

## Finishing and Installing Your Interior Door

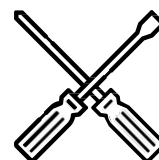
### A Step-by-Step Guide for Homeowners

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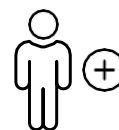
#### Remove the Old Door

1. Place a screwdriver under the bottom hinge pin and gently tap it with a hammer until the pin loosens. Do the same with the other hinges, ending the top one.

If the pins are stuck, apply a lubricant like WD-40 and let it sit for a few minutes before trying again.



2. Once all hinge pins are removed, carefully lift the door off the hinges. It's helpful to have a second person hold the door steady during this step.



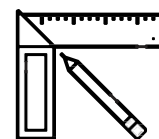
3. Remove the hinges and doorknob from the old door. Store them in a labeled bag or container to keep everything organized if you plan to reuse them.

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#### Mark the New Door

1. Lay the old door on a flat surface, such as sawhorses. Place the new door on top and align the top edges and sides. Clamp them together using one clamp near the top and one near the bottom.

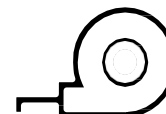
If the old door has a beveled edge, ensure the new door's bevel faces the same direction.



2. Use a speed square to transfer the hinge locations from the old door to the new one. Mark the hinge outlines clearly.

3. Use a measuring tape to measure from the top of the old door to the center of the doorknob hole. Transfer this measurement to the new door.

4. Measure the width of the doorknob hole on the old door. Divide this number in half, then measure this distance in both directions from the center mark.



5. Extend these lines to the edge of the door using a speed square - this marks where the latch will go.

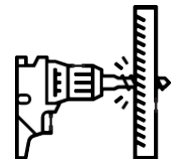
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### A Step-by-Step Guide for Homeowners, cont.

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#### Prepare the New Door

1. First cut the hole for the doorknob. Use a hole saw attachment or a circular drill bit. Position the drill on the center mark and slowly cut through the door.
2. Next, drill the latch hole. Use a 1-inch spade or flat drill bit to drill into the door edge where the latch will go. Test fit the latch to ensure it fits properly.
3. Next, mortise, or cut, out the space for the hinges. Place a hinge within the marked hinge outlines and trace around it. Use a utility knife to score the outline.
4. Use a chisel and carefully chisel out just enough wood so the hinge sits flush with the door.
5. With the hinge in place, mark where the screws will go. Remove the hinge and drill pilot holes (no deeper than 9/64").
6. Use sandpaper to smooth any rough edges, including the hinge mortises and doorknob hole.



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#### Finish the Door

1. Apply paint to all six sides of the door - including the front, back, edges, top, and bottom - to protect the door from moisture, which can cause swelling or warping.
2. Use thin, even coats of paint. Lightly sand between coats for a smooth finish.
3. Use a brush for edges and detailed areas, and a roller for flat surfaces to achieve a professional-looking finish.
4. Follow the paint manufacturer's drying time recommendations before installation to avoid damage.



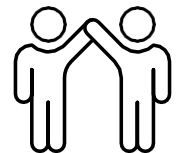
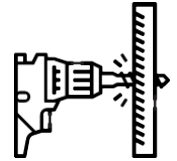
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### A Step-by-Step Guide for Homeowners, cont.

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#### Install the Door

1. Secure the hinges into the mortises with screws. Attach the latch, strike plate, and doorknob according to the manufacturer's instructions.
2. Place shims under the door to slightly lift it, ensuring proper floor clearance.
3. With a helper, lift the door into the frame. Tilt the door slightly and position the bottom first for better control. Align the hinges and insert the top hinge pin first for stability. Follow with the remaining hinge pins.
4. Ensure the latch aligns properly with the strike plate. Adjust the strike plate position slightly if the latch doesn't engage smoothly.
5. Open and close the door to check its swing and fit. Use shims or adjust the hinges if the door isn't level.



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#### Tips for Success



- **Work with a Helper:** Doors can be heavy, and an extra set of hands will make lifting and positioning easier.



- **Double-Check Measurements:** Confirm all dimensions before making cuts or drilling holes to avoid mistakes.



- **Take Your Time:** Rushing can lead to misaligned hinges, uneven paint, or improper fit.