Self Storage Doors 101

Janus offers two types of self storage doors:

Swing doors are mounted on 180 degree hinges attached to hallway system. They can be a flush (flat) surface or corrugated (ridged). To offer more strength, X-bracing is applied to the back of the door. Swing doors typically come in widths of 3’-0” and are most widely selected due to cost savings. Note that there are fire code considerations on swing doors. Opposing swings doors and clearances in hallways when swings are in the open position can be an obstacle. Check with your local authorities to get clarifications on any regulations that need to be met.

Roll up doors are attached to a barrel and coil around it when raised. Roll up doors typically come in wider sizes than swing doors. Swing doors and roll up doors can be interspersed, depending on the size of your units. It is quite common to use swing doors on 5’-0” wide units or smaller and roll up doors on units larger than 5’-0” wide. Renters tend to like having the maximum size doors on units to make it easier to get in and out of their unit.

Components of a Roll up Door

Our Third Generation roll up doors consist of a few key components which make them easy to install and even easier to maintain.

- **Door Curtain** – constructed of 26 gauge, grade 80 full hard steel. This offers you the greatest strength, which minimizes door damage. Our door curtains come in over 20 color choices or a galvanized metal finish.

- **The Barrel** is a circular component located at the top of the door and provides for an even method for the door curtain to coil. A well-constructed barrel will totally enclose the drums, springs and axle to keep them protected.

- **Ratchet Tensioner** – a mechanism to adjust the tension on a spring. If your door has two springs, our tensioner will adjust the tension on both springs equally and simultaneously.

- **Axle** – the axle is the rod that extends through the barrel and inserts into the bracket. Doors are built today with either a live axle or dead axle design. A live axle design rotates as the door is moved up or down, while a dead axle remains static. Janus supplies a dead axle, which eliminates pushing or shifting and allows for a straighter travel path of the door curtain in the guides. It also better supports the equal simultaneous spring adjustment.

- **Brackets** – the mechanism that snaps into the door guides and attaches to the drum on the barrel.
**Springs** – depending on your door width, doors will come with one or two springs. Our springs are pre-lubricated, a highly desirable feature. The grease will penetrate the pores of the spring with additives, displacing moisture and preventing the formation of rust or corrosion. This process also relieves the friction created between spring coils, thereby providing a smoother door operation.

**Guides** are roll-formed 18 gauge steel structures that run the length of the door and house the door curtain in its up and down motions. Guides attach directly to the door jambs.

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**Installing your doors**

Our self storage doors are so easy to install that they can be done in as little as three minutes. However, due to fluctuating site conditions (i.e. obstructions with headers or jambs not being wide enough), it is suggested that you utilize an experienced professional to install your doors. We have solid relationships with skilled installers and will ensure you have a quality installation process. In addition, all installation manuals and videos can be found at www.janusintl.com.

**Caring for your doors**

The most common type of maintenance associated with self storage doors is derived from the springs. Over time the springs may relax, and having the ability to adjust them keeps the doors in good operating condition. Because our door features the preferred dead axle design which facilitates the disbursement of spring tension across the entire width of the door, your door is virtually maintenance-free. As the applied tension is distributed equally to every spring, it maintains the life of each spring, and thus the door.

Other manufacturers recommend applying lubrication to the springs once installed. This is a non-issue with our Third Generation design which has been pre-lubricated at the factory. Remember, rust doesn’t wait until the door is installed, so the early lubrication we provide minimizes spring maintenance, rust and corrosion.

It is recommended that you periodically check the tension to make sure the door is opening and closing at its optimum level. To check the tension, raise and lower the door. If the door is easy to close but hard to open (cold), you will need to add spring tension. If the door is hard to close but easy to open (hot), you will need to remove spring tension. Adjusting the tension on a Janus door couldn’t be easier. To learn more, view the Adjusting Tension document on our website or our Door Maintenance video for step-by-step instructions.

**Warranties**

Janus offers the most comprehensive warranty on the market. Our workmanship and free-of-defect warranty covers one year from installation. Our Super Durable Polyester paint finish is covered by a 40 year film integrity warranty and a 25 year no fading warranty.

It’s no wonder that Janus continues to win user polls for best self storage door. Your door is designed to last for years and withstand the strongest of workouts. We’re happy you chose Janus International as your door provider.