

Door knocker installation

Some tools are needed to complete your door knocker installation which may be seen below.

- Electric Drill & bits (don't forget the safety glasses)
- Screwdriver
- Level
- Ruler
- Small Crescent or socket Wrench (if cap nuts used)
- Hack Saw (through the door mount)
- Vice (through the door mount)

Surface Mount door knocker installation uses screws that go through the front of the door knocker and then screw into the surface of the door.

Through The Door installation requires holes be drilled through the door so bolts can be used to hold the door knocker the opposite side of the door.

Surface Mount

Surface mounting involves 2 or more screws that pass through the casting and into the door.

Once the mounting location is chosen the screw hole centers should be located using a ruler to find the center of the door and a level to ensure the locations are straight up and down.

Through The Door Mount

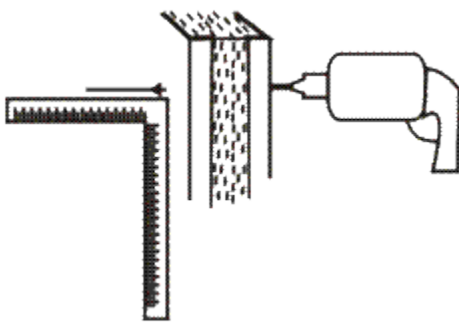
Mounting your door knocker with the through the door method uses either all thread and cap nuts or stove bolts and washers to secure the casting to the door. The all thread or bolt must be cut to the correct length to be just long enough to pass through the door and enter into the threaded portion of the door knocker.

The bolts may need to be cut depending on the door thickness.

Some doors available today are made of a fill material covered by a skin of PVC, fiberglass, aluminum, steel or other material. These doors offer excellent energy efficiency as well as easy care and maintenance. Extra care must be taken when drilling these doors to prevent damage. Be especially careful of the exit hole on the opposite side you are drilling from. This hole may crack or deform if a slightly dull drill bit or too much pressure is used.

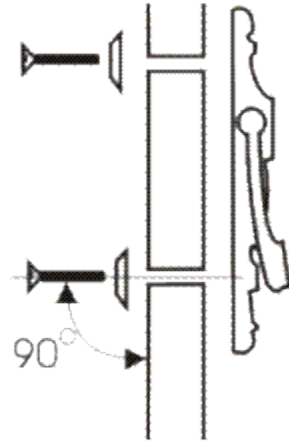
A common practice to prevent damage as the drill bit exits the door is to drill small diameter pilot holes through the door at the desired locations. Using the pilot hole as a guide, drill the full size hole 1/2 way through from one side and then drill the other 1/2 starting from the other side.

This prevents the larger drill bit from splintering the surface as it exits the door.



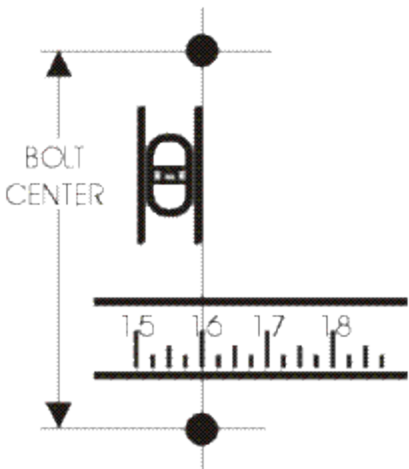
The drilling can be done with a typical home electric drill and bit. The size of the mounting bolts and inside hardware will determine the size drill bit to be used.

The hole must be just large enough for the bolt to pass through but not so large that it cannot be covered by the door knocker on the outside and the hardware on the inside.



Care must be taken to ensure that the holes are drilled squarely through the door. When the bolts are screwed into the door knocker they stick out squarely from it. If the holes in the door are drilled at an angle the door will interfere with the bolts.

Slightly out of square holes can be compensated for by drilling the hole larger but you must be very careful to not get it too large that it cannot be hidden by the hardware.



An easily made drilling guide can be made by drilling a 2 x 4 scrap on a drill press using the same bit you would use on the door. You can then place the hole in the 2 x 4 at the proper position on the door and drill through it into the door letting the 2 x 4 keep the drill straight. You will need a drill bit at least 4" long to be able to reach through the 2 x 4 and the door.

The distance between the holes must match the bolt center of the door knocker. A template can be made by placing a piece of paper on the back of the door knocker and pressing it into the mounting holes to make an impression. This paper can be taped to the door at the proper location to mark the drilling locations.

You must decide approximately how high to place the knocker on the door. Generally between 4 to 5 feet from the floor. When the general location is decided a ruler is used to find the center of the door.

Mark the location of the upper hole to be drilled.

Use your paper template and a level to locate the lower drilling point.

On metal doors you may find it necessary to use a center punch to keep the drill from wandering while starting the hole.

Once the holes are drilled the mounting bolts can pass through them and screw into the threaded bosses on the back of the casting. They should pull tight but not overly tight as to damage the door. Remember that things expand and contract from summer heat to winter cold. Overly tightened in the summer may cause damage later.

Sometimes a through the door style can be converted to a surface mount with a little machine work.

The design of the door as well as how it is made may dictate which mounting method is used. A solid wood door should handle both methods but a filled door with a thin skin may not hold the screws for a surface mount.

Both methods work equally well and both have their advantages.

Through the door mounting is the most secure and adds decoration to the inside of the door. Surface mount does not require holes to be drilled through the door, only into the surface but the screws are generally visible on the knocker.