



Garage door spring FAQs

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Why do springs break?

Garage door springs are made of coils and designed to extend and contract. Their tension helps the door to move. Every time the door goes up and down, springs lose some of this tension and eventually get worn. Most of them are designed to last for ten 10,000 cycles.

2

Should I install safety cables?

Safety cables are installed in extension garage door spring systems for protection. So, yes installing them is smart, according to our experts. They lace through each spring and keep it from getting loose in the garage should the spring coils break. This way, you will avoid extension spring related accidents.

3

Why is there a shaft going through the torsion spring?

The shaft is a rod, which runs through the spring. Since most springs are flexible, they need the shaft to keep them in one place. The torsion spring extends across the shaft as it winds and unwinds to move the door.

4

Why are extension springs replaced together?

Each extension spring is installed at each door side. Since one of their jobs is to counterbalance the door, they must both have equal power. If one of them breaks, they are both replaced so that the door won't have to operate with one weak and one strong spring.

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What do we mean by spring adjustment?

Garage door springs are coiled, and extend and contract to move the door. They release tension in order to open the heavy door and, in turn, they lose some of their power. Tension is added by making adjustments so that the door will be properly balanced.

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How do extension springs work?

Extension springs are coiled. The coils are extended when the door is shut – it's like stretching a regular, small sized spring with your hands. In this position, they are under a lot of tension. For the door to open, they release this tension and the coils are contracted.

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Why do we balance the door by adjusting the springs?

Springs counterbalance the garage door before they lift it so that it will open evenly on both sides. Our technicians say that when there is a small gap under the door or the door does not move evenly, spring tension is added or released.

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What are the oil-tempered springs?

Not all springs are made the same way. Some are stronger and some are larger. They must be suitable for the specific garage door. Oil-tempered springs are heated in high temperatures during their manufacture. Once cooled, they are re-heated. This way, they are highly resistant.

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How often should I replace my springs?

Springs for average residential garage doors are manufactured to last for about 10,000 cycles. Each cycle includes the full opening/closing of the door. If the door moves approximately 5 times daily, springs will last for about 5 years. It's best to replace them before they break.

10

Should I lubricate springs?

Yes, garage door springs must be lubricated since they are made of steel and move constantly. Lubricants reduce noises and keep them from eroding. A few drops of lubricants will suffice according to our experts. Use your palm to distribute the oil evenly across the spring coils.

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Are all springs the same?

No, there are differences among torsion and extension garage door springs, between residential and commercial springs, and also differences among brands. Since they must have enough power to lift the door, they're of different sizes. Some are more flexible than others and are also installed in a different way.

Why should I replace springs before they break?

Springs last for a specific period of time – usually around 10,000 cycles! It's best to replace them before they break not only for better door operation, but also for safety reasons. If your springs suddenly break, the open door will abruptly collapse, and this could cause serious injuries.

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