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Large door on a garage that accommodates vehicles entering and exiting This article has multiple issues. Please help improve it or discuss these issues on the talk page. (Learn how and when to remove these messages) This article possibly contains original research. Please improve it by verifying the claims made and adding inline citations. Statements consisting only of original research should be removed. (November 2012) (Learn how and when to remove this message) This article needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.Find sources: "Garage door" – news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR (September 2012) (Learn how and when to remove this message) (Learn how and when to remove this message) Sectional garage door Up-and-over garage door Garage Door Hardware A garage door is a large door to allow access to a garage that opens either manually or by an electric motor (a garage door opener). Garage doors are frequently large enough to accommodate automobiles and other vehicles. The operating mechanism is usually spring-loaded or counterbalanced to offset the door's weight and reduce the human or motor effort required to operate the door. Less commonly, some garage doors slide or swing horizontally. Doors are made of wood, metal, or fiberglass, and may be insulated to prevent heat loss. An electric garage door opener operates on the center track A typical version of an overhead garage door used in the past would have been built as a one-piece panel.[1] The panel was mounted on each side with an unequal parallelogram-style hinge lifting mechanism. Newer versions of overhead garage doors are now generally built from several panels hinged together that roll along a system of tracks guided by rollers.[1] The weight of the door may be 400 lb (180 kg) or more but is balanced by either a torsion spring system or a pair of extension springs.[2] A garage door opener is controlled motorized mechanism for opening garage doors adds convenience, safety, and security often used with a remote or a button on wall.[3] The history of the garage door could date back to 450 BC when chariots were stored in gatehouses, but in the United States, they arose around the start of the 20th century. As early as 1902, American manufacturers—including Cornell Iron Works—published catalogs featuring a "float over door." Evidence of an upward-lifting garage door can be found in a catalog in 1906.[4] jamb type hardware one piece track type hardware This section does not cite any sources. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. (April 2023) (Learn how and when to remove this message) Single-panel doors are constructed from one monolithic panel. A single panel door swings up and overhead with a hinge on each side (jamb-type hardware) to a fully open position from the closed position. A disadvantage of monolithic panel doors is that the swing-up arc of the door occurs partially outside the garage. This means a vehicle must stop and park several feet in front of the door to avoid being hit by the garage door when it is opened. Single panel doors can also be installed with (one piece track type hardware) that folds the door back with a single horizontal track on each side (mounted at the top of the wood frame) and a roller mounted to the top of the door on each side. A hinge on each side that attaches to the bottom of each side of the garage door. Using track hardware, a car can be parked much closer to the door, as the door is positioned entirely inside the garage door header when in the open position. Track-type hardware has less arc when raising and lowering the garage door than jamb-type hardware.[citation needed] Sectional garage doors Sectional doors usually have three to eight panels and slide up and overhead. Sectional doors occupy the same internal garage space as a monolithic door. Sectional doors have two advantages over single-panel monolithic doors: Sectional doors do not require any space outside the garage to open. A vehicle may park very close to the garage before opening the door. Each panel of a sectional door has its connection to the door track. This increases reliability and robustness compared to monolithic doors, which have only a few track connections for the whole panel. Garage doors can be made of many materials, but steel, aluminum, wood, copper, glass, and vinyl (polyethylene) are the most popular materials. Some manufacturers incorporate foamed-in-place polyurethane insulation within the monolithic panel and sectional garage doors. The side sliding sectional door[5] A lot of space under the garage ceiling. Can use the entire ceiling of the garage. Fast access to the garage Detail of roller door mechanism Industrial tents with rollup overhead doors Roller doors (sometimes called "sheet doors") are usually constructed of corrugated steel. They evolved from cover window and door coverings.[4] Other materials can be used (e.g., transparent corrugated fiberglass) where strong impact resistance is not required. Corrugations give the door strength against impacts. A typical single-car garage roller door has a preloaded spring inside the rolling mechanism. The spring reduces the effort required to open the door. Oversized roller doors in commercial premises are not sprung (except in the US), and a manual pulley and chain system or a geared motor is used to raise and lower (roll up and roll down) the door. Roller doors cannot be effectively insulated. In the UK (and other parts of the EU), 'insulated' roller garage doors are available, using an aluminum lathe filled with polyurethane foam for thermal and acoustic insulation. Concerning thermal insulation, the roller door has a typical insulation R-value of 4.9 to 5.2. A sheet steel garage door has a typical insulation R-value of 0.5 to 2.7. An application that needs more thermal insulation typically uses a foam-filled sectional garage door, which provides typical insulation R-values of 6.1 to 6.4. Aluminum garage doors are usually found in commercial settings and are uncommon for residential ones. Aluminum is typically only used for full-view garage doors (doors that are made up of glass sections divided by aluminum stiles). Aluminum doors are rust-proof and low maintenance. Fiberglass and vinyl garage doors are composite units, combining a steel core behind a fiberglass or vinyl skin. They also have polyurethane insulated base sections or other types of foam insulation. These premium doors can match steel garage doors and be a realistic imitation of wood (namely fiberglass units), but they may be more expensive than steel units. Fiberglass doors are commonly used near an ocean, where salt water can ruin regular steel doors. Steel doors have a variety of sizes and styles, provide strength and security, are cost-competitive, and may have optional insulating value. Extra strength is available with two or three layers of galvanized steel with a low gauge number (0.6 - 0.7 mm steel panels).