

A garage door that **closes then opens** is usually responding to a problem with safety or mechanics. The opener senses resistance, an interrupted sensor beam, incorrect travel limits, or an unbalanced door and reverses before the door can remain shut. This behavior keeps safe people, vehicles, and property, but it also means your garage door may not be safe to operate until the cause is found.

This guide describes the most common reasons an overhead garage door reverses, which checks are safe to perform yourself, and when professional **garage door repair** is the safer option. It also covers garage door repair cost and service considerations for homeowners in Los Angeles.

Why a Garage Door Shuts Then Reopens

Most modern systems use a **garage door opener** with programmed travel limits and automatic safety reversal. The opener tracks the door while it moves down. If it senses unusual resistance or receives a signal that the safety beam is interrupted, it sends back the door.

EM Garage Door Opener Repair in Los Angeles

The most frequent causes include dirty or misaligned **photo-eye sensors**, an obstruction along the **door tracks**, a door that is too heavy, or incorrect **door travel settings**. If the opener believes the door has reached the floor before it actually has, it may reverse. If it believes the door is hitting an object, it may also reopen.

A door that **opens before reaching the floor** often points to a sensor or travel-limit issue. A door that reaches the floor and then opens may have a force-setting problem, a damaged bottom seal, a binding track, or a door that is not properly balanced. The exact timing of the reversal is valuable troubleshooting information for a technician.

Frequent Sources of This Garage Door Trouble

Several parts can lead a garage door to open after closing:

- **Sensor units:** Dust, direct sunlight, improper alignment, damaged lenses, or loose wiring can interrupt the infrared beam.
- **Garage door spring:** A weak or failed spring cannot properly counterbalance the door, causing added stress on the opener.
- **Garage door rollers:** Damaged, fractured, or jammed rollers can produce resistance as the door travels downward.
- **Garage door cables:** Damaged or loose cables can cause the door to rest out of level or catch in the tracks.

Additional potential causes include a damaged panel, a deteriorated weather seal, a poorly tensioned chain or belt, a nonworking wall control, or an opener that is nearing the end of its service life. Do not think that adjusting the opener is always the solution. A force adjustment can temporarily mask a mechanical fault and may create a dangerous operating condition.

Blocked or Blocked Safety Sensors

Safety sensors are usually mounted near the bottom of each side of the door opening. They use **photoelectric sensors** to create an unseen beam across the threshold. If that beam is interrupted while the door is closing, the opener triggers the **garage door safety reversal** feature.

Check whether anything is in the **obstructed sensor path**. Stored items, implements, trash bins, fallen leaves, or even a vehicle parked too close to the opening can interfere with the beam. Wipe both sensor lenses with a gentle, dry cloth. Avoid spraying cleaner directly onto the sensors.



Then, inspect **sensor placement**. The sensors should point directly toward one another and be mounted at approximately the same height. A bump from a gardening tool, vacuum, bicycle, or storage item can move one bracket. A **flashing sensor light** is often a sign that the beam is not being properly detected, although light patterns can change by opener brand.

Examine the **sensor wiring** for obvious damage, loose terminals, pinched sections, or corrosion. You can carefully adjust a sensor bracket if it is clearly misaligned, but do not bypass or disconnect the safety system. A garage door should never be operated with its safety sensors defeated. If cleaning and proper adjustment do not solve the problem, a professional should inspect the sensors, wiring, and opener logic.

Track, Roller, and Obstruction Problems

Examine the **garage door tracks** from the floor to the top of the opening. Look for a **bent track**, loose mounting hardware, dents, gaps, or debris. Tracks guide the rollers and are not intended to be dramatically bent by homeowners. Attempting to straighten a severely damaged track can release stored tension or cause the door to fall.

Inspect the **garage door rollers** for cracks, excessive wobbling, flat spots, or signs that a roller is coming out of its track. A **worn roller** can make the door noisy and increase the force required to close it. Hinges and brackets should also be checked for looseness, but avoid removing any bracket connected to a spring or cable.

Check the threshold and **garage floor** for objects, raised sections, or buildup that could be mistaken for an obstruction. In some homes, an uneven concrete floor causes the bottom of the door to contact one side first.

The opener may interpret this resistance as a safety issue.

The **weather seal** at the bottom of the door can also become stiff, swollen, or displaced. In Southern California, dust and grit can collect around the threshold and tracks. Los Angeles's dry conditions may increase the need for cleaning and proper lubrication, particularly in older garages or detached structures. Do not use heavy grease on tracks; it can attract more dirt. A technician can determine the correct lubricant for rollers, hinges, and bearings.

