

# Interior and Exterior Doors



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Know the options available for all the doors in your home.

## 1 Interior Doors

It's important to understand your options when it comes to choosing interior doors. There are many styles available with the most popular being panel, flush, pocket and bi-fold doors.



**Panel Doors.** These are the most commonly used doors for residential construction. Panel doors have square or rectangular patterns in their design that can range from a single large panel to eight or more small panels. Decorative panel configurations are available in styles that compliment virtually any home decorating style.

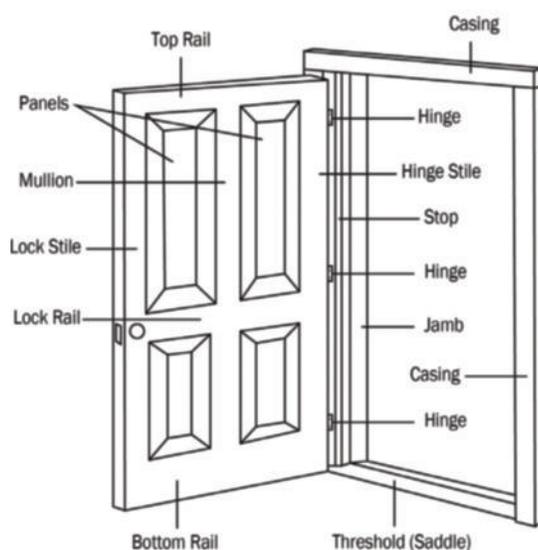


**Flush Doors.** Flush interior doors offer a clean and classic option for many homeowners. The door is completely flat and generally finished with an attractive wood veneer ready for painting or staining.



**Pocket Doors.** Often used to save space, a pocket door actually disappears into the wall. The "pocket" consists of a wooden frame with a track and hardware to accommodate the sliding door when it's "open."

Parts of a door



**Bifold Doors.** Primarily used for closets, bifold doors are designed to move effortlessly away from the center of the closet to give you a full picture of the contents inside. And because bifolds come in a wide array of profiles, they bring character to the closet opening.

## 2 Interior Door Materials

Selecting a door material usually comes down to two factors: taste and budget. Below are the three most common doors for residential use.

**Solid Wood Doors.** These doors have the most heft and weight, giving them their high-quality feel. They are sturdy and offer resistance to cracking and chipping. Solid wood doors also provide great insulation and a natural sound barrier, but they can also be very expensive.

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**Solid-Core Doors.** Generally, an excellent choice for overall value, solid-core doors are made from plywood or a molded composite exterior with a filled-wood-fiber interior. They provide a look and feel similar to that of a solid wood door, helping to maintain a high-quality and “expensive” feel. These doors offer good insulation and provide a first-rate sound barrier between rooms.

**Hollow-Core Doors.** Usually the least expensive of the doors described here, hollow-core doors are constructed from a wood frame, a plywood or hardwood surface, and filled with rigid cellulose to maintain their shape.

## 3 Entry and Patio Doors

Exterior doors must be tough enough to withstand wind, rain, scorching sun and would-be intruders, yet attractive enough to compliment your home.

**Entry doors** are an important element contributing to a home’s “curb appeal.” The three primary types of entry doors are manufactured from the differing materials described below:



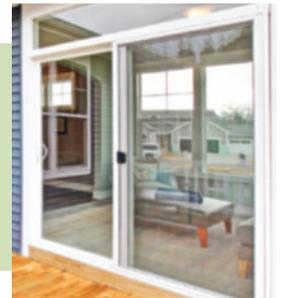
**Steel.** Steel doors are insulated with an energy-efficient foam core and are highly resistant to shrinking, swelling and warping. The tough steel construction can withstand years of extreme weather conditions with minimal maintenance.

**Fiberglass.** Fiberglass doors offer the same energy savings as steel doors. Most have a wood-grain texture molded into the door to give the appearance of real wood when painted or stained. Their high-quality composite construction makes them resistant to stains, scratches and dents.

**Patio Doors.** Just like entry doors, patio doors are also available in a variety of different materials. These include:

**Aluminum.** Usually the least expensive, the all-aluminum construction won’t rust and is easily maintained.

**Vinyl.** Low-maintenance and energy-efficient, tough vinyl frames are easy to maintain and can look new for years.



**Wood.** Usually the most expensive, wood patio doors provide a beautiful aesthetic look for deck and patio entries, but may require annual refinishing due to the ravages of weather.

**Clad-Wood.** These are wooden patio doors with a vinyl, fiberglass, or aluminum coating on the exterior face of the door to serve as armor against the elements, but with natural wood showing on the inside.