[6] Wood garage doors offer aesthetic appeal, but they are high maintenance and may be expensive. Low-priced wood garage doors may warp and break easily. Sectional-type steel with exterior cladding overhead garage doors in the style of old carriage house doors A common material for a new garage door is a steel sheet formed or stamped to look like a raised panel wooden door. Steel doors are available in uninsulated, insulated, and a three-layer door, also known as a sandwich-style door. A design mimicking carriage house doors has become popular since the early 2000s, and many manufacturers clad the exterior of a steel door with composite, vinyl boards, or other trim to give it the appearance of wood. In situations involving residential attached garages, the insulating value and the energy efficiency of a garage door are essential to avoid overheating and freezing problems, as well as for comfort and energy savings. A torsion spring counterbalance system consists of one or two tightly wound-up springs on a steel shaft with cable drums at both ends. The apparatus mounts on the header wall above the garage door and has three supports: a center bearing plate with a steel or nylon bearing and two end bearing plates at both ends. The springs consist of a steel wire with a stationary cone at one end and a winding cone at the other. The stationary cone is attached to the center bearing plate. The winding cone consists of holes every 90 degrees for winding the springs and two set screws to secure the springs to the shaft. Steel counterbalance cables run from the roller brackets at the bottom corners of the door to a notch in the cable drums. When the door is raised, the springs unwind, and the stored tension lifts the door by turning the shaft, thus turning the cable drums and wrapping the cables around the grooves on the cable drums. When the door is lowered, the cables unwrap from the drums, and the springs are rewound to full tension. Garage door manufacturers typically produce doors fitted with torsion springs that provide a minimum of 10,000 to 15,000 cycles and are guaranteed for three to seven years. One cycle is a single opening and closing sequence. Most manufacturers offer a 30,000-cycle spring. However, it is essential to remember that if the garage door's weight is increased by adding glass, additional insulation, or even several coats of paint, the torsion spring's life may be significantly reduced. Additionally, springs in highly humid environments, such as coastal regions tend to have a significantly shorter cycle life, due to the corrosive cracking. Other factors like poor garage door maintenance, loose tracks, or components shorten torsion spring life. Owners are advised to avoid applying grease to garage door tracks because that makes the wheels "skate" in the track instead of turning on their bearings. Only bearings, hinges, and spring wire require lubricant. An extension spring counterbalance system consists of a pair of stretched springs running parallel to the horizontal tracks. The springs lift the door through a system of pulleys and counterbalance cables running from the bottom corner brackets through the pulleys. When the door is raised, the springs contract, thus lifting the door as the tension is released. Typically, these springs are made of 11 gauge (3 mm) galvanized steel, and the lengths of these springs are based on the height of the garage door in question. Their lifting weight capacity can best be identified by the color that is painted on the ends of the springs. Maintenance of garage doors is described in the manufacturer's instructions and consists of periodic checks for correct operation, visual inspection of parts, and lubrication. [7][8] Electric eye for a garage door opener Garage doors can cause injury and property damage (including expensive damage to the door itself) in several ways. The most common causes of injury from garage door systems include falling doors, pinch points, improperly adjusted opener force settings, and safety eyes, attempts at do-it-yourself repair without the proper knowledge or tools, and uncontrolled release of spring tension (on torsion spring systems). A garage door with a broken spring or the wrong strength can fall. Because the effective mass of the door increases as the garage door sections transfer from the horizontal to vertical door tracks, a falling garage door accelerates rapidly. A free-falling garage door can cause severe injury or death. The sections and rollers on garage doors represent a significant pinch hazard. Children should never be allowed near a moving garage door for this reason. On manually operated garage doors, handles should be installed vertically to promote "vertical orientation of the hand". Mechanical garage door openers can pull or push a garage door with enough force to injure or kill people and pets if they become trapped. Modern openers have “force settings” that make the door reverse if it encounters too much resistance while closing or opening. Any garage door opener sold in the United States after 1992 requires electric eye—sensors that prevent the door from closing if obstructed. Force settings should cause a door to stop or reverse on encountering more than approximately 20 lb (10 kg) of resistance. Electric eyes should be installed a maximum of six inches above the ground. Many garage door injuries, and nearly all garage door-related property damage, can be avoided by following these precautions.