



RANGER

ENERGY-EFFICIENT PET DOORS

Wall Installation Instructions



Brick Mold Casing (optional)

Depending on your specific installation and aesthetic preferences, you may or may not choose to add a brick mold casing to your pet door to dress your exterior installation. Our website has video instructions for making your own brick mold casing. **If you choose not to use a brick mold casing, just proceed to the next step.**

Step 1: Choose Installation Location

- A. The installation location for a wall-mounted pet door should be chosen with care. Take all necessary precautions to avoid or safely work around electrical, plumbing, and gas lines. If you are unsure about how to handle possible in-wall hazards, contact a licensed professional.
- B. Determine the height of the installation. Measure your tallest pet at the withers (shoulders), add three inches (76 mm) to that height, and record on the template. This is the minimum height of your rough opening from the floor.
- C. Using a stud finder, locate the approximate stud positions. Ensure width of studs will accommodate width of pet door.



Step 1: Beware of hidden hazards like electrical and plumbing

Step 2: Create Interior Rough Opening

- A. Choose one stud against which your pet door will be positioned and begin to open the wall. This is most safely accomplished by using a small scrap of wood and a hammer. Start near the edge of the stud and slowly make a small opening to verify the stud location.
- B. Once you have verified the stud location, position template against the wall with one edge against the exposed stud and the top at the height measurement (your pet's height at the withers + 3 inches). Ensure the template is straight and level, and trace around the rough opening hole template.
- C. Gradually open the wall with the wood scrap until you can verify the lack of hazards behind the wall. From there, cut the rough opening with a drywall saw.
- D. Remove insulation and clean the rough opening for the next steps.



Step 2: Start rough opening with wood scrap

Step 3: Take Measurements for Blocking Material

- A. Using the template, take measurements for the needed blocking (components of the rough opening framing). Some of these measurements are predetermined by the pet door, others will need to be measured for your specific opening.
- B. Cut the blocking, preferably using a chop saw, miter saw, or table saw. A hand saw will work, but a precise cut is necessary.



Step 4: Install risers and sill

Step 4: Frame Rough Opening

- A. Mark the location of the trimmer on the header and the sill. Make sure the marks are visible when installing these components.
- B. Install the blocking components, fastening in place with appropriate screws (not included):
 1. Install the sill risers and the sill.
 2. Install the cleats and header.
 3. Install the trimmer filler(s) and trimmer if needed.
- C. Finish any remaining drywall cuts, using the framing as a guide.

Step 5: Cut Exterior Opening

- A. Using a reciprocating saw, multi-tool, or other tool of choice, cut a hole in the exterior wall using the framed rough opening as a guide.



Step 5: Cut exterior opening

Step 6: Cut Back Siding (optional)

- A. If you are using the optional brick mold casing, it is recommended that you cut an additional ~2 ½" of the siding only (not sheathing or weather barrier) to accommodate the brick mold casing and incorporate the pet door installation into the weather barrier.

Step 7: Prepare Rough Opening

- A. Using a sill pan is highly recommended and may be required by your local building code. If you choose to use a sill pan, follow the manufacturer's instructions for proper installation of the sill pan and incorporation into the weather barrier.



Step 7: Properly prepare rough opening

Step 8: Insert and Attach Door

- A. Insert the door into the rough opening. It is recommended to position the pet door so that the flap system is exterior-most, beyond any siding and trim. The pet door should be shimmed as appropriate for a sturdy, level, and square installation.
- B. The pet door must be attached to the rough opening through the side jambs and head jamb to accommodate the force of pets passing through it. Decorative screws are provided for this purpose, although alternate fasteners can be used at the installer's discretion. Use sufficient anchorage fasteners to satisfy regional structural requirements.
- C. The four shorter screws are intended to screw through the side jambs, two on each side at least 2" (50 mm) from the top and bottom to avoid the screws used in the assembly of the product. The two longer screws are intended to attach the head jamb to the rough frame. To prevent damage to sill pan, do not anchor through bottom sill.
- D. If the optional brick mold casing is used, screws may be driven through the brick mold casing into the framed opening for additional strength and installation convenience.



