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# **STRAIGHT Proofing Strip Installation Guide**

## **Sectional Garage Doors**

### **Installation by Means of a Mounting Strip**

**March 2021**

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## **1 IMPORTANT INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 The Garage Doors**

This is a guide on how to rodent proof up to 1.4 in (3½ cm) high threshold gaps under sectional garage doors with RodeXit's rodent resistant STRAIGHT proofing strip and a mounting strip.

The proofing of wooden garage doors is described in section 2. The proofing of garage doors of metal is described in section 3. There are some valuable tips and tricks in section 4.

## 1.2 Installation With or Without a Mounting Strip

The STRAIGHT proofing strip can be secured to the garage door with or without the use of a mounting strip. A mounting strip is used when an aesthetically pleasing installation is called for. This guide covers installation with a mounting strip. A guide on how to install the STRAIGHT proofing strip without the use of a mounting strip (i.e. with screws and washers only) can be found on [www.rodexit.com](http://www.rodexit.com).

## 1.3 The Bottom Weather Seal Under the Garage Door

The STRAIGHT proofing strip supplements the bottom weather seal that is mounted under the garage door:



The proofing strip doesn't substitute it. Therefore, leave the bottom weather seal on if it is OK. If it isn't OK, you should replace it and recalibrate the door opener if any before installing the proofing strip.

## 1.4 Mounting Strips

Numerous different strips can be used as mounting strips. RodeXit recommends aluminum carpet trims of the angled flat bar type because they can cover the upper edge of the proofing strip:

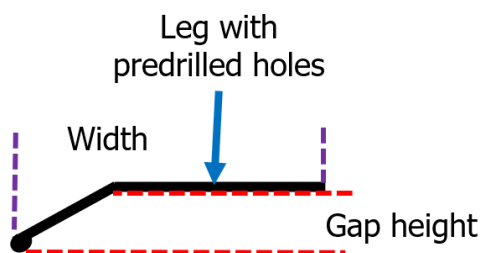


Carpet trim of the  
angled flat bar type



Upper edge of an installed carpet trim  
of the angled flat bar type

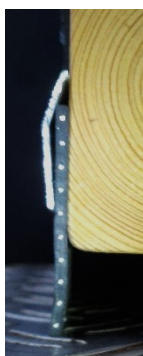
The width and the gap height of an angled flat bar carpet trim are important:



This guide covers installation with the use of 1 3/8 to 2 in (35 to 51 mm) wide angled flat bar carpet trims of aluminum with predrilled holes and

- a gap height of 0.16 to 0.25 in (4 to 6 mm) (hereinafter called Low Carpet Trims) or
- a gap height of 0.3 to 0.4 in (8 to 10 mm) (hereinafter called High Carpet Trims).

Low Carpet Trims can be used for single layer installations. High Carpet Trims can be used for double layer installations:



Single layer installation  
with a 1 3/8 in (35 mm)  
wide Low Carpet Trim



Double layer installation  
with a 2 in (51 mm) wide  
High Carpet Trim

Double layer installations are used when a very high degree of protection is required – for example when the rodent pressure is very high.

Both Low Carpet Trims and High Carpet Trims are quite common and can be procured from well-assorted hardware stores.

The height specifications on the websites of carpet trim producers and hardware stores are unfortunately not always entirely correct. You should therefore always check the gap height thoroughly when procuring a carpet trim, you haven't used before.

You can download a list of recommended carpet trims from [www.rodexit.com/mounting-guides](http://www.rodexit.com/mounting-guides). The list will be periodically updated with further carpet trims.

## 1.5 Monitoring and Maintenance

All rodent proofed garage doors should at regular intervals be monitored for maintenance needs and the proofing strips should be fixed or replaced if they are seriously compromised – for example due to severe rodent attacks.

