate.

Shoot Bolts (if fitted)

- Fix top and bottom bolts.
- Drill receiving holes in frame/floor.
- Check smooth operation.

Final Checks

- Doors open fully.
 - No resistance or rubbing.
 - Lock engages smoothly.
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8. Weather Sealing

- Fit weather strip around frame
 - Apply silicone sealant:
 - Around external frame
 - Along threshold
 - Check no daylight visible
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9. Final Adjustments

- ✓ Doors open evenly
 - ✓ No sagging
 - ✓ Locks secure
 - ✓ Gaps consistent
 - ✓ Weatherproof seal intact
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10. Aftercare & Maintenance

- Treat timber annually with exterior wood preserver (if required)
- Lubricate hinges yearly.
- Check fixings after first few weeks.
- Re-seal if movement occurs.

Important Note.

Common issues that may occur include as below (As these issues are not covered by Warranty or Guarantee)

- **Door misalignment** – If the frame is not square or has shifted over time, the doors may drop or twist, resulting in uneven gaps or difficulty in opening and closing.
- **Binding or sticking doors** – Seasonal expansion of the timber can cause the doors to bind against the frame or floor, particularly in damp or cold weather.
- **Locking and latching problems** – Misalignment often prevents locks, shoot bolts, or keeps from lining up correctly, making the doors difficult or impossible to secure.
- **Excessive gaps or daylight ingress** – Movement in the frame or door leaf can cause gaps to appear, reducing weather resistance and security.
- **Warping or twisting of door leaves** – Prolonged exposure to moisture or poor sealing can cause timber to distort, leading to permanent deformation.
- **Premature wear of hinges and fixings** – When doors are under tension due to poor alignment, excessive strain is placed on hinges and fixings, which may loosen or fail over time.
- **Water ingress and deterioration** – Inadequate sealing or movement of the frame can allow water penetration, accelerating timber decay and reducing the lifespan of the doors.

It is important to note that correct installation is essential to avoid these issues. This includes ensuring the frame is installed square and level, allowing appropriate expansion gaps, using suitable fixings, and applying proper weather sealing. **Ongoing maintenance, including periodic adjustment and timber treatment, is also necessary to accommodate natural movement over time.**

Given the above, it is reasonable to conclude that many of the problems experienced with timber side-hinged doors are not defects in the product itself but are instead the result of installation tolerances not being met or environmental movement affecting the structure after installation.