Step 8: Attach door through head jamb

Step 9: Seal Interior and Exterior

- A. From the interior, insulate the perimeter between the pet door frame and the rough opening on both sides and head jamb only with low-expansion foam designed for this purpose. Do not do this under the bottom jamb. This needs to be left open for drainage of incidental water.
- B. After expansion is complete, remove excess. Seal all four sides at interior-most edge of pet door (including the bottom) with backer rod and a sufficient bead of sealant designed for this purpose.
- C. From the exterior, seal between the pet door (or the optional brick mold casing) and the siding material with an appropriate weather-resistant sealant. This should be done on all four sides



Step 9: Seal interior with low-expansion foam

Step 10: Trim

- A. If the optional brick mold casing was not used, trim the exterior as appropriate for your exterior wall covering.
- B. Dress the wall cavity as appropriate. Jamb extensions made from stained or painted wood are the most common, but more exotic materials like cellular PVC (such as Azek brand), ceramic tile, and laminate (such as Formica brand) have been used successfully to dress the wall cavity. If drywall returns are used, make sure that incidental water dragged in by pets is considered in the design and material choice.
- C. In the video, Jim demonstrates a way to make your own return box out of primed pine trim boards.

Step 11: Wrap Up

- A. Your installation is completed! You should take some time to ensure that the level on the outside of the pet door is very similar to that of your floor level. Often, ground level can be substantially lower than floor level. This can be remedied with simple steps or a ramp.

See tool requirements on back side...



Step 10: Trim out interior

WARNING: TODDLERS AND CHILDREN CAN FIT THROUGH PET DOORS AND MAY ESCAPE OUTSIDE UNATTENDED.

WARNING: INSTALLING A WALL-MOUNTED PET DOOR INVOLVES CUTTING A HOLE IN THE OUTSIDE WALL OF YOUR HOUSE. IF DONE IMPROPERLY, THIS CAN RESULT IN SERIOUS DAMAGE TO YOUR HOME. IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF YOUR ABILITY TO PROPERLY PERFORM THE INSTALLATION, CONTACT A LICENSED BUILDING PROFESSIONAL.

Tools

Tools required to properly install a wall mount RANGER Pet Door by Freedom Pet Pass will vary considerably depending on your home's unique construction. Tools and materials that are commonly used include:



Eye, ear, and hand protection
Wood framing material
Exterior-grade screws
Additional trim pieces
Tape measure
Level
Stud finder
Hammer
Square
Sealants
Saws (*hand, table, reciprocating, and/or others*)
Screw gun

DO NOT use the security panel to lock your pet out from the inside. Pets cannot see whether the security panel is in place and may hurt themselves and/or damage the flap system attempting to re-enter.

DO NOT force your pet through the pet flap when training it to use the pet door. This can make them afraid of the pet door.

DO NOT rely solely on the chew guard to prevent a mischievous pet from chewing the magnetically lined flap seal. The chew guard simply reduces the damage a pet may cause.

DO NOT allow leashed pets to pass through the door. The leash can become tangled and possibly hurt your pet.

DO NOT allow children to use the pet door.

DO NOT allow dogs to run through the dog door at high speed.

DO reward with treats and praise during the training period.

DO consider lifting and temporarily tying the outside black U-shaped flap seal securely up out of the way (only if needed). This can make it easier for your pet to initially get through the pet door when they're still unsure of it. Untie once your pet has gotten the hang of going in and out.

DO consider the use of an anti-chewing product to discourage your pet from chewing if needed. Dried ground habanero pepper sprinkled sparingly in a smudge of Vaseline and applied to the inside of the black flap seal between the magnets has been safely used by some owners. Consult with your veterinarian first before applying.

DO use a non-detergent cleanser (Woolite) and a soft scrub brush to remove dirt from the canvas coated pet flap.

DO remove debris from magnets with a dry rag once a month for optimal sealing.

DO consider putting an obstacle in the path to the pet door that forces dogs to slow down when entering or exiting through the pet door.

Pet Door Training Tips

Finally, you have your new pet door installed! However, your pet will not instantly know what it is or how to use it. You may have to teach them how. Be prepared for it to take some time. Many pets learn to use pet doors within a very short time. But others, especially timid or anxious pets, might take a little longer. Be patient, don't rush it, and don't overtrain (short sessions every other day). Above all, don't force your pet to pass through, this can make them scared of the door.

The traditional method of training a pet to use a pet door is really just a matter of showing the pet the door opening, slowly opening the flap when someone else calls the pet from the opposite side of the opening enticing them to pass through. Of course, when they do come through, reward them with a treat, and spend a few minutes petting and playing with them before repeating the exercise. Many pets will catch on in just a few minutes, others will take a day or two. For the slower learners, lift and temporarily tie the outside black U-shaped flap seal securely up and out of the way. This will introduce their new access location in a simpler way. To encourage your pet to use the dog door, reward with treats and praise. After they have become familiar with the new passage, untie and lower the flap seal and allow the DoubleMag™ flap seal to provide the airtight, energy-efficient seal.

For additional installation instruction and videos visit <http://energyefficientdogdoors.com/installation>