The Garage Door Authority Explains Cold Weather Door Problems

How Can Cold Weather Make Garage Doors Noisy and What Fixes Help?

2026-11-13

Gulfport, Mississippi, November 13, 2026 - Following a mid-October temperature drop along the Mississippi Gulf Coast, The Garage Door Authority is highlighting common garage door maintenance and safety concerns, including noisy hardware, damaged springs, worn panels, and faulty safety sensors. The announcement focuses on signs homeowners should watch for as temperatures change and garage doors face different operating conditions. The company is drawing attention to the difference between routine seasonal maintenance and warning signs that call for professional garage door repair.

The National Weather Service recorded a low of 54°F and a high of 72°F in Gulfport on October 17, with the day's high falling 8°F below the date's normal high of 80°F. The temperature change provides a timely reminder for homeowners to check garage door operation, weather seals, and visible hardware.

Cold Weather Effects on Garage Door Components

Temperature changes can affect metal components, while moisture, dirt, and unsuitable lubricants can interfere with moving parts. According to NIST’s Engineering Metrology Toolbox, steel has a thermal expansion coefficient of 11.5 micrometers per meter per degree Celsius. This measurement describes how steel changes in size with temperature, although the effect on an individual garage door depends on its materials and construction.

Common winter-related garage door noises include:

Squeaking: Dry hinges or moving components may create friction.

Rattling: Loose hardware or vibrating door sections may produce repeated sounds.

Grinding: Worn rollers or other mechanical parts may affect movement.

Popping: Panels and other materials may shift as temperatures change.

Homeowners can clean visible debris from tracks, inspect the bottom weather seal, and apply manufacturer-approved lubricant to compatible moving parts. Tracks should remain free of excess lubricant unless the manufacturer recommends otherwise.

Warning Signs That Require Professional Garage Door Repair

Routine maintenance may help with minor noise, but sudden or severe sounds can signal a more serious problem. A loud bang, grinding accompanied by uneven movement, or an opener that strains without moving the door should not be ignored.

Joseph Koerner, Owner and Founder of The Garage Door Authority, said, “A noisy garage door should not always be treated as a simple maintenance issue. Homeowners should pay attention to sudden changes in sound, movement, or opener performance. If a door hangs unevenly, has a damaged cable, or shows signs of a broken spring, the safest step is to stop using it and arrange a professional inspection.”

Warning signs that warrant prompt attention include:

A visible gap in a garage door spring.

Loose or frayed lifting cables.

A door that hangs crooked or becomes unusually heavy.

An opener that runs while the door barely moves.

A door that fails to reverse properly when its safety system is tested according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Springs and cables operate under high tension. Homeowners should not attempt to adjust or remove these components themselves. Professional garage door repair can help identify the fault and determine which parts need attention.

Garage Door Panel Repair in Gulfport, MS

Damaged panels can also affect door movement. A dented, bent, or cracked section may interfere with hinges, alignment, or the door's ability to travel smoothly through its tracks.

Garage door panel repair in Gulfport, MS, may be suitable when damage is limited and the remaining sections and hardware are in good condition. A technician can inspect the affected area and assess whether panel repair or replacement is appropriate.

Weather seals deserve attention during the same seasonal check. A worn or hardened seal can allow moisture and debris beneath a closed door. Water that freezes near the threshold may also cause the seal to stick to the ground. Homeowners should avoid forcing a frozen door open because doing so can damage the seal or other components.

Garage Door Sensor Repair and Household Safety

Garage door safety systems help prevent a closing door from striking people or objects in its path. Dirty sensor lenses, obstructions, alignment problems, and damaged wiring can interfere with normal operation.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission reported 46 confirmed child deaths involving garage doors between March 1982 and December 1990. This historical figure highlights the importance of functioning safety systems and careful use of automatic garage doors.

Homeowners can remove visible obstructions and gently clean sensor lenses. If a door reverses unexpectedly, refuses to close, or does not respond properly to its safety system, garage door sensor repair may be necessary. Safety sensors should never be bypassed to force a door to close.

About The Garage Door Authority

The Garage Door Authority provides garage door installation, repair, and maintenance services for residential and commercial customers in Mississippi. The company reports more than 20 years of hands-on experience in the garage door and opener industry and serves communities including Gulfport, Biloxi, and Long Beach.

View The Garage Door Authority on Google Maps

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Source: https://the-garage-door-authority.mediaroom.press/news/the-garage-door-authority-explains-cold-weather-door-problems--release-60102