Broken Springs, Cables, or Balance Issues

A garage door depends on springs to offset much of its weight. A broken **torsion spring** is mounted above the door, while an **extension spring** is typically installed along the horizontal tracks. Either type can wear out or fail with age.

Symptoms of a **damaged torsion spring** may include a clear break in the coil, a sharp snapping noise, a door that feels extremely heavy, or an opener that opens the door partway. Extension springs may appear elongated, split apart, or out of place. A door with a faulty spring can close unevenly and reverse because the opener cannot handle the load.

Garage cables, also called **lift cables**, transfer spring force to the door. Damaged, loose, or derailed cables are a significant safety concern. Do not handle a cable, remove a spring, or attempt to wind a torsion spring. The stored energy can cause severe injury.

A simple balance check is appropriate only when the spring and cables appear in good condition. With the door fully closed, disconnect the opener using the **emergency release** only if the door is stable and you can manage it. Do not perform this test if the door is crooked, hanging, or visibly damaged. A properly balanced door should move smoothly by hand and remain near a midpoint when lifted carefully. If it falls or feels unusually heavy, stop and arrange expert assistance.

Safe Checks Before Calling for Garage door repair

Begin with [Garage Door Opener](#) the basic controls. Replace the battery in the **garage door remote** if it works sporadically, and check the **wall control panel**. Determine whether the wall button is unresponsive, worn, or showing an fault indicator. Make sure the opener's light and diagnostic LEDs are operating properly.

Examine the photo-eye sensors and remove obstructions from the opening. Verify that their lights are solid when the door is closed and the opener has power. Sweep away visible debris from the threshold, but do not place an object under the door to keep it closed.

If the opener has no power, inspect the household **circuit breaker** and the outlet. Restore a tripped breaker only once. If it trips again, keep the system off and contact an electrician or garage door technician. Do not remove the opener housing or handle electrical components unless qualified.

Use the **manual release cord** only when needed and only if the door is safely supported. Never disconnect a heavy or damaged door and leave it unsupported. Avoid changing force settings, travel limits, springs, cables, or track hardware as a do-it-yourself experiment. These adjustments affect the door's safety reversal and stability.

When You Should Contact a Garage Door Repair Technician

Seek professional **garage door service** if the door remains open, reopens following sensor cleaning, creates grinding or popping sounds, appears misaligned, or has a broken spring or cable. You should also schedule help if the door is difficult to lift manually or the opener keeps shutting off.

Searches such as “ **garage door spring replacement near me**” can help identify local providers, but compare qualifications before hiring. A licensed technician should be able to inspect the complete system, including the **overhead door**, springs, cables, rollers, tracks, hinges, sensors, and opener.

Professional help is especially important for older Los Angeles homes, detached garages, and converted garage spaces. Wiring may have been modified over the years, and an older door may not be compatible with a newer opener without extra repairs. Accurate inspection of the door balance, wiring, mounting points, and opener compatibility helps prevent recurring problems.

Ask whether the company offers **same-day garage door repair**, emergency service, and written estimates. Same-day availability and travel charges can differ throughout Los Angeles County. A company serving Downtown Los Angeles may have different arrival times and pricing than one traveling to the San Fernando Valley, the Westside, or Long Beach.

Garage door repair Rates and Rates in Los Angeles

Garage door repair cost is based on the malfunctioning component, the door's size and weight, accessibility, parts availability, and whether service is needed after normal business hours. **Garage door repair pricing** may include a diagnostic or **service call fee**, labor, replacement parts, disposal, and any emergency or travel charge.

Obtain a written estimate that breaks down labor from parts. Check whether the quote includes testing the safety reversal, balancing the door, adjusting travel limits, and removing old components. A low initial price may not include necessary replacement parts or extra work discovered during inspection.

How Much Does Garage door repair Cost?

Limited work, such as sensor cleaning, sensor alignment, lubrication, or tightening accessible hardware, is generally more affordable than replacing major components. The **garage door spring cost** differs according to spring type, door weight, cycle rating, and whether one or both springs should be replaced. Torsion spring work typically requires professional tools and careful balancing.

The **garage door opener installation cost** depends on the opener model, horsepower, rail configuration, electrical access, battery backup, remotes, and removal of the old unit. The total **labor cost** may be higher when the existing opener is incompatible with the door or when a detached garage requires extra wiring.

Because local conditions vary, a reputable Los Angeles company should inspect the door before giving a firm price. Ask about warranties on both labor and replacement parts. Verify whether the service call fee is credited toward approved repair work and whether evening, weekend, or emergency garage door repair has a separate rate.

