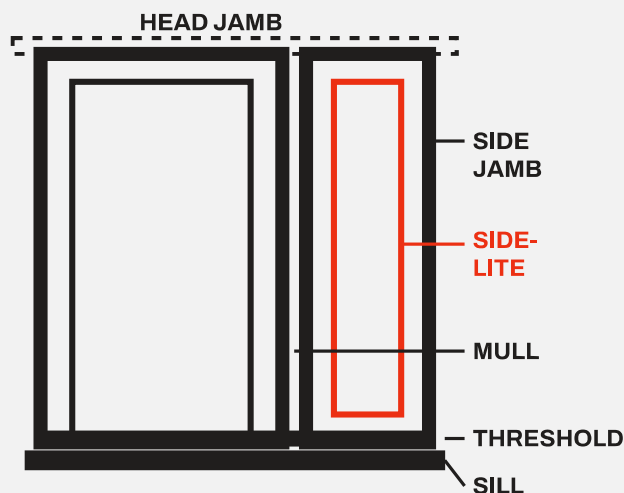




Parts of a door

A plain-English glossary. You don't need to learn these words to buy a door — but knowing a few makes talking to us much quicker.

1 • THE FRAME



Frame — the surround the door hangs in. It is made up of jambs, plus a mull where two units meet. Usually wood, but also aluminum, fibreglass or composite, and available primed for paint or factory-finished.

Jamb — one piece of that frame. The two upright pieces are side jambs; the piece across the top is the head jamb.

Mull — the joint where two units meet, such as a door joined to a sidelite. It is normally hidden behind a strip of trim called mull casing.

Sidelite — a tall narrow window beside a door. Adds daylight and makes an entry feel more open.

Transom — the same idea above the door instead of beside it: a narrow window over the opening. Most are fixed in place.

Brick mould — the exterior equivalent of casing, and what a screen or storm door attaches to.

SILL

The bottom of the frame, sealed and fastened to the floor. Only exterior doors have one.

THRESHOLD

The hard-wearing cap over the sill, sloped outward to shed water. Usually metal or fibreglass.

CASING

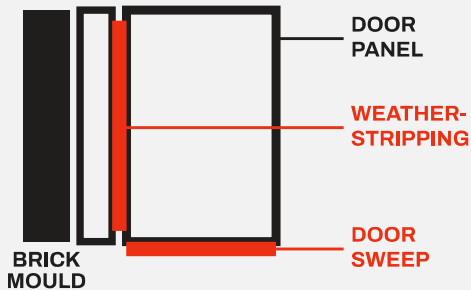
Interior trim that covers the gap between the frame and the wall.



Jamb or frame? A jamb is one piece. The frame is all the pieces together.

Weather, glass and trim

2 • KEEPING WEATHER OUT



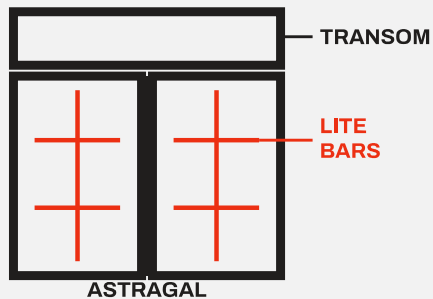
Brick mould — the exterior version of casing. Thicker than interior trim, it covers the gap between the frame and the brick or siding, and it is what a screen or storm door attaches to.

Weatherstripping — flexible silicone, rubber or foam that seals the gap between the frame and the closed door.

Door sweep — the weatherstripping along the bottom edge of the door, sealing it to the sill.

Astragal — on a double door, the strip covering the seam where the two doors meet. It carries weatherstripping to keep wind and water out.

3 • GLASS AND GLASS BARS



Glazing — simply the glass. Exterior glazing is normally two or three layers with argon gas sealed between them for insulation, plus near-invisible coatings that manage heat and light. Tints and laminates can add privacy or strength.