## 2 PROOFING WOODEN GARAGE DOORS

### 2.1 Tools and Materials

You will need these tools and materials:

- A. A roll of STRAIGHT proofing strip.
- B. Tin snips for trimming the proofing strip – preferably straight tin snips with long blades.
- C. A staple gun with suitable staples for temporarily attaching the proofing strip to the door.
- D. A sufficiently long Low Carpet Trim or High Carpet Trim (hereinafter called: “the mounting strip”).
- E. A hacksaw or another metal cutting device for trimming the mounting strip.
- F. A metal file for deburring the cut end of the mounting strip.
- G. Suitable flatheaded screws for example 1 inch (25 mm) long No. 10 (4.8 mm) hex head screws or pan head screws.
- H. A corresponding screw bit.
- I. A cordless screwdriver.
- J. A couple of around 2 pounds (1 kg) heavy objects for holding the mounting strip in place during the installation.
- K. Possibly: Washers by means of which you can reduce the risk of denting the mounting strip if too much force is used when screwing the mounting strip onto the garage door.
- L. Possibly: A drilling machine and drill bits for drilling pilot holes in the garage door.

### 2.2 How to Install the STRAIGHT Proofing Strip on a Wooden Garage Door

The STRAIGHT proofing strip shall be mounted on the exterior side of the garage door. It must be possible to secure screws firmly in the lowermost 2 in (5 cm) of the door.

Follow these steps:

1. If the door is equipped with side seals of the clip-on reverse angle jamb type (clipped onto the garage door tracks),
  - a. dismount the clip-on reverse angle jamb side seals and

- b. install ordinary stop molding side seals or brush seals on the side jambs as replacements after installing the proofing strip.



2. Close the garage door completely.



3. If there is an automatic opener, unplug it.



4. If there is a side seal on the left side jamb, tuck the free end of the roll behind it:



If there isn't sufficient room behind the side seal, dismount the side seal and remount it after installing the proofing strip. NB: The door will usually move somewhat inwards when it starts opening.

5. By means of a staple attach the free end of the roll to the left side of the door:



Stuck behind side seal

OR



No side seal

Do not to press the proofing strip hard downwards against the ground. The strip should make light contact with the ground only.

6. Unroll a little more of the proofing strip than you need for proofing the threshold gap:



7. Cut off a slightly oversized piece.



8. With staples placed in the uppermost 1 inch (2.5 cm) of the proofing strip attach the oversized proofing strip to the door from left to right until you are around 2 feet (60 cm) from the right side jamb.



Do not press the proofing strip hard downwards against the ground. The strip should make light contact with the ground only.

9. Trim the proofing strip to the width of the door opening.





10. If there is a side seal on the right side jamb, tuck the free right end of the trimmed proofing strip behind the side seal.



If there isn't sufficient room behind the side seal, dismount the side seal and remount it after installing the proofing strip. NB: The door will usually move somewhat inwards when it starts opening.

11. With staples attach the last around 2 feet (60 cm) of the proofing strip to the door.
12. Trim the mounting strip to the width of the door opening and deburr the cut end of the mounting strip. Use sturdy gloves to protect your hands.