[9] Certain parts, especially springs, cables, bottom brackets, and spring anchor plates, are under extreme tension. Injuries can occur if parts under tension are removed. Extension spring systems should always be restrained by a safety cable that runs through the middle of the spring, tying off to a solid point at the rear and front of the horizontal door track. The safety cable prevents hazards to bystanders when a spring, pulley, or cable breaks under tension and makes the system relatively safe. Torsion spring systems can be hazardous as they are always under tension and release energy when the spring fails. Severe injury or death can be caused by the projectile pieces of a failed torsion spring. Many people have been injured or killed trying to adjust torsion springs, and special training and procedures are required to modify a torsion spring safely; it is a job for a professional, not a homeowner or DIYer. ^ a b Hamilton, Gene; Hamilton, Katie (2004). Do it right the first time: what every homeowner needs to know before the work begins. Innova Publishers. p. 154. ISBN 9780974937359. Retrieved 2015-07-19. ^ Ask the Family handy-man. Reader's Digest. 1999. p. 138. ISBN 9780762101429. Retrieved 2015-07-19. garage door can weigh 400 pounds or more; they only seem light because the springs balance the weight as you lift the door. ^ Day, Richard (July 1982). "Tips from a pro: how to install a garage-door opener". Popular Science. Vol. 221, no. 1. pp. 91–93. Retrieved 2015-07-19. ^ a b Winterton, Deanne (2012-02-21). "History of the Garage Door". Amazines.com. Retrieved 2015-07-19. ^ Deziel, Chris (10 October 2023). "Are Sliding Garage Doors the Best Option for You?". Family Handyman. Retrieved 3 February 2024. ^ "DASMA Metal Gauge Chart Technical Data Sheet #154" (PDF). DASMA. Archived from the original (PDF) on 2014-08-02. Retrieved 2015-07-19. ^ "DASMA Door and Access Systems Manufacturers Association". Dasma.com. 1993-01-01. Archived from the original on 2012-10-28. Retrieved 2012-11-04. ^ "DASMA Door and Access Systems Manufacturers Association". Dasma.com. Archived from the original on 2012-08-26. Retrieved 2012-11-04. ^ "How Important Are Garage Door Safety Sensors". rsvallejo.com. Retrieved 2023-04-06. Media related to Garage doors at Wikimedia Commons Retrieved from " There is no denying that cars are essential parts of our daily lives. Today, it’s not unusual to see up to 2 or more cars in most households. The problem comes when we have to find adequate space to store our vehicles in as well as have additional space for storing our belongings. This is why it’s so important to pay attention to standard garage dimensions when constructing or buying a home. Here I will explain the most common vehicle dimensions, garage, and door dimensions, as well as some factors to consider before choosing your garage. But before we begin, let’s find out when and why garages became so highly sought by homeowners. When Did Garages Become So Popular, and Why? Garages first came on the scene in the early 1900s, but even then, they were just an afterthought. Most households had a small detached shed in the back of their home that was big enough to fit a small car in. In those days, people had only just learned how to drive, so the need for a garage wasn’t in their priorities. Eventually, someone called Carl Benz built a roof over his car as shelter and a few years later, C.G Johnson came up with the idea of electric garage doors that made opening and closing the gate easier. As vehicles got bigger, so did garage sizes. With the growing number of vehicles and the country’s wealth in the 70s, two-car garages became the norm rather than the exception. In fact, up to 18 percent of homes in the US had a one-car garage, and 40 percent had garages for two or more cars. By the early 2000s, the number of garage owners grew to 63 percent having two-car garages, and 20 percent had garages for three or more cars. In fact, only a mere 5 percent had a one-car garage. Two-car garages are now the minimal standard and they need to be large enough to accommodate RVs or SUVs. The three and four-car garages are mostly seen in luxury properties and barndominiums. These garages can be a positive selling point of a property. A garage is now a necessity for vehicle owners as it offers them safety and convenience – not to mention additional storage space. Even if you don’t have a car and decide against building a garage for your home, if you ever decide to sell your home in the future, you may have a hard time finding a buyer as most people need a garage for storing their belongings or vehicles. Standard Garage Door Width As a rule of thumb, when deciding on the garage door dimensions, it’s important to allow about two and a half feet from the car to the wall of the garage. This is in order for the car doors to open and for you to exit the vehicle. The standard width of a single-garage door is around 8 feet. But you can also get 9-foot doors. The width of some single garage doors can be as narrow as 5 feet. For double-garage doors, the minimum width is usually 14 feet, but more commonly 15 or 16 feet. Standard Garage Door Height The height of a typical garage door is around 7 feet, but sometimes you can find the height to be up to 8 feet. This is based on the location of the house and the interior walls of the garage. Detached garages are normally 7 to 8 feet high. On the other hand, if the garage is attached to a house, you have a connecting door from the house to the garage so the height will differ. In some cases, the upper story continues over the garage, thus increasing the ceiling height. This means the garage needs to be a little taller to accommodate the decreased floor height. The biggest advantage of having a taller ceiling in your garage is the added space for storing gardening tools or bikes on the wall. Just make sure the tools you hang on the wall don’t interfere with the floor or the garage door. With that in mind, I will now explain the standard vehicle, garage, and door dimensions for 1, 2, 3, and 4 cars. Common Vehicle Dimensions Here are some commonly used vehicles with their specific dimensions. Keep these figures into account before diving into the standard garage dimensions. For SUVs and trucks: Width: 6 to 7 feet Length: 16 to 19 feet Height: 5 to 6 feet Luxury cars: Width: 6 to 7 feet Length: 16 to 18 feet Height: 4 to 5 feet For sports or compact cars: Width: 5 to 6 feet Length: 14 to 16 feet Height: 4 to 5 feet Note: these conversions are based on standardized US dimensions. Standard Garage and Doorway Dimensions Single Garage Size A single garage is the smallest dimension for parking only one car. The advantage of a single garage is that any time you don’t want to store your vehicle in this space, you have the option of converting it into a shed or additional room. The standard sizes of a single garage are 20 feet in depth, 12 feet in width, and a minimum of 9 feet in the width of the door. 1-car garage key points: Garage doorway: 9 feet wide Garage interior: 12 feet wide Depth: 20 feet 2-Car Garage Size One of the most popular alternatives to a single-door garage is the double garage with two individual doors of around 9 feet in width. But if you want to save on costs, you can opt for a single large door of approximately 16 feet in width. To have a double garage, you need a minimum space of 20 feet in width alongside the same depth i.e. 20 feet by 20 feet. This is the extra space for comfortably getting in and out of the vehicle. But some people may even advise you to go for 24 feet by 24 feet in order to have some extra space for storage, a boat, or a motorbike. 