

Homeowner's Guide to Door Installation in Snohomish & King County

A homeowner checklist for Door Installation

Pre-Purchase Measurements

- Measure the exact width of the old door slab.
- Measure the exact height of the old door slab.
- Measure the thickness of the door (usually 1 3/8" for interior, 1 3/4" for exterior).
- Measure from the top of the door to the top of each hinge.
- Measure from the door edge to the center of the doorknob hole.
- Note the 'swing direction' (e.g., inswing, left-hand). Stand with your back to the hinges; whichever hand you use to open the door is the 'hand' of the door.

Frame & Opening Health Check

- Check the rough opening for plumb (vertical level) on both sides.
- Check the rough opening for level at the top and bottom (sill).
- Measure the opening diagonally from corner to corner. The two measurements should be very close.
- Poke the wood of the door jamb and subfloor with a screwdriver, checking for soft spots (rot).
- Look for any water stains or discoloration on the subfloor or walls near the door.
- Examine exterior siding and trim for cracks, gaps, or damage near the door.
- Photograph any

Exterior Door Installation Critical Path

- Confirm a sill pan is installed or has been created with flexible flashing.
- Verify flashing is installed correctly (bottom piece first, then sides, then top).
- Check that the pre-hung unit is shimmed plumb and level before fastening.
- Photograph the rough opening with flashing installed, before the door goes in.
- Apply sealant behind the exterior trim/brickmould before nailing it in place.
- Test the door's swing and latching action before final fastening.
- Confirm the door has an even gap all the way around when closed.

Want us to handle it? Schedule a \$499 Home Health Assessment.

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