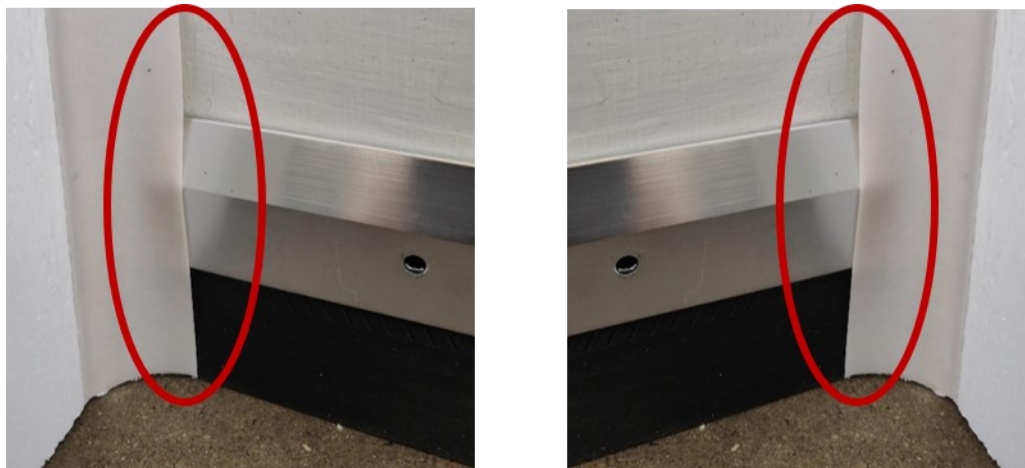
Trimming



Deburring

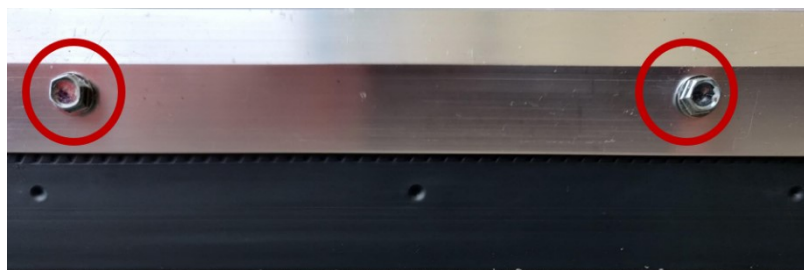


13. If there are side seals on the side jambs, tuck the ends of the mounting strip behind the side seals:



If there isn't sufficient room behind the side seals, dismount the side seals and remount them after securing the mounting strip to the door. NB: The door will usually move somewhat inwards when it starts opening.

14. Screw the mounting strip onto the garage door.  
Place a screw in each of the predrilled holes of the mounting strip (if necessary, after drilling pilot holes in the door):



Don't let the mounting strip extend below the bottom of the garage door.

Don't use too much force. You risk denting the mounting strip. You can reduce the risk if you use washers.

Use suitable screws – not necessarily the ones that come with the mounting strip if any.

It is no problem if the screws are slightly larger than the predrilled holes. The screws will automatically widen the holes when driven in.

Use a couple of around 2 pounds (1 kg) heavy objects for holding the mounting strip in place:



15. Open and close the garage door in order to secure that it operates satisfactorily.



If it doesn't, you can probably solve the problem by doing one or more of the following:

- Adjust the opening and closing power of the opener – if any. Check the owner's manual and follow the instructions.
- Adjust the position of the side weather seals if any.
- If there are side weather seals of the stop molding type, replace them with brush weather seals.
- Adjust the garage door rails. Check the owner's manual and follow the instructions.

### 3 **PROOFING METAL GARAGE DOORS**

#### 3.1 **Tools and Materials**

You will need the tools and materials listed in section 2.1 except the staple gun and the staples. Instead of the staples you can use blobs of sticky power tack for temporarily attaching the proofing strip to the door:



You may also need:

- A Stanley knife for reducing the width of the proofing strip.
- A wood plank to be used as cutting board when using the Stanley knife.

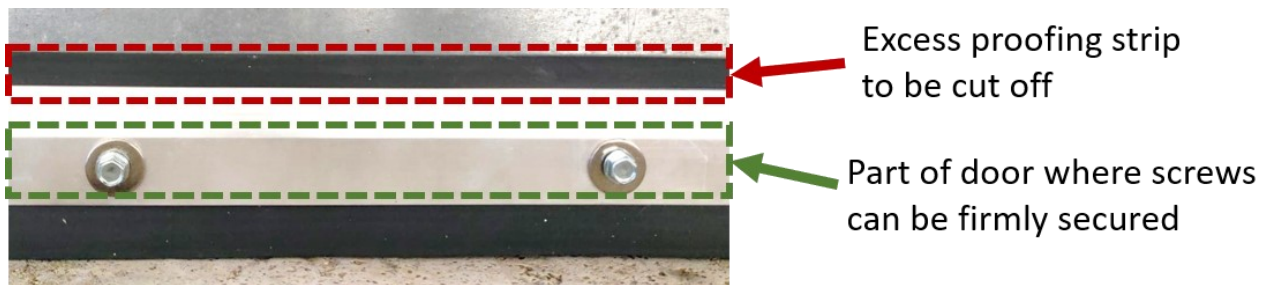
#### 3.2 **How to Install the STRAIGHT Proofing Strip on a Metal Garage Door**

A garage door of metal is proofed in much the same way as a wooden door. It must be possible to secure screws firmly in a solid structural part somewhere in the lowermost 2 in (5 cm) of the door. The screws are usually secured in the base of the door.

