

# HOW-TO-INSTALL GUIDE

## AN INTERNAL DOOR

### WHAT YOU CAN BUILD USING THIS GUIDE

Interior doors are commonly supplied pre-hung – already assembled in a frame. This guide explains how you can install an interior door in an opening so that it is level, secure, and opens and closes easily.

### PRE-HUNG DOORS

A pre-hung interior door is generally supplied with one-and-a-half pairs of loose pin butt hinges. Always pre-measure the openings, and allow a 6-10 mm gap between the door frame and the wall framing before confirming the door order. Remember to specify the door finish, clashing strips and the blocking requirements for hardware positions.

Pre-hung doors can be made to specific sizes, but a range of standard sizes is usually available in both right and left hung (or hand). The “hanging side” must be specified when ordering. This is the hinge side when, looking at the door, you can see the hinge pins and the door will swing towards you.

Typical standard interior door sizes are:

- height 1980 mm
- width 710, 760, 810, 860, or 910 mm
- thickness 38-42 mm.

Door frames can be:

- 20 mm thick with a 30 x 10 mm planted stop designed for use with architraves
- 20 mm thick profile with machined rebates for the sheet internal linings (slimline) with a 30 x 10 mm planted stop (see Figure 1)
- machined from ex 30 mm timber with an integral door stop designed for use with architraves (see Figure 2)
- machined from ex 50 mm timber with an integral door stop with machined rebates for the sheet internal linings (slimline).

The frame must be sized for the width of stud and the thickness of the wall linings for the frame profile chosen.

The frame is likely to be constructed with:

- mitred top corners for slimline profiles
- butted top corners for profiles with an integral door stop.

The jambs will extend 25 mm past the bottom of the door to allow the gap at the bottom to be adjusted for the height of the floor coverings. For transporting, the assembly should have temporary bracing and packaging.

Doors may be supplied with proprietary metal fixing brackets or will need to be installed using wedges or packers measured to suit.

The supplier will advise on the best combination for your situation.

### MATERIALS

Materials required for the fitting of the door will include:

- 75 mm jolt-head nails to fix the door frame to the framing
- fox wedges or packing materials
- 25 mm panel pins if required to fix door stop.

### INSTALLATION

#### Checking

1. On receipt of the pre-hung door check that the sizes, frame and hanging are as ordered.
2. Check that the rough opening is adequate for the door and frame. There should be a clearance of at least 6 mm either side of the jamb for packing.
3. Check the level of the floor at the doorway to determine if there should be any difference in the lengths of the jambs so that the head of the frame will be perfectly level. Check the level of the floor over the swing of the door to ensure there will be clearance over the full swing area (even for new floors).

#### Measuring

4. Measure the inside length of the jamb to allow for clearance below the door. A typical clearance for carpet is around 15-20 mm, but you should measure the actual dimension. Vinyl or similar resilient sheet flooring on a level floor requires a clearance of around 3 mm. Trim the jamb to allow it to sit on the floor and give the required clearance between the bottom of the door and the top of the flooring.

#### Hanging the door

5. For slimline jambs, wall linings must be fixed in place after the door is installed (see Figure 1).
6. Stand the frame with its door in the opening and temporarily wedge at both sides at the top to hold it in place. Check the head is level – getting this level is a crucial step. Adjust if necessary by using thin packers under the jambs. Keep the bracing in place while fitting the door.
7. Install fox wedges or packers to the head that are directly in line with the jamb to hold the door in place. Check alignment for lining materials and door opening clearances to ensure the door will swing without binding.
8. Check the hinge jamb for position and vertical alignment in the wall. Depending on the type of frame and whether wall linings are in place, it may be necessary at this point to provide temporary packing and cleats to ensure alignment within the wall for both jambs.
9. Pack behind the top and bottom hinge positions with wooden fox wedges or packers of the right thickness to get the jamb vertical. It is important that the packing is behind the hinge positions so that the load of the door is transferred to the wall framing (see Figure 3). Pre-drill nail holes and tack the hinge jamb to the trimming stud through the wedges at the top and bottom positions – do not drive home nails until the door fitting is completed. Pack with wedges at the centre hinge position to ensure the jamb is straight, then nail it to the trimming stud. For metal brackets, tack-fix the brackets to the trimming stud and check alignment before nailing off.
10. Pack the latch jamb with wedges or packers at 100 mm from the top and the bottom to provide an even gap with the door and at the position of the striker plate. This gap should be 2-3 mm to allow the door to open without interference with the jamb. Check the vertical alignment in both planes. For a rebated jamb, check the door face contacts the rebate over the full length. Pre-drill nail holes and tack the jamb to the trimming stud through the wedges. Pack with wedges at the latch strike position to ensure the jamb is straight, and nail the jamb to the trimming stud. For metal brackets, tack-fix the brackets to the trimming stud and check alignment before nailing off.
11. For doors with planted stops, the stops may need to be fitted. These can be either mitred or butted at the corners. Allow clearance on the hinge side to prevent the door binding. Pre-drill nail holes and tack and try the door in the closed position before nailing home.