2-car garage key points: Garage doorway (double doors or one large door): 16 feet wide Garage interior: 18 feet wide Depth: 20 feet 2-car Garage Plan with One Large Door 2-car Garage Plan with Double Doors 3-Car Garage Size A three-car garage is quite rare, even in large cities. Large families with adult children are usually the ones to have a three-car garage. So, as the garage is triple in size, we need to allow more space by adding extra distance to the depth. The depth should be around 22 feet, while the width will be around 32 feet. The cheapest option here is to install a wide door (around 16 feet) and use the additional depth to maneuver. To put it simpler, the standard garage size for three cars is usually 32 feet by 22 feet. Most families with this type of garage have at least one SUV and two regular-size vehicles. Some may have two SUVs and one small car. But it’s not uncommon to see three large cars so it’s best to allow additional space to accommodate all three. 3-car garage key points: Garage doorway (a single door): 8 feet wide Garage doorway (double doors): 16 feet wide Garage interior: 28 feet wide Bay depth: 20 feet 3-car Garage Plan with One Large Door 3-car Garage Plan with Double Doors 4-Car Garage Size Those who live in luxury properties or barndominiums may have the need for larger garages for storing their farm vehicles, cars, and tools. Large families with two teenagers or more may also have the need for 4-car garages. Whatever your circumstances, a 4-car garage offers plenty of storage space even if you don’t have 4 cars. With this type of garage, you have the option of storing two regular-size cars and two SUVs or RVs. 4-car garage key points: Garage doorway (a double door): 16 feet wide (each) Garage interior: 36 feet wide Bay depth: 22 feet The above dimensions should give you a basic idea of how to approach your new garage design. Factors to Consider Before Planning Your Garage Consider the types of vehicles you own before deciding on the garage size. For instance, an SUV takes up more room than a regular car. Will you be using the garage as a workshop, storage space for your car, or both? This is an important factor when planning a garage. The space needs to accommodate all your tools, depending on the typical project. Furthermore, will you be storing your motorboat or bikes as well as your car in the garage? Think about all these before building the ideal garage size for your requirements. Regulations and zoning codes in most states have minimum garage dimensions, so make sure you know these before planning your design. Depending on which state you live in, some local building codes take into account the door hardware, alarm systems, and the types of garage door openers when determining dimensions. Be sure to cover these issues beforehand. Final Thoughts By knowing the average dimensions of single, two, three, and four garages and figuring out exactly how you’ll be using the garage, you can then determine how much space you will need for your new garage. If you to read or make some design for your garage, feel free to read our guide on ‘ 8 Best Garage Design Software (Free and Paid) ’ Garage doors come in a variety of widths (8’, 9’, 10’, 12’, 16’, 18’) and heights (7’, 8’, 10’, 12’), depending on whether you’re outfitting a standard home garage, an RV bay, or a commercial space. Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution — You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Every builder knows entry doors come in standard sizes, allowing them to frame in rough openings beforehand. On rare occasions, plans call for one or more custom doors. While it’s usually easy to make a standard door smaller to fit a non-standard opening, you usually must special-order the door if you need a larger one. Garage doors also come in standard sizes, but they’re much more difficult to modify on site. And if they’re steel, vinyl or fiberglass, modification isn’t even possible. While you can order a garage door to fit a non-standard opening, it ends up being lot more expensive than one with standard dimensions. If you’re building a new garage or modifying an existing one, you probably want to avoid that extra expense unless you need extra space for a boat or RV. You also need a grasp of standard garage door sizes if you’re replacing an existing one. A garage door upgrade is one of the best things you can do for your home’s appearance. But if you have a non-standard opening, be prepared to spend more. Also check out these six best Wi-Fi garage door openers to retrofit your old opener. How to Measure for a Garage Door Most garage doors must fit exactly inside the door opening, so determine the width and height with a tape measure. If the door has a track system, you’ll need space between each side of the door and the wall for the springs. Most track systems require 3-3/4-in. of room on each side, but some can take up to 5-1/2-inches. Moreover, most doors that open vertically need 10 inches of headroom between the top of the opening and the ceiling, and some require 12 inches. If you’re in the middle of construction, don’t forget to allow for trim when you measure the width and height of the door opening. Standard 3/4-in. trim material will reduce the width of the opening by 1-1/2-in. and provide an extra 3/4-in. of side room. If the opening is already trimmed out, you don’t need to make this allowance. Standard Garage Door Size: Single-Car Garage Doors for single-car garages come in four standard widths: seven, eight, nine and 10 feet. Most cars are five feet two inches to five