

THE DANGERS OF  
**DIY GARAGE  
DOOR REPAIR**

Some home repairs obviously require a professional. Even the best backyard mechanics take their vehicle to a shop for repairs such as a spring replacement or a transmission rebuild. A jack-of-all-trades needs to hire a trained plumber to diagnose his low-water pressure problem. Certain jobs require specific tools and expertise to complete without injury or causing damage.

Everyone has open access to information on the Internet, which makes some home maintenance tasks easy to learn. Do you want to replace a faucet? The Internet houses plenty of helpful videos that can walk you through the systematic process. Do you need the oil changed in your lawnmower? It's a simple task if you don't mind the mess.

You need to be realistic about what is within your skillset and tool inventory. Over the 70 years we've been installing, repairing and maintaining garage doors, we've experienced many situations where our service technicians had to resolve unexpected problems on the spot.

Here's why garage door repairs are a professional-only job:

- A malfunctioning garage door opener is unpredictable and has the power to cause serious damage if it isn't operating properly.
- The weight of a garage door makes it difficult to move especially if you have an insulated multi-layer construction.
- Various mechanisms move up and down and maintain a tight seal, working together as part of a whole system that will fail in some way if not properly reset.
- If you're not a licensed business in the industry, it's often difficult obtain the parts needed for replacement.
- If you hire a professional, you can expect efficient work even if unexpected issues arise.

There are a few maintenance tasks you can do yourself, which we'll eventually discuss, but first we'll describe a few common garage door repairs and examine why they are dangerous for the untrained homeowner.