

# Attaching an Automatic Opener



## WARNING

To avoid risk of strangulation or personal injury to children, if your door has a pull down rope, you must remove the pull down rope when you install an automatic garage door opener.

**IMPORTANT:** When installing an automatic garage door opener, make sure to follow the manufacturer's installation and safety instructions carefully. **Do not install the pull down rope when attaching an automatic opener. The lock should be removed or disengaged to prevent damage to the door.** If attaching an operator bracket to the wood anchor pad, make sure the wood anchor pad is free of cracks and splits and is firmly attached to the wall. Always drill pilot holes before attaching lag screws.

To avoid damage to your door, you must reinforce the top section of the door in order to provide a mounting point for the opener to be attached.

You will need one (1), two (2), or three (3) pieces of 1 1/4" x 1 1/4" minimum punched angle at least 13 gauge or 3/32" thick from your local hardware or building supply store. See chart below for number of pieces, length of

pieces, and fasteners required for your specific door. Figures AO-1 – AO-9 show how punched angle is to be affixed to door.

**Do NOT install the bracket supplied with the opener. Failure to reinforce the door, as illustrated, will void your Clopay warranty.**

The operator arm will usually be attached to the vertical angle at roughly the same height as the top roller of the door. Attach the opener arm directly to the punched angle. To prevent the top of the door from bending, the opener rail should be mounted no less than 2" or greater than 5" from the top of the door with the door in the open position (FIG. AO-2)

For attachment of the opener arm to vertical angle iron, use one 3/8" x 3/4" bolt and two 3/8" nuts tightening one nut against the other to prevent the nuts from loosening on the bolt. Do not tighten the nuts against the opener arm (opener arm must be allowed to rotate freely.) (FIG. AO-3)

**NOTE:** An opener bracket kit specifically designed for opener attachment may be purchased as an option (silver galvanized or white powder coated). Instructions are provided with kit.

Angle Iron & Fasteners Required for Automatic Opener Reinforcement					
Door Width	Non-Insulated Doors		Insulated Doors <sup>1, 3</sup>		Angle Iron Required <sup>2</sup>
Up to 9'10"	6 EA	1/4" x 1" Bolts 1/4" Lock Washers 1/4" Nuts	4 EA	1/4" x 1" Bolts, 1/4" Nuts 1/4" Lock Washers 1/4" x 3/4" Sheet Metal Screws	(1) 48" piece (1) 21" piece
10'0 to 14'10"	9 EA	1/4" x 1" Bolts 1/4" Lock Washers 1/4" Nuts	5 EA 4 EA	1/4" x 1" Bolts, 1/4" Nuts 1/4" Lock Washers 1/4" x 3/4" Sheet Metal Screws	(2) 48" piece (1) 21" piece
15'0" to 15'10"	9 EA	1/4" x 1" Bolts 1/4" Lock Washers 1/4" Nuts	7 EA 7 EA 2 EA	1/4" x 1" Bolts, 1/4" Nuts 1/4" Lock Washers 1/4" x 3/4" Sheet Metal Screws	(2) 48" piece (1) 21" piece
16'0" to 18'10"	2 EA	1/4" x 1/2" Bolts 1/4" Lock Washers 1/4" Nuts	3 EA	1/4" x 3/4" Sheet Metal Screws	(1) 21" piece
19'0" to 20'0"	9 EA	1/4" x 1" Bolts 1/4" Lock Washers 1/4" Nuts	7 EA 7 EA 2 EA	1/4" x 1" Bolts, 1/4" Nuts 1/4" Lock Washers 1/4" x 3/4" Sheet Metal Screws	(2) 48" piece (1) 21" piece

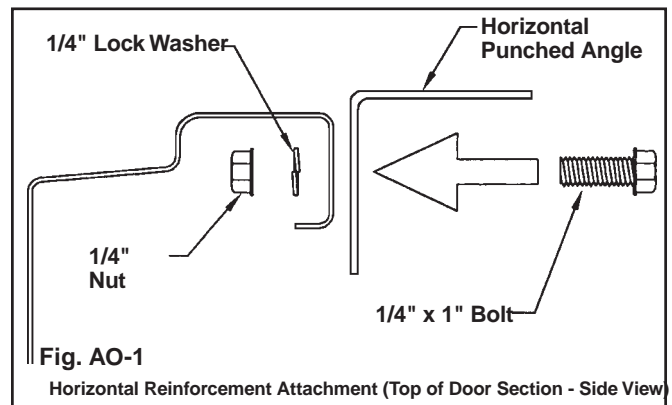
**1** On Insulated Doors, the sheet metal screws are to be used instead of nuts and bolts where angle iron attaches to center stile.

**2** Angle iron may have to be trimmed depending on door section height and distance between center stiles.

**3** When insulated steel doors use 1/4" sheet metal screws, each screw location should be predrilled to 5/32".

## Horizontal Angle Iron Attachment

Attach the horizontal punched angle (the longer piece) to the top and /or bottom lip of the door as shown in Figure AO-1. Some doors with struts may not need a horizontal angle, see figure for your specific door on the following page.



**NOTE:** Horizontal angles and struts are shown cut away for illustration purposes only. **DO NOT** notch these pieces. (FIG. AO-4 to AO-9)

**NOTE:** Doors with 5 or 7 windows should use Fig. AO-6 or AO-8 (depending on door width).

**Insulated Doors Only**

The top of the vertical angle must be notched out so the horizontal angle or strut can be placed over the vertical angle. **The top of the vertical angle MUST overlap the lip of the door panel.** See appropriate figure insert (FIG. AO-4A to AO-9A) for the vertical angle notch-out placement.

