Do you want to update your door hardware?

Are you remodeling or building a new home? Whatever your circumstances, there are few things that will make your visit to a door hardware showroom more productive. The following information will help your showroom representative specify the hardware that will fit your door while looking great.

General Tips

1. We recommend calling ahead to make an appointment. Specifying Baldwin products is a personalized experience and we want to ensure that you get your representative’s undivided attention.

2. Try to plan ahead. Your showroom may have a number of your desired products in stock but, they may need to order items specific to your requirements which may take days or weeks for delivery.

3. Bring along ads, brochures, photos or web pages of products or styles you like. Also, please include any photos of your house which show its architectural style.

4. Bring along any blueprints, if you have them.

5. Please take photos of the inside, outside and edge of your door and the inside of the door frame (showing the metal strike plate). If you are replacing existing hinges, please take a photo of the old ones.

6. Let your sales rep know if any of your doors have glass, molding or insets.
Measurements

Tip: Measure, measure, measure. And then go back and check your measurements.

If you are buying hardware for more than one door, please provide a count of how many doors by type.

Passage / Hall / Closet (non-locking knob or lever set)
Privacy / Bedroom / Bathroom (locking knob or lever – no key)
Keyed Entry (locking knob, lever, entrance set or deadbolt for security)

Door Preparation

Pre-drilled with one or two holes (prepared for tubular locks)
Pre-drilled with a pocket in the side of the door (prepared for mortise locks)
Blank door (unprepared door with no holes or pockets pre-drilled for locks)

The tubular style lock is commonly found on all types of doors, most notably interior residential and office doors. It boasts excellent security for most applications and is usually quite easy to install and replace if standard bore holes are already cut in the door. Make sure your new latch has the correct backset length (the measurement from the edge of the door to the center of the bore hole), and just follow the installation instructions. The most popular types of tubular style locks are single cylinder and double cylinder.

A mortise style lock is the most secure form of an entry set. The reason? A special cut in the door allows a longer and thicker mortise to slide into the pocket in the door itself, providing superior protection. These types of locks require special door preparation, so if your door isn’t currently cut to fit this kind of lock, you (or a professional installer) will need to use a mortise saw to cut into the door so the lock fits properly. Take note that not all mortise locks have the same dimensions. So prior to any door alteration, take careful measurements.
**Door Thickness**
*Measure the door from the inside to the outside.*

For example, many interior doors measure 1 3/8” thick and the industry standard for front doors is 1 3/4”. If you have a custom door that is thicker, don’t worry. Your representative can order longer components that connect the hardware from one side of the door to the other.

**Door Height**
*Measure the door from the bottom sill to the top of the door.*

Standard door heights are 6’ 8” but, can be higher. This measurement is important if you are planning to purchase new hinges.

**Stile Width**
*Measure from the edge of the door to the edge of any molding, raised panels or glass in place on the door.*

Narrow stiles (4” or less) may limit some of the backset or trim options for your knob or lever.

**Backset**
*This is the distance from the edge of the door to the center of the knob or shank on the lever.*

**Center to Center**

This measure is needed when shopping for exterior door handle sets or on interior doors where you have two pre-drilled holes. Measure from the center of the top hole (deadbolt) to the center of the bottom hole (latch).

**Need hinges?**
If you need hinges, in addition to the door height and thickness, please determine the door’s approximate weight. If replacing existing hinges, please bring in a drawing which shows the size, radius of the corner and hole pattern (or, bring in one of the old hinges).

- **Square corner hinge**
- **1/4” radius hinge**
  *Measure from the beginning of the curve to where the top of the hinge would be if it were square. Another check is if the curve is less than the edge of a dime.*
- **5/8” radius hinge**
  *Measure from the beginning of the curve to where the top of the hinge would be if it were square. Another check is if the curve is more than the edge of a quarter.*

**Door Handing**

This a term used to describe which way your door is hinged. To determine the handing of a door, stand on the side of the door from which you gain access to the room. (exterior door = street side; room door = hall side; closet door = room side; other doors = side where hinges are not visible). Face the door. Notice which side the hinges are on.

- **Left Handed** - hinges on left, door swings into the room
- **Left Handed Reverse Bevel** - hinges on left, door swings out of the room
- **Right Handed** - hinges on right, door swings into the room
- **Right Handed Reverse Bevel** - hinges on right, door swings out of the room

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