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Doors

Minimum information needed to quote door:

What is the size of the door?

What type of door would best meet your needs?

- Standard Entry Door
- Standard Entry Door with side lites
- Patio Door
- French Door
- Sliding Patio Door
- Storm Door
- Garage Door

How thick are the walls? Jamb extensions?

What type of materials will the door be constructed from?

- Fiberglass
- Steel
- Wood

How will the door be finished? What color or stain will the door be?

Two toned? Interior finish= Exterior finish=

How will the door be trimmed out?

- Interior trim
- Exterior trim

What options would you like to have in your door?

- Type of glass and glass options
 - Leaded glass
 - Obscure glass
 - Tinted glass
 - Safety glass
 - Energy Efficient glass
 - Grids/muttin external or internal
 - Blinds between the glass

Type and finish of hardware?

Operation of door?

Security features?

ADA Concerns?

Fire Rated doors?

What type of locks and security options:

Single Bore (no dead bolt)

Double Bore

Multi latch lock.

There are many options that are available. When it comes to door lock sets, we recommend Schlage because most doors are made to accommodate them. However, listed below are a few suggestions of what to think about when making your selection.

Keyless locks that have remotes or work from a smart phone

Combination locks that allow for a code to be entered.

Remember to match the finish of the locks to the hardware of the door.

Other considerations of things to do at the time of replacing a door:

1. Have all the other locks on the house taken down so that the key matches all of the doors.
2. Painting the interior or exterior sections near the door; because, once the old trim has been removed there could be old visible paint lines.
3. Upgrade your trim to a larger profile to avoid having to paint areas because of old paint lines
4. New door bell system
5. House numbers
6. Security system: Should be removed before scheduled install date. We don't uninstall or reinstall the security system.
7. Storm doors: Not all storm doors can be reused from the existing door to the new door.

Considerations for choosing a door:

The construction of the door should be first and foremost when choosing which door you will move forward with. There is a saying in the door industry "do you want to buy your first door or your last door".

When considering steel doors, which are the most common entry door, you should factor the gauge of the metal, which refers to the thickness of the door. The lower the number, the thicker the metal on the door (thicker is better). Any door at least 24 gauge would be considered a good steel door. Typically, the doors on the shelf at box stores are between 26 and 28 gauge. Although it may seem counter intuitive, the thicker metal doors will have a higher energy efficiency rating because the metal is thick enough to support itself. What this means is that a thinner metal door has to have wood or other fillers that are not good insulators. The heavier gauge doors can be completely foam filled, reducing the amount of thermal bridging.

When considering fiberglass doors, which have become more popular in recent years, it's not as easy to tell what's good and what's not so much. We have partnered with manufacturers who have been around and stand behind what they produce. Because fiberglass doors are designed with durability and efficiency in mind, the upfront cost could be worth the investment.

When considering a wood door, there are multiple factors that should be given some thought. Of all the doors that will be on this list, real wood doors are going to be the least efficient and require the most maintenance. Species of wood used to construct the door will play a role in the longevity of the door, but the finish and the maintenance will play a larger role. In the Midwest we go through periods of high heat with high humidity. This could cause a door

that hasn't been properly maintained or sealed to swell, causing them to stick.

Vinyl doors will typically be either sliding patio doors, or patio doors. Vinyl doors offer high energy efficiency and are usually a more economical choice. It is important to understand that like windows, vinyl doors are not all made equal. A good vinyl door will be enhanced with some type of metal, such as aluminum or stainless steel to reinforce the frame from deflection. Fusion welded frames are also a sign that the product is going to be of better quality.

Regardless of which door you choose to complete your project, there are also a few other critical elements to the door which should also be considered. Hinges!

Any of the doors discussed above will be heavy if they are of quality.

To ensure that your door will operate correctly for many years, you will want to make sure that your door has the correct amount of hinges and the right type of hinges. Ball bearing hinges are a good sign that you are looking at a quality door. Adjustable ball bearing hinges are even better. They will allow for fine tune adjustments that may need to be made in the future.

Doors Q & A

1. What concerns should I be thinking about when it comes to replacing my Door?

The number one reason a door or window fails is because it was installed wrong. Failures come in many forms. The obvious would be that the door isn't shutting correctly or the locks won't match up to the latches. The biggest thing that we see that goes unnoticed for long periods of time is that the doors weren't installed with the proper flashing. There is z-bar flashing that can be seen above the top brick mold of the door if it was installed, but the one that is often left out is the sill pan flashing which goes under the door.

2. How long should it take to install a door?

- a. Entry Door = 4 hrs
- b. Patio Door = 6hrs
- c. Storm Door = 2hrs
- d. Garage Door = 6hrs
- e. French door = 8hrs

There are always exceptions and variables that can require more time. The better quality the door is will usually allow for an easier install.

3. Is there a time of year that is better for installing doors than others?

Not really. If the crew has exercised a little forward thinking, the preparation and verification part will have been done, and everything will be staged so that the opening is only open for about ten or fifteen minutes. The only thing that would cause that opening to have to be opened for a longer duration of time, is if the subfloor has been compromised due to water infiltration.

4. How long does it take from the time I decide to move forward to the time my door gets installed?

It depends on the door. If the door is a common door without a lot of upgrades it can be a fairly quick process, generally less than a week. If it's a highly customized door it could take upto two months.

5. Can I reuse my existing locks if I get a new door?

Yes you can reuse an existing lock set, but they don't always match up and may require the door or jamb to be mortise out.

(Mortise - a slot or a recess, usually rectangular, cut into a piece of wood; like a notch for a hinge on a door)