### Fitting hardware and finishing

12. Fit the door latch and hardware. Most hardware comes with specific fitting instructions, including templates for housing the latch, striker plate and installing the handles.
13. Cut off the excess from any wedges to allow linings to fit into the frame reveal for slimline jambs or architraves to be fitted tight to the lining and the frame.

Figure 1

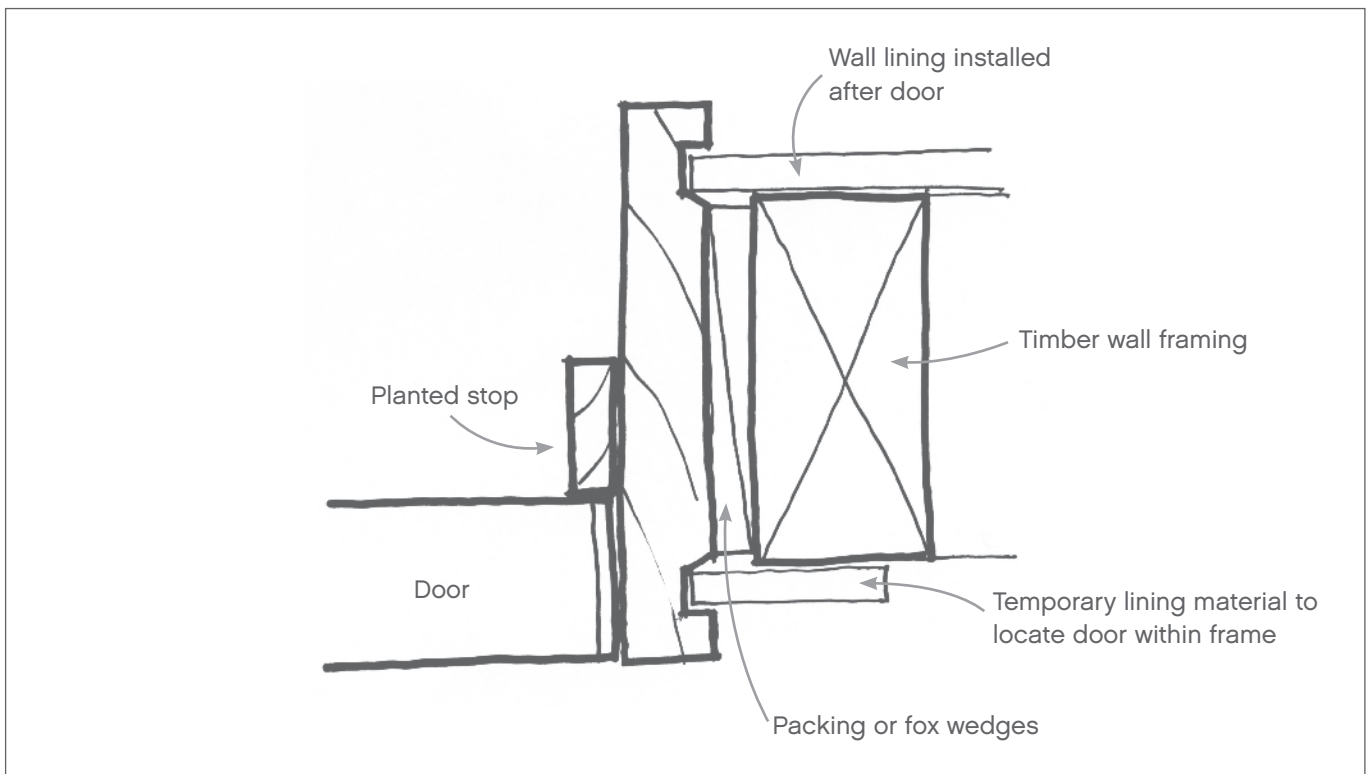


Figure 2

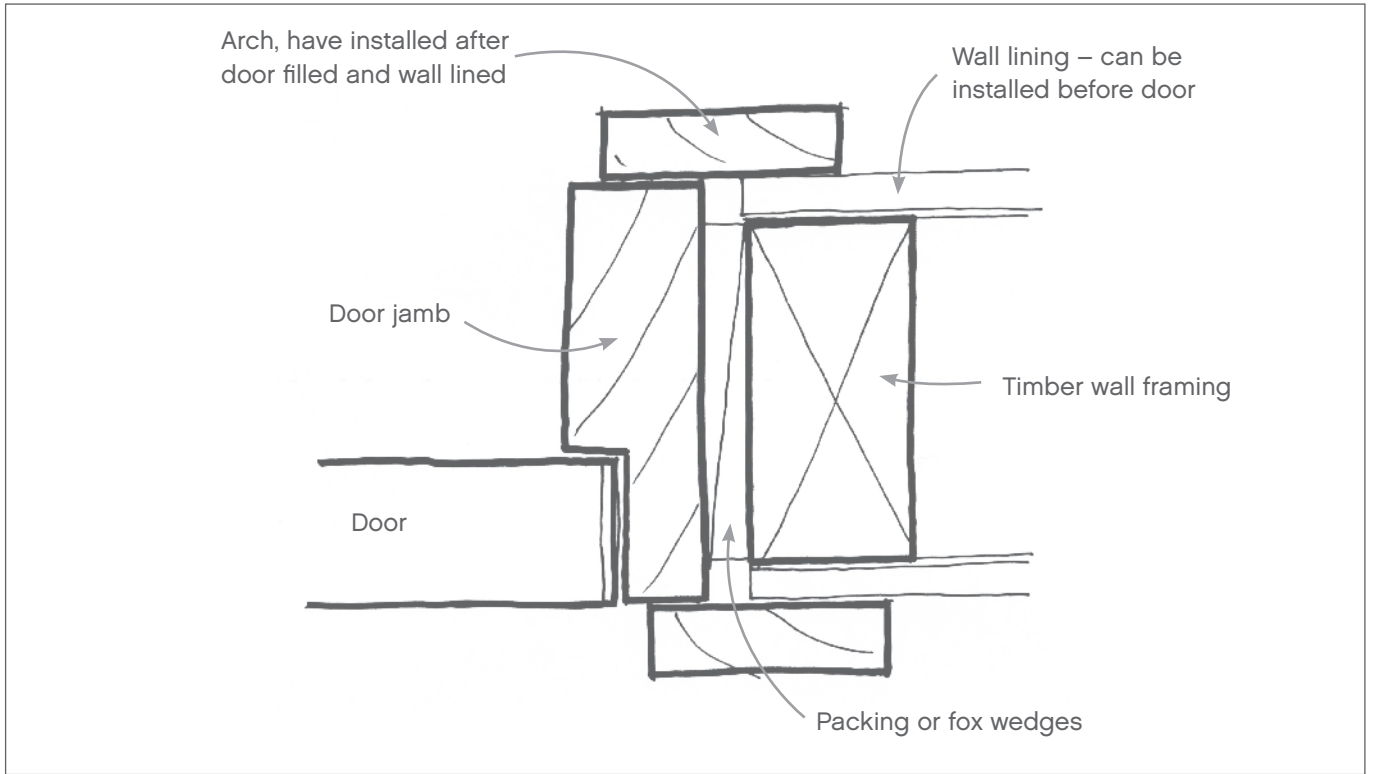
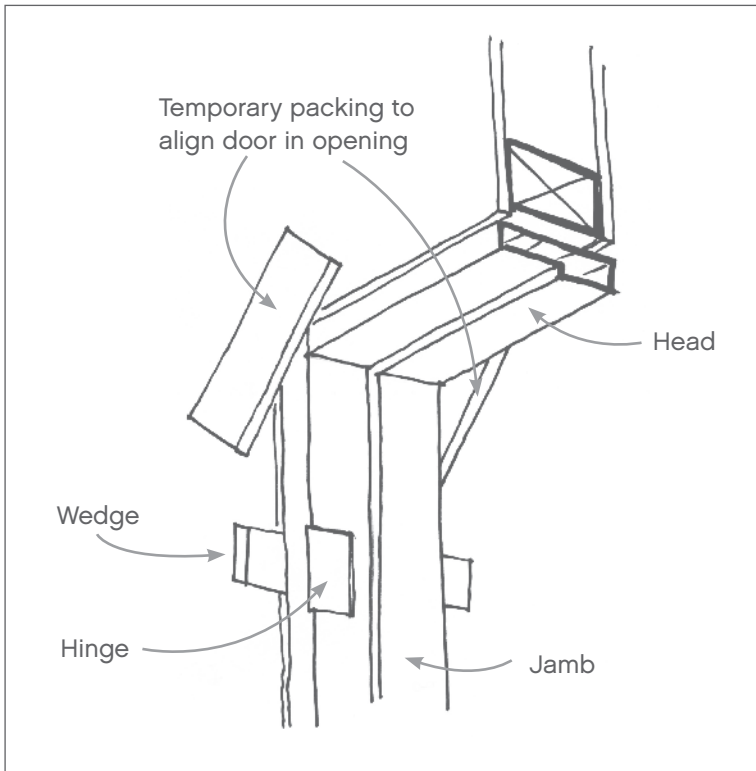


Figure 3



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