



Old Garage Door Openers: Don't Repair, Replace!

An Important Safety Message from DASMA, North America's Leading Garage Door Trade Association

The Door and Access Systems Manufacturers Association (DASMA) strongly recommends that garage door openers manufactured before 1993 not be repaired, but rather replaced with an opener that is fully compliant with current Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) requirements.

Consumer Products Safety Commission Requirements

In 1992 the CPSC established new entrapment protection requirements for all residential garage door openers manufactured after 1992. Specifically, the federal legislation required that openers must

1. Reverse the door upward after 2 seconds of sensing an obstruction.
2. Reverse the door upward if the door has not reached the fully closed position in 30 seconds.
3. Include an additional entrapment protection device that may be either an external device (such as an edge sensor or photoelectric eye) or a second inherent, force-sensing device.

Why Replace an Older Garage Door Opener?

1. **Older openers lack the most current safety and security features.** Thanks to advancements in technology, today's garage door openers have more safety and security features, including improved entrapment protection such as photoelectric sensors that reverse a closing door when the beam is broken, battery backup to allow for operation during power outages, or the ability to control and monitor them via a smartphone or computer.
2. **Some state laws restrict service.** Concerns related to the dangers of entrapment with garage door openers have led some states to create laws restricting service and repair of pre-1993 openers. Further, in some states homeowners must be notified by repair personnel that their opener is not compliant with the current CPSC standards and state or federal law, as applicable.
3. **Manufacturers no longer provide replacement parts.** Parts are no longer manufactured to support older openers. Even if you could find some parts online, don't repair; instead, replace the opener.
4. **Relatively low cost to replace.** When adjusted for inflation, today's standard openers cost about the same as they did 20 years ago.

In short, new openers are much improved, much smarter, and very affordable. Check manufacturers' web sites for more detail on the available features.

How Old Is Your Opener?

All openers have a label that includes the manufacture date. **If the label says 1992 or earlier, replace it, don't repair it.** Check the label yourself, or consult a garage door professional if it is hard to locate the label or the date.

Want More Info?

For additional information, go to the DASMA website or to any of these leading manufacturers:

- Chamberlain
- Genie
- LiftMaster
- Linear
- Napoleon Lynx
- Overhead Door

The Door and Access Systems Manufacturers Association (DASMA) is North America's leading trade association of manufacturers of garage doors, garage door operators, and other access system products. Our 90 member companies manufacture products sold in virtually every county in America, in every U.S. state, every Canadian province, and in more than 70 countries worldwide.