feet 10 inches wide, so an eight-foot door is usually more comfortable than a seven-foot one. You’ll probably prefer the seven-foot door if you’re storing lawn tools or a golf cart in your garage. You might want a nine- or 10-foot door if you’re parking your car as well as storing tools, or if you have a larger vehicle. The standard heights are seven and eight feet. The most common standard size for a single-car garage door is nine feet wide by seven feet high. Standard Garage Door Size: Two-Car Garage The standard dimensions of a two-car garage door are 16 feet wide by seven or eight feet high. Instead of a 16-foot door, many homeowners opt for two eight-foot doors separated by a central column. This arrangement provides more structural stability, because the column supports the door header, and two smaller doors have less visual impact than one large one. If you want the doors to open automatically, you’ll need two openers or a tandem opener that operates both doors at the same time. Standard Garage Door Size: Triple-Car Garage Manufacturers offer triple-wide garage doors that are 32 feet wide by seven or eight feet high. That might seem excessive for a garage that only accommodates one extra vehicle, but the extra width provides space between the cars for people to get in and out. Not surprisingly, doors this wide aren’t common. Construction calls for expensive oversize headers, and such a large door facing the front of the property can have a negative impact on curb appeal. One alternative: Install double-wide and single-wide doors next to each other. Or go with three single-wide doors separated by wide columns to provide space between vehicles. Standard Garage Door Size: RV Garage Manufacturers offer doors for RV garages that are 12 feet wide and 14 or 16 feet high. RVs come in all sizes, but all will fit inside a 16-foot-high door. If you’re planning out your dream garage or building a new house, you might wonder how big a “standard garage size” is. I’ve measured my garage a few times since I started my garage transformation. I figured I couldn’t be the only one with bad short-term memory, so I created this ‘cheat sheet’ with many common garage dimensions. Even if you’re not doing major projects like adding drywall or installing one of the best garage floor finishes, knowing roughly your garage’s dimensions and square footage can be really helpful when you’re at your local home improvement store. In this article, we will cover the standard garage sizes for homes in the US and Canada. We’ll also cover some differences between attached and detached garages and give you a rough estimate of the size of different types of cars. That way, you’ll know just how much extra space you have for those new cabinets you want to buy. Ready? Let’s get started. In a hurry?Here are the average sizes and square footage for the most popular garage sizes:1 Car Garage Dimensions: 192-320 total sq. ft. (12′-16′ wide x 16′-20′ long)1.5 Car Garage Dimensions: 288-440 total sq. ft. (18′-22′ wide x 16′-20′ long)2 Car Garage Dimensions: 352-480 total sq. ft. (22′-24′ wide x 16′-20′ long)2.5 Car Garage Dimensions: 384-520 total sq. ft. (24′-26′ wide x 16′-20′ long)3 Car Garage Dimensions: 496-680 total sq. ft. (31′-34′ wide x 16′-20′ long)4 Car Garage Dimensions: 640-880 total sq. ft. (40′-44′ wide x 16′-20′ long)5 Car Garage Dimensions: 800-1040 total sq. ft. (50′-52′ wide x 16′-20′ long)6 Car Garage Dimensions: 992-1360 total sq. ft. (31′-34′ wide x 32′-40′ long) I don’t like burying the lead, so let’s answer the question immediately. A standard one-car garage is between 12′ and 16′ wide and between 20′ and 24′ long, for a total of between 240 sq ft and 384 sq ft, on average. A standard two-car garage is between 22′ and 26′ wide but still between 20′ and 24′ long, giving it an area of between 440 sq ft and 624 sq ft. In both cases, the average ceiling height is usually 10′ high. According to the National Association of Home Builders, 65% of all new homes constructed in the United States come with two-car garages. This makes the average garage size in America between 440 sq ft and 624 sq ft. We’ll get into 3-car and 4-car garages in more detail below. In a different article, I cover tandem garages, where one car is parked directly behind another. To keep things simple, we consider that the “width” of a garage is the measurement from the left to the right when facing the garage door. The “depth” or “length” is measured from the garage door’s threshold to the back wall. You’ll notice that the standard depth doesn’t change from one size of garage to the next. Standard garages are designed for cars to pull in parallel, next to each other. Unless you have an extended garage for long vehicles, when it comes to garage depth, one size usually fits all. The garage door height is a standard 7 or 8 feet, while your garage ceiling is usually between 8′ and 10′ off your garage floor. Before getting to the dimensions, I’ll address a quick question. Garages are a lot wider than your car is. At best, you might have a 16-foot wide spot for a 5.5-foot wide car. The average person isn’t that bad at parking, although there are a LOT of home garage parking aids out there. Cars have gotten larger over the years, and home builders are designing a little extra cushion, so you can get in and out of your vehicle comfortably. Don’t forget, your car doors have to open, and you need enough space to get out! The doors are around 5 or 6 feet long, and the garage needs to be wide enough to swing open your door and get out of your car comfortably. A standard single garage door typically measures 8 to 9 feet wide and 7 to 8 feet tall. For a double garage door, the width is usually between 16 and 18 feet, while the height remains the same at 7 to 8 feet. A one-car garage is pretty straightforward. It’s usually large enough to fit a single car, with extra room for a tool chest or garage shelving. The standard width is between 12 and 16 feet, with a standard depth of between 20 and 24 feet. This leaves enough room for a garage door between 8 feet and 10 feet wide and between 7 feet and 8 feet tall. Pin Single car garages don’t leave much room on either side of your vehicle to open your car door. Larger vehicles may not be able to park inside at all. These days, most homes in the United States are being built with two-car garages. The standard two-car garage is slightly less than double the width of