When the screws are placed in the base of the door it is often a good idea to use a mounting strip that is only 1 3/8 in (35 mm) or less wide. That is because a wider mounting strip often will extend below the bottom edge of the garage door.

The predrilled holes of the proofing strip must naturally be aligned with the solid part of the door where the screws are to be placed (for example in the base of the door). In order to achieve that it may be necessary to reduce the width of the proofing strip.

If the width isn't reduced, it will for example look like this, when the screws are placed in the base of the metal door 1 1/4 in (32 mm) from the ground, and the proofing strip is 1 3/8 (35 mm) wide with the predrilled holes placed 5/16 in (8 mm) from the bottom edge of the mounting strip:



The green dotted quadrangle marks the solid structural part of the metal garage door where it is possible to secure the screws firmly.

The red dotted quadrangle marks the excess part of the proofing strip that must be cut off in order to reduce the width of the proofing strip before installation.

This is how the example installation looks after A) reduction of the proofing strip width and B) reinstallation of the proofing strip and the mounting strip:



The width of the proofing strip is easily reduced with a Stanley knife. When you place the knife between 2 of the parallel steel wires in the proofing strip, the wires will guide the knife, so you always will get a fairly straight cut. Place the proofing strip on a wood plank when you cut it. Use sturdy gloves to protect your hands.



Cutting the proofing strip



Splitting the proofing strip

Mount the proofing strip with the cut side upwards, so the cut edge is hidden under the mounting strip.

It is generally a good idea to use self-drilling screws with a drill point when proofing a metal garage door.

## 4 TIPS & TRICKS

### 4.1 If a Very High Degree of Protection is Required

Under normal circumstances it is sufficient to install a single layer. If a particularly high degree of protection is required – for example because of a very high rodent pressure – you should install a double layer:

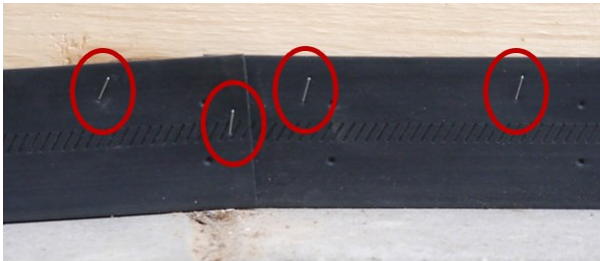


A double layer is installed in the same way as a single layer.

### 4.2 How to Handle Very Uneven Thresholds

If the garage door threshold is so uneven that there will be substantial gaps under the STRAIGHT proofing strip, the threshold should be repaired before installing the proofing strip.

Though it is not the best solution, you can as an alternative cut the STRAIGHT proofing strip in several pieces and mount them overlapping and at an angle as exaggeratedly shown here:



Two pieces temporarily attached with staples overlapping and at an angle



Same finally installed with a High Mounting Strip

If you solve the problem in that way, you should use a High Carpet Trim as mounting strip.

The right angles come naturally when the pieces of proofing strip are placed on the ground.

#### 4.3 Why Are Tin Snips with Long Blades Best?

Straight tin snips with long blades are better than straight tin snips with ordinary blades first and foremost because it is a lot easier to make straight cuts with the long blades.



Furthermore, it is possible to cut the STRAIGHT proofing strip in a single clip if you have strong hands.

#### 4.4 A Very Useful Homemade Tool

If you on a regular basis use RodeXit seals, it is a good idea to make a simple and inexpensive “third hand” tool that effectively can hold the proofing strip in place and at the same time can elevate and hold the mounting strip. The tool can be made from A) a 1 - 1 ¼ in (2½ - 3 cm) thick and around 2 pound (1 kg) heavy piece of wood (preferably of heavy wood such as oak) and B) two around 2½ in (6½ cm) long screws.

You place a screw around 1 in (2½ cm) from each end of the piece of wood and ½ in (13 mm) from the edge. Drive in around 1 in (2½ cm), so the distance between the heads of the screws and the wood is around 1½ in (4 cm). The finished tool should look somewhat like this:



This is how it works:



#### 4.5 How to Rodent Proof Side Seals

If the garage door is equipped with ordinary stop molding side seals on the side jambs, you can use a “Garage Door Rodent Guard” kit from The Rickford Company for rodent proofing the side seals:

