



12 garage door cable tips

1

Make sure both cables are okay

Garage door cables help the springs open and close the door. There are two of them and although they scarcely get damaged together, if one breaks the door will jam and remain open. They must be checked often because they cause similar problems if they come off the drum.

2

Replace damaged cables

Cables might fray over time. They might also come off the drum. In the case of the former, they will eventually break. In the case of the latter, the door will jam. When problems are not solvable, the garage door cables must be replaced so that the door won't remain open.

3

Get the right cable drum

There are differences among garage door cable drums. It depends on the garage door system. Some drums are completely flat and some others have a raised part. Since the cables are wrapped around the drum and it helps the springs move the door, choosing the right drum is vital.

4

Check the balance of the door once cables are fixed

Whether one of the garage door cables is off the drum and must be fixed or is damaged and must be replaced, our experts recommend checking that the door is leveled so that there will be no gap under the door.

5

Buy the right cables

Although most garage door cables are similar, you must still be sure to choose the right ones when you need to replace them. Most of them have closed loops at one end, and you must get the right length or you will need to make adjustments.

6

Replace the cable that keeps coming off the drum

It's not unlikely to find your garage door cable off the drum. This is fixable, according to our technicians, but if the cable keeps coming off, there is something wrong. It's best for you to check the drum and possibly replace the cable.

7

Check the pulleys when fixing the cables

Garage door cables and springs are interconnected. Pulleys are part of the extension spring system. If they are damaged, the door will jam or bind. If your cables give you trouble, check the pulleys, too. Sometimes, it's best to replace all these parts together.

8

Cables and safety cables are not the same

There's often confusion because safety cables bear the same name as regular garage door cables. This is because they're both cables, but serve a different purpose. Extension spring safety cables are optional and installed for protection. Cables are mandatory and lift the door along with the springs.

9

How to avoid cable problems

Cables come off the drum and get frayed or loose. These are serious problems because the door could stop moving or jam, which could become dangerous. Frequent garage door maintenance but also regular inspections make a difference. If the cables are severely frayed, they should be replaced immediately.

10

Check the cables when you replace the springs

Cables help springs move the door. If the garage door springs are worn, you might want to check the cables, too. It would be easier to replace both springs and cables together. It's not often necessary, but the cables might be worn, too.

11

Fix the cable if it's off the drum

If the garage door cables come off the drum, the door will get stuck and won't move again until the problem is fixed. If the door cannot close, security will be compromised. Your safety might be at stake, too. Our technicians recommend immediate cable repair.

12

Avoid touching the bottom bracket

The bottom brackets at the two sides of the door are connected with cables which are connected with the garage door springs. If you try to replace a screw or fix them, the tension of the spring/cable system might be released and you'll get hurt.

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