Repair Compared With Garage Door Replacement

Repair is often more economical when the frame, sections, tracks, and hardware are in good condition. Replacing a spring, roller, cable, sensor, or isolated **garage door panel** can restore reliable operation without replacing the entire system.

Replacement work may be a better option if more than one panel are damaged, the door has significant rust, the tracks are badly bent, or the opener and door are both outdated. Compare the **garage door replacement cost** with the expected cost of ongoing repairs. Insulation, wind resistance, design, and long-term maintenance should also be taken into account.

Homeowners commonly ask about **2 car garage door replacement cost** or **two car garage door replacement cost**. A two-car door is wider and heavier, so its price can differ substantially from a single-car door. The final estimate depends on door material, insulation, windows, hardware, removal, installation, and local labor. A panel replacement may be practical when damage is limited, but a full replacement can offer greater value when several sections or the supporting hardware are deteriorating.

Searching for Garage Door Repair in My Area in Los Angeles

For **garage door repair near me** in Los Angeles, choose a **certified garage door technician** with proper insurance, complete business information, and area reviews. Obtain a written diagnosis, itemized estimate, warranty terms, and projected arrival window. Verify that the technician is authorized to perform spring work and that the company will test the safety reversal after performing repairs.

Service response times and travel fees vary across **Los Angeles County**. Downtown Los Angeles, the San Fernando Valley, the Westside, and Long Beach may have different technician availability, traffic delays, and service-area charges. If you need **today's garage door repair**, ask whether same-day service is assured or simply provided when a technician is available.

Southern California's dust, grit, and dry conditions can impact photo-eye sensors, tracks, rollers, hinges, and lubrication. A qualified local company should account for these conditions rather than replacing parts without checking the underlying cause. Many Los Angeles properties also have detached garages or converted garage spaces, where wiring, framing, and opener compatibility require closer inspection.

How to Prevent the Door From Reversing

Consistent **garage door upkeep** helps avoid unplanned reversals. Keep the sensor lenses clean and ensure the sensor brackets are properly aligned. Inspect the door for unusual gaps, noise, vibration, cable slack, and uneven movement. Remove dirt from the threshold and track area without driving debris into the rollers.

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Apply suitable **lubrication** on hinges, bearings, and roller surfaces in line with the manufacturer's instructions. Do not heavily lubricate the tracks because grease can attract dust and increase resistance. In Los Angeles, regular cleaning is particularly useful during dry, dusty weather.

Avoid changing **force settings** simply to force a failing door shut. Too much force can affect the opener's safety reversal. Travel limits should be set so the door shuts securely against the floor without damaging the weather seal. A technician can handle these settings while checking balance and mechanical resistance.

Arrange a **preventive inspection** when the door becomes loud, slow, uneven, or difficult to operate. Preventive maintenance is less disruptive than waiting for a spring, roller, cable, or opener to fail completely. Test the safety reversal only as directed by the opener manufacturer and do not let children or pets near a moving door.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why does my garage door close fully and reverse?

The opener may be sensing resistance from a dirty sensor, poorly aligned track, worn roller, stiff weather seal, or incorrect travel limit. A damaged or broken **garage door spring** can also prevent the door from closing properly. Check and clean the safety sensors first, but call for garage door repair if the door is difficult to lift, uneven, noisy, or still reverses.

How can I fix garage door safety sensors that are misaligned?

Clear the area between the sensors, wipe both lenses, and check that the brackets face each other at the same height. Look for a blinking sensor light, loose mounting hardware, or damaged sensor wiring. Do not bypass the **safety sensors**. If the lights remain unstable after careful alignment, a technician should test the wiring and replace defective components.

How much does garage door repair in Los Angeles?

The cost of garage door repair varies by part, labor, door size, urgency, and location. The estimate may include a service call fee, labor, and replacement parts. Spring work and opener replacement generally cost more than sensor alignment or minor adjustment. Ask a Los Angeles provider for a written breakdown of costs and confirm warranty coverage before authorizing work.

Is it better to repair a garage door panel or replace the entire door?

Repairing a single **panel on the garage door** may be practical when the damage is limited and the remaining sections and hardware are sound. Full replacement may offer better value when several panels, tracks, springs, or the opener are deteriorated. Compare the repair estimate with the garage door replacement cost, including installation, removal, insulation, and hardware.

When is it time to seek garage door spring replacement near me?

Call immediately if you see a broken torsion spring or extension spring, a loose or frayed cable, a crooked door, or a door that suddenly becomes very heavy. Do not attempt spring repair or replacement yourself. Search for **garage door spring replacement near me** and verify licensing, insurance, experience, written pricing, and warranty terms before choosing a provider.