a single-car garage, between 22 and 26 feet wide, and the depth stays at 20 to 24 feet. Here, we see a little more variability in the average garage door size. You can have two independent, single garage doors 8 to 10 feet wide or one double-wide door that’s 12 feet to 16 feet wide. In both cases, the door is typically 7 to 8 feet tall. Three and four-car garages also have this variability with their garage doors. Pin A 2 car garage allows for extra storage space for shelves, lawnmowers, or trash cans. In some cases, two car garage dimensions may even allow you to store a motorcycle behind the parked cars. More cars mean a wider garage. On average, the standard three-car garage ranges between 31 and 34 feet wide. Like two-car garages, the depth remains between 20 and 24 feet. That makes the square footage of a 3-car garage between 620 sq ft and 816 sq ft. It can also feature single and double-wide garage doors ranging from 8 to 16 feet wide. Pin Although still rare, we’re seeing four-car garages on more new homes. 4-car garages are usually between 40 and 44 feet wide but between 20 and 24 feet deep. Their doors range from 8 to 16 feet wide and come in various single- and double-wide options. That makes the square footage of a 4-car garage between 800 sq ft and 1056 sq ft. SIZEWIDTH (ft.)DEPTH (ft.)DOOR WIDTH (ft.)AREA1 car garage12′ – 16′20′ – 24′8′ – 10′240 – 384 sq. ft.2 car garage22′ – 26′20′ – 24′8′ – 16′440 – 624 sq. ft.3 car garage31′ – 34′20′ – 24′8′ – 16′620 – 816 sq. ft.4 car garage40′ – 44′20′ – 24′8′ – 16′800 – 1056 sq. ft. It’s important to understand the standard dimensions of different vehicles. This will help you know if your vehicle will fit in your garage before writing a big check to the repair shop. Many people don’t have to worry about squeezing a motorcycle into their garage. For reference, they are around 6 feet long, 4 feet high, and 2.5 feet wide. You can expect compact, mid-size, and full-size cars to fall within specific average dimensions, between 14 feet and 17 feet. The width ranges between 5.5 feet and 6.5 feet. The height won’t be a problem. They can stand as tall as 6 foot 2 inches. Trucks are obviously bigger than cars. They can be 17 to 20 feet long and 6 to 7 feet wide. Their height varies slightly due to how common lift kits are, but they usually stand around 6.5 feet tall. SUVs and Minivans have a little more variation in their measurements. On average, their length ranges from 16 feet to 18 feet, and their width is between 6 and 7 feet. Their height can be as low as 5.5 feet and as high as 7 feet. The best place to start is with some definitions. Let’s look at some types of garages that might interest you. As the name suggests, a detached garage is not connected to the rest of your home. Detached garages will have a garage entry door, so you can go in and out without opening the main garage door. Pros: Isolated area to make noise without disturbing the rest of the home It can be built after a house is constructed A perfect option if there isn’t enough space in your home for as large of a garage as you’d like The garage can be prefabbed to save time and money on construction It can be designed in non-standard sizes Cons: Walking to your car in the rain/snow Won’t look the same aesthetically as your home Most homeowners will have an attached garage. You pull in through the garage door and have immediate access to the rest of your home through a door. Pros: Easy access to your car Safer option Matches the rest of the home aesthetically Cons: It might be limited to standard sizes Needs to be built at the same time the house is This option can be attached or detached, but it has a living area above the garage. It’s a great use of space, especially when family comes to visit. Pros: Great use of vertical space Private quarters for guests Cons: More expensive option Takes more planning and professional design Finally, there are carports. These options are just garages with no walls, having only support beams and a roof at the top. This option can be attached or detached and can be as large as you’d like. Check out my article here for more on the differences between carports and garages. Pros: Inexpensive option It can be built relatively easily It can be placed anywhere and be as large as you wish Cons: Cars are not protected from theft or vandalism No opportunity to add additional amenities Cars are still exposed to outside temperatures There are some key points to keep in mind as you’re finishing the design of your garage. These considerations are easier to incorporate when you think about them before construction starts. Remember that your vehicle sizes might change, but your garage is a fixed size. Many people like to design some wiggle room in their garage and give themselves a chance to grow a little. Designing a garage around a Mini Cooper makes it really tough to park a lifted pick-up truck in the future. Our pro tip: never design your garage around your current car. Do you want to have a living section in your garage? You may want a hangout area. The different uses you’ll have for a garage should be factored in while designing. This means that you’ll be throwing some extra amenities into your space. Accounting for a garage air conditioning unit, cable hookups, and power for a garage fridge might turn it into the perfect spot to relax. Putting workbenches along the wall and extra lighting for your garage will let you to get your hands dirty on some projects. If you want to keep your garage and car warm, you can treat yourself to heated flooring in the garage. This is especially useful for people who get on their backs to work on their vehicles from time to time. These floors must go in before the concrete is poured into your garage. Pin A garage isn’t just for storing a car. People across the world have unique uses for their garages. In many cases, there’s more room in a garage than required for parking cars. Let’s take a look at some of the more popular uses. Throw a TV on your garage wall and some couches, and you have a little relaxation corner. If you don’t have a designated Man Cave, the garage might be the perfect space for it. Whether or not you have a loft in your garage, you can still put together an additional room and create some living space. Using part of a garage for living space is usually cheaper than building another room in your home. A garage is a perfect place for a workshop for many