

# Barn Door Hardware

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### What size door do I need?

You will need a door that is slightly wider than the opening in the wall, usually by about 2". The door will also need to be taller than a standard door to reach the rail. Often an 84" door is used where a standard 80" door existed.

### What door style should I use?

The door style is a matter of personal taste from a simple flat slab to reclaimed wood to mirrors and etched glass to exotic hardwoods. Make your door using a Pinterest or YouTube tutorial, find an old antique door on a local marketplace website, purchase one new through a retailer, or have one custom manufactured to your size and liking.

### Why should I buy a hardware kit versus making my own?

Our hardware kits give you a guarantee of mechanical quality that isn't promised when piecing parts together yourself. Our rails and rollers are designed to work with one another and made specifically for interior barn door systems.

### What support will I need for the rail?

The rail should be mounted using multiple lag bolts, one every 16 inches, directly into a header (structural wood support). The header should be attached to the studs behind the drywall. In new construction this can be integrated into the design in place of the standard door trim (moldings). For existing construction, the header is simply hung above the door opening. Proper header installation is important—barn doors are often heavy and if not installed correctly can cause injury or damage to your home.

New Construction Header Example



Exposed Header Example



### How far apart are the pre-drilled mounting holes in the rail?

Pre-drilled rails have a mounting hole every 16".

## Will the pre-drilled holes line up with the studs in my wall?

While wall studs are generally also placed every 16", it's not guaranteed that they'll line up perfectly with the pre-drilled mounting holes in the rail. Even if they do, you'll likely find it difficult to perfectly center the rail above your door opening. Check the location of your studs and their spacing before starting. You'll likely find that a header will be needed for satisfactory installation.

## How do I install the header in existing construction?

There are a couple of ways you can install a header:

- 1) The easiest and most common method is to mount a piece of lumber over the drywall, secured to the underlying header and/or wall studs using lag bolts or wood screws. Once it's hung you can paint the header to match your wall color or your door trim for a finished look.
- 2) Cut away the drywall to the size of the header board and secure it to the underlying header and/or wall studs using lag bolts or wood screws. To maintain a flush-wall look, you'll have to mortise or block in the header, then replace the drywall.

## Do I need to remove the Casing Molding?

You need to consider the depth of the casing molding when planning your header. If you leave the casing molding in on the door opening then your header will need to project far enough to allow your door to clear the casing molding as the door slides.



## Do I need to remove my existing door jamb?

The existing door jamb will no longer be needed, so removing it is simply a style choice. If you want to minimize labor and the jamb being there doesn't bother you, then leave it. Removing it will require some woodwork, sanding, painting, and likely some drywall repair, but the result is a much cleaner and finished look.

If you leave the door Jamb in place you may want to remove the stop molding and strike plate, then fill the hole where the door once latched.



## How tall should my header be?

If the header is exposed, then its height is mostly a matter of style. Just be sure to leave a little bit of space above and below the rail. If you're mounting it behind the drywall then a minimum of 3.5" for a single rail and 7.5" for a bypass rail (two rails).

## What is the weight rating of the barn door hardware?

The barn door kits are tested to ANSI/BMHA 156.14-2018 Grade 1 Durability test at 220 lbs. This means that the hardware will safely hold a door up to 220lbs. Of course, this is completely dependent on the hardware being installed correctly using a properly secured header.

## Are all hardware kits compatible with every type of door?

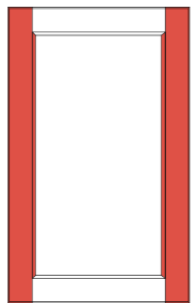
Glass doors, narrow doors, and other certain styles of doors may have narrow stiles that need to be considered when choosing a hanger design and rail length.

Example 1: The hoop-style strap hangers are 5" wide and may not fit non-flat doors.

Example 2: A straight strap hanger is hung an X number of inches in from the edge (see individual instructions for exact measurement) of the door, or for aesthetics mounted in the center of the stile. The width of the stile must be at least the same width as the strap.

Example 3: On a door with narrow stiles, the strap will mount further towards the edges of the door and if your rail is a tight fit there may not be room left for the doorstops.

If your door's stiles become an issue for your strap hanger, you could use top-mount hangers in which case the width of the stile is irrelevant.



