



## How to Loosen Garage Door Torsion Hardware

This is an essential aspect of general maintenance and spring care in particular. It will help to reduce the incidence of accidents and will also improve the functionality of the entire structure. This is the basic outline of steps required.

1. Loosen all the bolts using a wrench. Remove them and then secure the center stationary torsions. These should be placed on the spring bracket. Turning the bolt heads is a much easier option than turning the flanged nuts.
2. Check if the spring bracket is slotted. Use the vice grips in order to secure the bracket to the shaft. Doing this will reduce the risk of falling shafts and the resultant injury. You can use a cable tie for this purpose. You should then remove the bushing from the cone. Leave it on the shaft next to the center spring bracket.
3. Slide the torsion springs out so that they are above the garage door and near the cable drums. Ideally you will find that there is a single bearing or bushing between the different cones. It is important not to install a bearing in both of the stationary cones since the cone is likely to break from the pressure.
4. Secure the torsion hardware. This may involve a bit of loosening or tightening depending on how the installation is reacting. It may be necessary to tighten the lag screws before attaching them to the header and spring anchor. Ensure that there are two lags at the bottom if you are dealing with doublewide wooden doors.
5. By far the hardest job will be sliding the springs towards the cable drums. Get some assistance if you can. One of the ways you can make things easier is to file away a swollen shaft and then set screw burs using either paint or a drywall material.
6. Where the shaft is distorted due to poor installation, you will need to file the shaft before inserting a bar into the cone. Tap the cone with a hammer until the cone has successfully passed over the enlarged portion of the shaft.
7. You then need to loosen the set screws on the cable drum beginning with the left. You should do this until the drum is able to turn freely. Carefully remove the cable that is running from the left drum before sliding away from the bearing plate.

8. This is the stage at which you examine both the bearings and plate for any damage. It is common for wear and tear to occur on these parts. One of the signs that there is a problem is if you see ridges or if the setscrews are not stuck on the raised metal. Alternatively you may find that there is some corrugation on the shaft. This is an indication of bearings that are either too dry or worn out. Replace them if necessary.
9. Use the opportunity to do all the other maintenance stuff that needs to be done including lubrication, cleaning, resetting, and filing. Remember that it is never a good idea to keep assembling and disassembling the garage door parts.
10. The final step is reassembly. Start from the last part you touched and work backwards, remembering not to miss any step.

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503-405-9503