

Four Maintenance Tips to Help You Avoid Emergency Garage Door Repairs

The upcoming holidays are a time to focus on fun, food and family. As the holidays grow nearer, your time will soon become devoted to planning the sides to accompany your Thanksgiving turkey and crafting the perfect Christmas shopping list. Unfortunately, a garage door failing to open could quickly put a stop to all of the fun. Regular door maintenance is a simple way to ensure that your plans aren't ruined by the need for emergency garage door repairs. Luckily, taking a few preventative steps will help you ensure your garage door will function properly all season long.

Here are four tips to help you avoid costly and inconvenient garage door repairs.

Regularly clean the garage door track

The track is crucial for ensuring your garage door opens and closes on command. Of course, it's also one of the most costly aspects to repair if it were to break. Prevent breakage by regularly cleaning the track. This can easily be done by using a clean, damp cloth to wipe down the inside area of the track. Next, use a dry cloth to remove any excess moisture before use. These simple steps will remove any buildup that could lead to a malfunction.

Maintain proper lubrication

Lubrication is one of the most simple, yet effective steps when it comes to maintaining your garage door. Regularly lubricating the rollers, tracks, hinges and weather stripping will keep your garage door functioning correctly, while also working to prevent any damage. While there are countless varieties of lubricant available at your local hardware store, it's best to choose a formula that is specifically designed for use on a garage door. Make sure to use it sparingly, because an excess amount will attract dust and dirt, which can cause the parts to wear out quickly.

Look for wear and tear

Checking for wear and tear is a great way to spot any potential issues that could turn into big problems. This should be done at least twice a year, even if your garage door seems to be functioning well. When conducting your check, pay special attention to the cables to identify any areas that appear particularly worn or frayed. Contact a professional garage door repair specialist as soon as possible if you notice any questionable areas.

Realign garage door sensors

Does your garage door refuse to close? It might be due to a poorly aligned garage door sensor. The sensors are built to prevent the door from shutting at an unsafe or inopportune moment. But this safety feature can be a nuisance if the alignment is just a hair off. This is a repair you can easily attempt without having to call a professional. Just maneuver the sensors back into position so the pair are directly facing each other once again. You'll know they're lined up when a solid light appears, rather than the small, blinking warning lights.