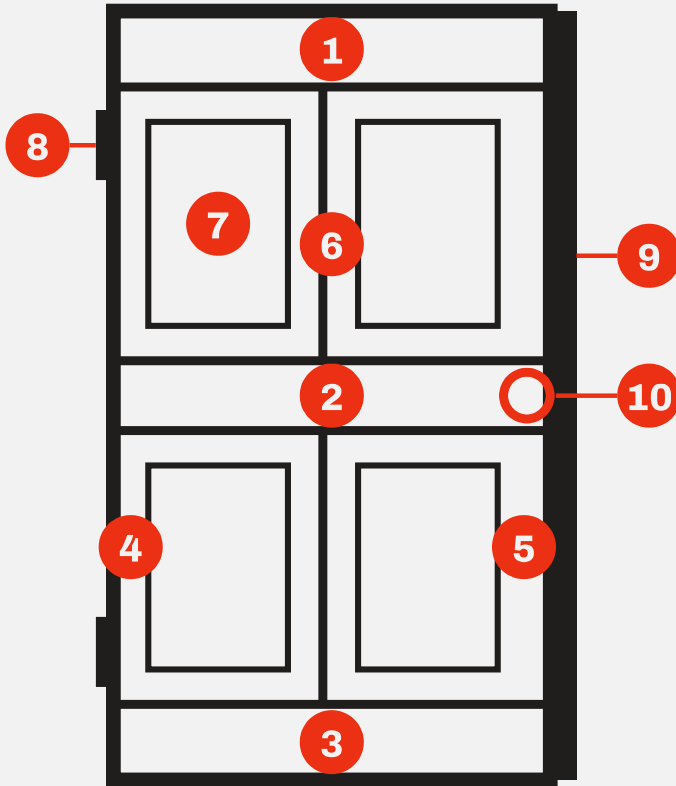
Transom — a narrow window above a door. Most are fixed; some hinge at the top.

Divided lite bars (SDL) — bars applied to the glass surface to give the look of separate panes.

Grilles — removable bars for the same effect, so the glass is easy to clean. Grilles-between-glass sit permanently sealed inside the unit.

Muntin bars — the traditional version, holding many small panes together. Rare now that large panes are strong and affordable.

The door itself



1 • Top rail — the horizontal piece across the top of the door.

2 • Mid rail — a horizontal piece partway up. Not every door has one.

3 • Bottom rail — the horizontal piece along the bottom.

4 • Hinge stile — the upright edge the hinges are fitted to.

5 • Lock stile — the opposite upright edge, where the handle and latch go.

6 • Mullion — an upright piece between two panels, in from the edges.

7 • Panel — the flat areas framed by the rails, stiles and mullions.

8 • Hinge — lets the door swing. Standard doors use three; taller or heavier doors use four or more.

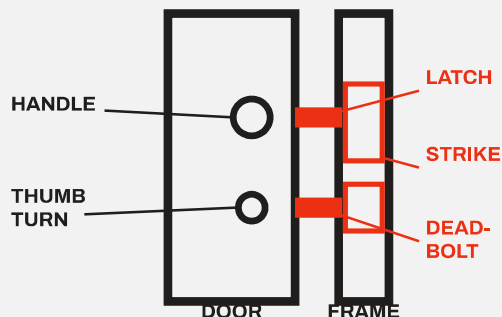
9 • Stop moulding — fixed to the frame, it stops the door in the right position instead of swinging through.

10 • Bore hole — the hole drilled through the door for the lockset.



Panel, slab, door. All three words mean the part that actually swings. On a panelled door, "panel" can also mean each flat section inside it — so we usually say **slab** to avoid confusion.

Handles and locks



Lockset — the whole hardware set: handles, locks, latch, strike plates and everything that makes a door latch and lock. Also called a handleset or just hardware.

Handle — the knob or lever you use to release the latch.

Latch — the small shaft that springs out of the door edge into the frame and holds the door closed. Turning the handle pulls it back.

Deadbolt — a second, heavier bolt for security, usually set above the handle. It needs its own bore hole. Interior doors don't have one, and not every exterior door does either.

Thumb turn — the small lever that throws the deadbolt from inside; a key does it from outside.

Strike plate — the metal plate on the frame the latch catches in. It reinforces the frame against being forced.

Mortise plates — plates that strengthen the door around the latch and deadbolt.

Escutcheon — the decorative plate around a handle, thumb turn or key cylinder, protecting the door face.

FOUR KINDS OF HANDLE

ENTRY	BED & BATH	PASSAGE	DUMMY
Key on the outside, push or turn button inside. For exterior doors.	Locks from the inside only. For bedrooms and bathrooms.	No lock at all. For closets, hallways and pantries.	Fixed in place — no latch and nothing turns. For the inactive door of a pair.



Bring your hardware, or a photo of it. The door has to be machined to suit the lockset, so the hardware is worth deciding early.