STILES



## What length rail kit do I need?

<b><i>Opening Size</i></b>	<b><i>Door Opens to one Side</i></b>	<b><i>Twin Door Open to both Sides</i></b>	<b><i>Twin Doors open to One Side</i></b>
24" (2/0)	60" Rail Kit	Two 60" Rail Kits (One Rail will be extra)	
28" (2/4)	60" Rail Kit	Two 60" Rail Kits (One Rail will be extra)	
30" (2/6)	60" Rail Kit if Flat Door or top Mount, 78-3/4" Door if Narrow Stiles w/Strap Mount Hangers	Two 60" Rail Kits (One Rail will be extra)	
32" (2/8)	78-3/4" Rail Kit	One 78-3/4" Rail Kits and one 60" Rail Kit (Use 78-3/4" Rail)	
36" (3/0)	78-3/4" Rail Kit	One 78-3/4" Rail Kits and one 60" Rail Kit (Use 78-3/4" Rail)	Two 60" Kits w 4/By-pass Brackets
42" (3/6)	96" Rail Kit	One 96" Rail Kits and one 60" Rail Kit (Use 96" Rail)	Two 78-3/4"Kits w/5 By-pass Brackets
48" (4/0)	96" Rail Kit	One 96" Rail Kits and one 60" Rail Kit (Use 96" Rail)	Two 78-3/4" Kits w/5 By-pass Brackets
60" (5/0)	120" Rail Kit	Two 60" Rail Kits and one Joiner Plate kit	Two 96" Kits w/6 By-pass Brackets
72" (6/0)	120" Rail Kit with 24" Extension Kit	Two 60" Rail Kits, one 24" Extension kit and one Joiner Plate kit	Two 120" Kits w/8 By-pass Brackets
84" (7/0)	120" Rail Kit with Two 24" Extension Kits	Two 96" Rail Kits and one Joiner Plate kit	Two 120" Kits, Two 24" Extension Kits w/10 By-Pass Brackets
96" (8/0)		Two 96" Rail Kits and One Joiner Plate kit	Two 120" Kits, Two 24" Extension Kits w/10 By-Pass Brackets
120" (10/0)		Two 120" Rail Kits and One Joiner Plate kit	Two 120" Kits, Two 24" Extension Kits w/10 By-Pass Brackets

## What tips should I know?

- Never mount the rail to drywall, even with drywall anchors. Drywall will not support the weight of a barn door.
- Lay your assembly out on the floor to confirm it aligns before hanging onto your wall.
- Ensure the rail is hung perfectly level so the door does not open or close on its own.

## What accessories will I need with my door?

- Interior and exterior handles to pull the door open and closed.
- Consider a privacy latch if the door is to a bathroom or bedroom.
- Soft-close adapters to prevent the door from slamming, especially if young children are in your home.

## **What are anti-jump disks and why are they important?**

Anti-jump disks install between the door and the rail, preventing the door from jumping off the rail. Since barn doors are often heavy, this prevents the risk of injury and/or damage to your home. Round Rails use a pin on the roller assembly instead of a disk on the top of the door.

## **Why should I use the door stops that you offer?**

Some low-priced barn door kits use a piece of angle iron bolted through the rail to stop the door from coming off the end of the rail. These are not adjustable and must be installed in a precise location and cannot be adjusted once installed. Also, they usually do not have rubber bumpers, making the door hitting the stop louder and possibly damaging the door.

## **Why should I lay out my door and hardware on the floor before starting?**

We always recommend laying out your assembly on the floor to avoid installation issues and answer questions you might have along the way. For example:

- 1) Do the stops need to be inside a rail-mount screw and therefore placed on the rail before the rail is mounted? This is especially important for a grand entrance, two-door assembly.
- 2) On a double door, do the stops interfere with the rail joiner? This could be a concern with very narrow stile doors.
- 3) Does everything line up correctly? Am I missing any parts?

## **How do I join rails?**

### For flat rails:

Line up the two rails straight and tight, then lay the rail joiner plate over the rails to mark the center of each screw hole for drilling (the lip of the joiner under what will be the bottom of the rail). Drill the 1/4" holes as marked. Install screws, washers, and nuts. Check the straightness of rails and tighten. Ensure straightness of rails and adjust as necessary.

### For round rails:

Remove the end cap from one end of each rail. Insert bullet joiner at one end and tap in until seated with a rubber mallet. Repeat for the second side. Check straightness before and during the handling of rail.

## **What is the warranty?**

Limited 5-year warranty. Warranty does not cover issues due to normal wear, abuse, or misuse.

## **Can stainless-steel barn door kits be used outdoors?**

The hardware kits are designed for interior doors only. Parts of the kit, such as roller bearings and bolts, are not resistant to rust and corrosion caused by outdoor elements.

## What grade stainless steel are the components made of?

Flat Rail	SS304
Flat Rail Standoff Spacers	SS304
Round Rail	SS304
Round Rail Standoffs	SS304
Stops	SS304
Hangers	SS304
Hanger Ball Bearings	Carbon Steel
Bolts and Screws	SS201

## How does soft-close hardware work?

The soft-close device clamps to the back of your rail and works similar to a storm door closer in that it prevents the door from slamming while opening or closing. A trigger is screwed to the top of the door to catch it as it passes, significantly slowing it down. These kits are compatible with flat rails only.

## Do the kits come with guides?

Your hardware kit comes with both a nylon mortise T-guide and a set of nylon non-mortise guides that screw to the floor. Steel floor guides and wall-mount guides are available as upgrades.

## Do I have to install a guide at the bottom of the door?

Yes, the guide is important for your safety and the life of the door system. The guide works with the anti-jump disk to keep your door on the track. It also keeps the roller centered on the rail to support the full rated weight load.

## What's the best way to mortise a door for the guide?

Mortising a door should be carefully done to not damage the door. Use a router with a guide to keep the mortise straight and centered. A circular saw can also be used with a Dado blade or multiple passes. The door should be secured before cutting. Clamping a 2x4 to each side of the door will give you a bigger, more stable surface for your cutting tool to travel on. If you are not confident with mortising your door we suggest you use the non-mortise guides that are included with the kit, or one of our accessory low-profile non-mortise guides.