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How to Maintain Garage Door Springs

The job of the garage door springs is to counterbalance the weight of the door to enable its movement up and down the tracks. As long as these components work fine, you will still be able to operate the door manually even without the opener. Due to their specific function, the springs are under great tension and wear-out more quickly compared to their counterparts. That is why they require special care. Learn how to provide it properly. The instructions below are for both extension and torsion coil trampoline springs.

Careful Inspection

Climb up a ladder and inspect the component visually - You have to perform the inspection when the door is in fully closed position. The ladder should be sufficiently high so you can inspect the top part of the component. Do not touch the component directly even if you notice an issue for ensuring complete safety.

Watch out for signs of wear and tear, deformation and rust - You should inspect the component closely for dull coils, deformed sections, and watch closely for rust as well. It may have begun to appear between the coils rather than on top of them. In case of extensive wear and tear, considerable deformation or spreading corrosion, you must have the spring repaired or replaced without delay.

Cleaning and Lubrication

Wipe dust and dirt with a lint-free rag - You should put work gloves on before you do this task just to be on the safe side. Preferably, the rag should be dry and wipe the dust and dirt with stroking movements. If there is stubborn dirt accumulation, apply a cleaner which is safe for galvanized steel to loosen it up and then clean it gently. Again, remember not to touch the torsion or extension garage door springs directly or to apply pressure on them.

Remove rust with a solvent - Apply as much of the product as necessary and then wipe the spring clean. It is important for all traces of rust to be removed before lubricant is applied.

Cover all coils with lubricant - Use a product which is recommended by the manufacturer of your garage door to get optimal results without breaching the warranty. Apply a thin layer of lubricant which is perfectly even. Spread the product with the use of a thin brush or a lint-free rag to ensure that it covers absolutely all coils. This is essential for the proper functioning of

overhead door springs. Once you are done with the lubrication, run a full opening and closing cycle to help the better spreading of the lubricant.

Balance Testing

Disengage the garage door opener - This is a mandatory first step which is taken for safety purposes. You have to ensure that the door cannot be operated automatically during the test.

Lift the door manually - You have to lift the door upwards from a fully closed position. Depending on how strong and tall you are, you can lift it half way to the top frame, to your chest or to your waistline. The first option allows for the most accurate testing, but if it is not physically possible for you to lift the unit that high, do not take unnecessary risks.

Observe the door's behavior - If the spring is properly balanced, the door will remain in its position once lifted manually. In case the component is loose, the door will move downwards. If it is too tight, the unit will move upwards. In both of these cases, garage door spring adjustment will be required.

All issues with springs must be resolved timely as they may lead to serious damage and accidents.

Garage Door Repair

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