people. Some large tables and overhead lighting along the back wall will give you more than enough space. Work on DIY projects and have a designated space for your tools where you can get dirty. The most common use for a garage is storage. People pile up miscellaneous items that they have gathered over the years. Carving out a section of your home won’t make sense if you have decorations or games you only use a few times a year. That’s why so many people use the garage for storage. People with two-car garages might use half of the garage for storage and the other half for their car. Your car will already be parked in your garage. Why not get some tools and a jack to create a space for car repairs? You can change your oil in your garage without waiting for a sunny day to do it outside. A garage can also shelter the other toys you have. 4-wheelers, electric scooters, and motorcycles can easily call the garage their home between uses. This answer is going to vary based on who you ask. For many people, a car is the most expensive item they own apart from their home. You want to keep it secure and away from the elements, so a garage is a perfect solution. As you can tell by now, there are a ton of different uses for a garage. As long as you have the space for a garage, it’s a no-brainer! They are definitely worth the investment since they will keep your car in good shape for longer and give you room to do whatever you want. Families with two cars might opt for a three-car garage. The extra slot in their garage can be used for any of the earlier uses. Nothing is forcing you to park three cars in a three-car garage! Alternatively, you can pick up more cars when you build a larger garage. Families with a young child might get a three-car garage with the expectation that their kid will have a vehicle they need to store one day. Detached garages have more wiggle room for expansion. Still, you must be sure of the recommended minimum size when assembling an attached garage. This is a lot of information to sift through, but hopefully, this helps you plan your garage transformation. It’s even more important when considering custom built garages. Even if your home’s garage is an odd size, knowing the standard garage dimensions can help save time planning for your garage upgrades. In my mind, the bigger garage you can afford, the better. Even if you don’t have enough cars to fill it just yet, you’ll have enough space to convert one of the bays into a workshop or extra storage for tools and seasonal items. There’s nothing wrong with getting a larger garage than you need. It’s easier to fill the extra space than it is to find cheap long-term car storage. Trust North Shore Commercial Door for high-quality garage door replacement torsion springs and heavy duty garage door extension springs. Our large inventory of heavy duty garage door springs by leading manufacturers is backed by superior customer service to assist with finding the best parts for your residential or commercial garage door. Category List Garage Door Torsion Springs Garage Door Universal Spring Cones Garage Door Cable Drums Garage Door Cable Assemblies Garage Door Extension Springs Garage Door Extension Spring Accessories Garage Door Sheave Pulley Parts One-Piece Door Hardware Garage Door Spring Center Support Brackets Garage Door Bearings Wayne Dalton TorqueMaster Springs We have replacement pairs of torsion springs engineered to fit most commercial garage doors. Choose a pair of standard 10,000-cycle spring torsion springs, or buy 25,000-cycle springs with end-cones included. Shop our economy-priced collection of garage door extension springs for home or commercial garage doors. Our replacement extension springs are available for door heights ranging from 7 ft. to 14 ft. Find extension springs color-coded by weight, with weights ranging from 10 lbs. to 300 lbs. Also find affordably priced accessories for springs, including yoke plates, safety cable assemblies and more. Replacing worn parts early will ensure safe, efficient garage door operations. If you can't find the owner's manual for your garage door to confirm sizes, contact our friendly, knowledgeable staff for guidance on finding the right replacement parts. To learn more, check out our FAQ page on garage door springs. March 20, 2024 Posted in: Residential Garage Door Getting the right garage door size is essential when installing a new garage door at home. The number of cars your garage holds determines the size, but the measurements must be accurate to ensure a door that fits. Explore the standard garage door sizes for various sized garages, including smaller and custom garage doors. Contact Our Expert Team Understanding Garage Door Sizes for Your Home or Project Whether you’re building a new garage or expanding your current one, the garage space comprises different dimensions that must be calculated individually and holistically to get the right door measurements. A tape measure is sufficient to calculate all the dimensions within the garage. These are the main areas to consider: Garage door opening: The opening or entrance to the garage is the size of the garage door, allowing the car to pass through. The door opening height and width are measured in inches. Side room: This is the space between the walls and garage door openings on both sides. Torsion springs are usually fitted in this space and should ideally be 3.75 inches on each side. Headroom: This is the area between the ceiling and the top of the door opening. Include the garage door opener clearance, usually about 3 inches. Backroom: This is the depth of the garage or the length between the opening and the back wall. Floor: This is the ground space between the four garage walls measured in length and width or square footage. Overview of Standard Garage Door Sizes Garage door sizes vary according to home sizes, but most are standard unless there are custom requirements. The car sizes impact the dimensions as some homeowners may build according to the vehicle types. For example, they may have a hatchback, a Jeep or SUV, and an RV they want to park in one garage. Standard double garage door dimensions may not be suitable in this case. The common dimensions for one- to four-car garages are measured in width by depth in feet, while other uncommon dimensions are included in the following section. One-car garages: These hold one car and are typically available in 8-by-7 feet, 8-by-8 