

# how to hang a door

Although timber or hollow-core doors are supplied in standard sizes, almost all doors have to be trimmed to fit the opening as a result of floor level, or improper installation of the door frame.

1. Make sure that the door is the right way round for hanging. A new hollow-core door should indicate the side on which the handle/lock is to be fitted. On the inside of the door is a block of wood that usually extends approximately 200mm up and down from the centre of the door. In the event that the door is not marked, use a screwdriver to tap down the side of the door until you will hear a difference.
2. Position the door in the opening to check the fit with correct clearance all round, wedge the door in the frame in its correct position. Remember to wedge it up to the correct height for floor clearance.
3. Position the hinge against the door, and mark both the door and frame with a pencil for the top and bottom of each hinge. The hinges should be set approximately 175mm from the top and 250mm from the bottom of the door.
4. Remove the door and place on a level surface with the hinge edge upwards. Lay the opened hinge against the pencil marks with the spindle section outermost, projecting from, and parallel to, the edge of the door. Mark around the edge of the hinge with a pencil. Repeat for the other hinge.
5. Measure the thickness of the plate and mark this on the door face with a pencil line. Using a sharp chisel, cut out the shape of the hinge by tapping gently, but firmly with a mallet, and to the correct depth. Remember to bear in mind that the pencil line is outside the hinge so you will need to cut inside the line.
6. Use the chisel to take out the cutting and then make sure that each hinge beds neatly and is flush with the surface of the wood.
7. Drill pilot holes for the hinge screws, using the hinge as a template and marking the hole position with a pencil. Make sure that your marking are in the centre of the hinge holes to avoid the screws causing the hinge to move when screwed into position. Use 25mm wood screws to attach the hinge to the frame.



**DIY Tip:**  
Be careful not to go too deep with the chisel as this will cause the door to stick.

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8. Position the door into the frame in the open position and use wedges to line up the hinges with the recesses and fix with one screw in each hinge.

### DIY Tip:

**Check the operation of the door before finally fitting the remaining screws.**



9. To insert a mortise lock, first drill a series of holes, then chisel out between them to square off the recess. These holes must be perfectly straight, so you'll need a guide to keep the drill in line. Stand the door on edge with the latch-side facing up; check it for plumb. Use the lock or template provided to locate the mortise holes. Mark the centre of the holes with a nail. Drill the holes with an auger bit. Chisel out between the holes to square off the mortise. Then chisel a shallow recess for the lock plate.

