



Garage door track FAQs

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Are there differences among tracks?

Garage door tracks are chosen in relation to the door's characteristics. They are of different sizes in terms of length, width and thickness. There are plain steel or galvanized tracks as well as vertical, horizontal and curved tracks. You can also find low gauge steel tracks.

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Why do tracks get misaligned?

Tracks are mounted with screws, which most likely will become loose at some point. In this case, the garage door tracks will lose their initial position. They'll also get misaligned if they're hit by a car or another heavy object. In any case, they must be fixed right away.

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How often should I replace tracks?

If maintained properly, garage door tracks will last for many years. Our technicians say that tracks made of plain steel will eventually rust. These ones will need replacement. Although dents are often fixed, seriously damaged tracks should also be replaced. They must be checked often.

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Are bent tracks fixed?

It depends on the extent of the problem. Small dents or slight bending is often fixable. If garage door tracks are extensively damaged, it's best for you to have them replaced or the door might jam. Bent tracks will keep the door from moving right and produce noise.

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Can I install new tracks on my own?

It's not very difficult to remove the old tracks and install the new ones, though the new garage door tracks must be perfectly aligned and installed in the right place. If they aren't, the door might bind, make noise or jam.

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Do tracks erode overtime?

If the garage door tracks are made of steel, they will eventually erode. So, most tracks today are made of galvanized steel. These ones won't erode unless they are scratched. In this case, steel will be exposed to oxygen which causes erosion. Our experts recommend lubricating galvanized tracks.

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Can I align tracks alone?

At a first glance, it seems easy to loosen up the screws, put the tracks in their initial position and tighten the screws, but if you fail to put them in their exact position, the door will not move correctly. Apart from making noise, it might also bind or jam.

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Why does the door get off tracks?

Since the garage door moves on rollers, which sit on tracks, it's actually the wheels that pop off the track. This usually happens when the tracks aren't aligned or have become loose, dented, or are the wrong size. Such problems must be fixed properly or you'll continue having the same issue.

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How do I choose new tracks?

When it's time to replace any garage door part, you must know the weight of your door. This will determine which tracks you need. Choose tracks of the right length, thickness and width. It's best to get galvanized ones to avoid erosion at a later stage.

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What are vertical tracks?

There are horizontal, curved and vertical tracks. Since the overhead door moves from the floor all the way up along the ceiling, there must be tracks where rollers will travel. The vertical ones are the tracks found on the two side walls at the door opening.

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Can I get low gauge tracks?

Yes, there are low gauge steel garage door tracks on the market. These ones are much stronger and more resistant than average tracks. As our specialists explain, low gauge steel tracks are useful to households in hurricane-prone areas. If it gets very windy in your location, they are recommended.

What are the most common track problems?

Since vertical garage door tracks are installed on both sides of overhead doors, they can be damaged easily (by heavy objects, the car, etc.). Tracks bend, are dented and get misaligned. In any case, they must be repaired right away or the door won't move properly.

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