

How to Paint the Garage Door

Both wood and **steel garage doors** require protection from the surrounding environment and more specifically from moisture. One of the best ways to provide it is to apply paint. Find out how to do the painting properly to get the best possible result.

Paint Selection and Testing

Check what type of paint the manufacturer of your door recommends - This is important since the different models have different makes. The modern insulated steel units usually require latexbased product to be used. In any case, you have to get external-grade paint which is made to withstand the various negative impacts of the harsh outdoor environment.

Test the paint on a small section of the door before you begin the project - Apply the product and wait for it to dry. Then inspect the layer carefully. It should be smooth and even. It must not have bubbles or cracks. Apply a piece of sticky tape to the painted part and remove it quickly. There should not be any traces of the material on the tape. If necessary, switch to another product.

## The Right Timing

Schedule the project for a day which is sunny and fairly warm and confirm that it will not rain in the next couple of days - Generally, early summer is typically the best time for painting the **garage door panels**, but you have to take into account the specific conditions in your area. It is essential for the weather to be dry for the paint to bond properly with the door's surface. At the same time, it should not be too hot outside as this may affect the properties of the surface.

Choose a time of day when the door does not get direct sunlight - This will help for the adhesion of the paint. Still, it is not a mandatory condition.

## **Proper Preparation**

Clean the panels thoroughly - Use warm water with household detergent dissolved in it. Make sure that the detergent is based on trisodium phosphate. This ingredient is available separately as well. Use a sponge to remove the dirt from all panels and the sides of the unit. Rinse the panels with water and let them dry. Remember to disengage the **garage door opener** before doing the work. Gather all necessary tools and materials - You will need a two-inch nylon brush, a bucket a roller and a roller tray. Calculate how much paint you will need based on the size of your door.

Cover the surrounding areas - Apply specially designed tape on the areas which are in direct contact with the panels and which you do not want to be painted. Use one or more pieces of canvas to cover the floor.

The Painting Process

Prepare the paint - Follow the manufacturer's instructions closely to ensure that you will make the material fully ready for application.

Begin with the edges and the recessed parts - Dip the brush into the bucket confirm that there is no dripping. Apply the paint to the edges of the door and to the recessed sections of the panels. This is important since you will not be able to cover them properly with the roller. Try to apply the paint evenly with as few passes as possible.

Complete the work with the roller - Add some paint into the tray and dip the roller in it. Roll it a bit to ensure that it gets the maximum possible amount of the material. Use the roller to paint the remaining **garage door parts**. You should not push it too hard against the surface.

Finally, you should let the door dry for as long as necessary. Remove the protective painter's tape only after the unit is fully ready to be used again.

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