

How To: Install a door viewer

Skill Level: BEGINNER These how-to's are suitable for people who are new to DIY and who have a basic knowledge of tools. If you've painted a room or re-potted a plant, you can probably complete one of these projects by yourself in a few hours or less.

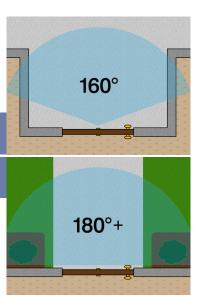
MATERIALS

- Door Viewer
- Drill and Drill Bits
- Multi-Purpose Wire Cutter
- Screwdrivers (Slotted/Standard and Cross-head/Phillips)
- Tape Measure
- Pencil
- Dust Mask
- Safety Glasses
- Ladder or Step Stool—if needed
- Silicone Sealant-optional

Safety and security are important to homeowners. One quick and easy project you can do to add security to your home is to install a door viewer. The following instructions will show you how to install a door viewer and doorknocker. If you want to install only the viewer, skip the instructions for the knocker.

PREPARATION

- 01 Measure the door's thickness.
 - It should be between 1-3/8" and 1-3/4". The new door viewer must fit doors of this dimension.
- **02** Select the appropriate door viewer.
 - Smaller entry areas can be seen using a 160° viewer.
 - Larger entries and open porches need a wider viewer of 180° or 200°.
- 03 Refer to instructions on and in the manufacturer's packaging, if available.



INSTALLING THE DOOR VIEWER

- **01** Use a pencil to mark the best vertical location for the viewer on the inside surface of the door.
 - It should be installed at a height that all members of the household can use.
 - If desired, install one viewer for adults and another at a lower height for children or handicapped residents.
- **02** Use a tape measure to center the viewer on the door and mark the final location with a pencil.



IMPORTANT

Before you begin this project, read the door viewer manufacturer's instructions. Be sure to follow all local building codes. If you're not comfortable using a drill and installing a door viewer, discuss the job with a Lowe's associate or call a professional for help.





How To: INSTALL A DOOR VIEWER

INSTALLING THE DOOR VIEWER (cont.)

- **03** If you're installing a knocker, you'll need to mark the holes for the mounting screws.
 - Measure the distance from the viewer hole to each mounting hole, then translate those measurements to your door.
 - WARNING: Wear safety glasses and a dust mask when using a drill and drill bits.

04 Drill the holes for the mounting screws.

- **05** Using the same bit as the previous step, drill a pilot hole for the door viewer.
- 06 Using the appropriate size drill bit, drill the actual hole for the door viewer.
 - TIP: To prevent door surfaces from splintering, drill the viewer hole halfway through the pilot hole from one side of the door, then halfway from the other side.
- 07 Open the door halfway to simultaneously access both the interior and exterior sides as you continue.
- **08** To install the knocker, from the interior side, insert the mounting screws in the door.
- **09** From the exterior side, hold the knocker next to the screws to determine the screw lengths.
- 10 Cut the mounting screws to the appropriate length.
 - Make sure you have a wire cutter that is made to cut screws.
 - Just thread the mounting screws into the appropriate hole in your wire cutter, then snip off the desired length.
- 11 Insert the screws, with washers, back in the door. When you see them poke through the front of the door, line up the knocker, then tighten the screws with your hand.
- **12** Tighten both screws with a screwdriver.
- **13** Insert the door viewer.
 - Make sure you have the lens on the exterior, and the barrel on the interior.
- **14** Tighten the door viewer in place with your hand, then a screwdriver if needed.
 - Some door viewers have a notch on the barrel side for tightening with a screwdriver or even a coin. Check your manufacturer's instructions for securing your door viewer.
 - TIP: If you are inserting the door viewer without the knocker, apply a small amount of silicone sealant around the lens to keep moisture out. This tip is particularly helpful if you don't have a storm door or overhang.











INSTALLING THE DOOR VIEWER (cont.)

15 Test the viewer.

Installing a door viewer is an easy project that allows you to greet visitors safely and securely.

Be sure to check out the other home security projects, with instruction sheets, at Lowes.com/Videos.



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