feet, 9-by-7 feet or 9-by-8 feet. Another popular dimension is 12 -by-20 feet to accommodate a bigger vehicle and have enough space to walk around it in the garage and open the doors without touching the walls. Two-car garages: These fit two cars and come in standard sizes of 16 feet by 7 or 8 feet. Three-car garages: To fit three cars in a garage, you need approximately 30-by-20 feet up to 36-by-feet of space. Four-car garages: Housing up to four cars, this garage size is at least 40-by-20 feet up to 45-by-24 feet. Detailed Dimensions for Various Garage Types Regarding garage sizes, there are standard measurements, but the reality is that everyone’s needs differ. It’s not always a one-size-fits-all scenario. We explore the detailed dimensions for different garage types and what might best suit your requirements. One-Car Garage Dimensions and Square Footage: Essential for Small Households The dimensions for one-car garages are usually based on the home size. Households with only one vehicle don’t need much space but still need to avoid making the garage too small. Some smaller homes might have limited storage space, and a larger garage can help solve this problem. In general, one-car garage dimensions include: Width: 12-18 feet Depth: 20-30 feet Additional sizes: 12-by-25 feet, 12-by-30 feet, 18-by-25 feet and 18-by-30 feet. Garage door width: 9-12 feet Area in square feet: 240-540 square feet For more storage space, you could add half a car’s size in width, making the garage 18 feet wide instead of 12 feet. A 1.5-car garage provides ample space for a minivan or SUV in a single garage. Two-Car Garage Dimensions and Square Footage: Ideal for Growing Families Having multiple cars is common for growing families, so it’s important to accommodate an appropriate-sized garage. On average, double garages fit two cars and are measured as follows: Width: 22-30 feet Depth: 24-30 feet Additional sizes: 20-by-30 feet, 24-by-25 feet and 24-by-30 feet Garage door width: One 16-foot or 18-foot wide door, or two 9- to 12-foot wide doors Area in square feet: 360-660 square feet The deeper or longer the garage, the more space you’ll enjoy. Consider adding 3-5 inches, depending on your vehicles’ sizes. You may want to have enough space for 2.5 cars, so you have extra room for storage or a workbench. Three-Car Garage Dimensions and Square Footage: Balancing Space and Functionality When you’re parking three cars, there are ways to balance space and functionality. Here, you may consider the length more important than the width since the cars stand behind each other. If parked next to each other to save space in length, one single garage and a double garage make sense. Or, you could incorporate a four-car garage and use the additional space for storing smaller vehicles like a motorcycle or convert it into a workshop area. How many square feet is a three-car garage? Standard dimensions for a single and double garage layout are typically these below: Width: 32-22 feet Depth: 20-30 feet Additional sizes: 36-by-24 feet Garage door width: An 8- to 10-foot-wide door and a 16- or 18-foot-wide door Area in square feet: 600-1,260 square feet Detached three-car garages are another option if you don’t have space for an attached garage. Common dimensions for these include 32 x 24, 34 x 24 and 36 x 28. Four-Car Garage Dimensions and Square Footage: A Multifunctional Space Four-car garages require the most space in length and width and are versatile. So, how big is a four-car garage? These are the standard measurements: Width: 40-48 feet Depth: 20 feet or more Additional sizes: 24-by-45 feet Garage door width: Four 9- to 12-foot wide doors or two 16- to 18-foot wide doors Area in square feet: 800-1,680 square feet Homeowners with four-car garages commonly use the extra space as a workshop, gym or recreational area. Exploring Uncommon Garage Door Sizes While most garages use standard garage door sizes, sometimes garages are built according to specific dimensions. Half sizes like 1.5 or 2.5-car garages can allow for more storage or workshop space, and five-car garages hold all your vehicles and projects. With these, you’d add half a car’s width or more to standard sizes to achieve the ideal size. Maximizing Your Garage’s Potential The factors below contribute to maximizing your garage’s potential as you consider space and customization options. Factors Influencing Garage Door Size Selection Some factors that may influence the garage door size include: Garage type: The two main garage types are attached and detached from your home. Storage requirements: If you store hobby items and other goods alongside the parked cars, you’ll need a larger garage, which could mean a bigger door. Vehicle size: Ensure your garage is deep and wide enough to accommodate your varying vehicle sizes. Number of vehicles: Account for all your vehicles, including smaller, light vehicles like bicycles, motorbikes and scooters. Additional functionality: You may want to convert a section of a larger garage into a recreational or work area if you use a larger garage to park only one or two cars. Utilizing Space Efficiently in Larger Garages Larger garages allow numerous opportunities for utilizing space effectively. Whether you have a one-car or a four-car garage, you can use it for storage or as a recreational or work space. Consider the garage layout and which parts are free. Corners and the far end are usually available to put up storage units or stack boxes. If there’s enough space, a table and chairs can create a lounge area. Custom Garage Door Sizes: Tailoring to Your Needs When planning a custom garage door, explore the options until you’re satisfied with what you can get. Value for money without compromising quality is key when considering the best local garage door companies. A reputable contractor will advise you on customization preferences, like what can and can’t be customized. Explore their selections and what they can do for you. Choosing the Right Garage Door Size With Continental Door Continental Door’s expert team is always available to help our valued customers in Spokane and the surrounding areas. We have been driving customer satisfaction since 2000 and strive to deliver the best service. If you’re interested in installing a new garage or upgrading your current one and need help determining the right garage door sizes, call us or request a free estimate today. We are always eager to help!