



**DASMA**  
Door & Access Systems  
Manufacturers Association  
International

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL GARAGE DOOR DIVISION

# TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

## #181

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## General Code Inspection Guidelines for Wind Load Rated Garage Doors

**WARNING: VISUALLY inspect components under spring tension, such as spring anchor brackets and parts to which cables are attached; DO NOT TOUCH. These components are under extreme tension. If such part appears to be loose, the building owner should be advised to contact a trained door systems technician to take corrective action.**

The following guidelines are intended for a code official performing a final inspection on an installed garage door system with a focus on wind-reinforced doors. The inspection is meant to be general, and relatively brief in nature, and is intended to quickly spot any deviation from either the code or the manufacturer's installation instructions/job approval drawings. Drawing content may supersede any items contained in the following guidelines.

### Wind Load Garage Door Checklist

**NOTE: Do not rely on a wind load label alone. Garage doors are site-installed products and share common components that can be configured in various ways and quantities to achieve different wind load resistance.**

- Make sure you have the wind load drawing for the door installation.
- Check if the wind load design pressure meets the requirements for the location.
- Check to see that the supporting structure and jamb can support the wind load forces. The supporting structure is the responsibility of the building contractor or building architect/engineer, not the door installer or the door manufacturer.
- Check the drawing to the door installation for the following:
  - Model number or manufacturing code.

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**Note: Technical Data Sheets are information tools only and should not be used as substitutes for instructions from individual manufacturers. Always consult with individual manufacturers for specific recommendations for their products and check the applicable local regulations.**

This Technical Data Sheet was prepared by the members of DASMA's Commercial & Residential Garage Door Division Technical Committee. DASMA is a trade association comprising manufacturers of rolling doors, fire doors, grilles, counter shutters, sheet doors, and related products; upward-acting residential and commercial garage doors; operating devices for garage doors and gates, sensing devices, and electronic remote controls for garage doors and gate operators; as well as companies that manufacture or supply either raw materials or significant components used in the manufacture and installation of the Active Members' products.

- Maximum Door Size - Some door installations are smaller than approved on the drawing which is acceptable, but the door size installed should not be greater than shown on the drawing.
- Whether the installed door reinforcement matches the drawing.
  - Reinforcement type (size, geometry).
  - Reinforcement quantity.
  - Reinforcement location (one per section, two per section, etc.)
- Number, location and attachment of vertical stiles per section (end stiles and intermediate stiles).
- Hardware Requirements
  - Hinge quantity
  - Fasteners
  - Short or long stem rollers
  - Locks (Note: Should be disabled or disengaged if the door is electronically operated).
- Track Requirements - Vertical track and attached hardware transfer the wind load to the building.
  - # and location of track brackets or track clips
  - Track fasteners and spacing
- Approved Optional Glazing - Wind load approved glazing may or may not be impact resistant.
- If applicable, the number and location of vertical posts.
- Check jamb attachment fasteners to supporting structure (fastener type, quantity and spacing). Follow information on manufacturer's wind load drawing or see guidelines in DASMA TDS-161 for additional fastener information. The supporting structure is the responsibility of the building contractor or building architect/engineer, not the door installer or the door manufacturer.
- If a door label is provided, check the label against the drawings and installation instructions. If the product is being installed in Florida, check for the Florida product approval number on the label.

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**General Garage Door Installation Checklist** (Reference TDS-151)

The checklist below is general in nature to a garage door installation, but is not directly related to ensuring wind load resistance.

- Safety labels provided by the manufacturer must be properly applied and visible.
- A spring pad beneath a spring mounting bracket (torsion spring systems) carries significant loads. The spring pad must be securely attached to the building and be made from a structurally sound wood material or equivalent.
- If the door includes torsion springs, visually check if such unit appears to be properly secured.
- If the door includes extension springs, check if the safety containment cable has been installed lengthwise through each extension spring and that each cable has been properly secured at each end.
- Check for a secure connection of horizontal tracks to back-hangs, and back-hangs to the garage ceiling structure. The center-hangs may also be required for larger doors.
- Check the spacing between the track and the door to insure adherence to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Manually open and close the door several times to check for smooth operation, using appropriate lift handles or gripping points.
- Doors installed with electric motor operators should be properly tested for automatic reversal in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

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