Installing Hinges

No 9 in the series of 'How to' brochures
produced by PlaceMakers, New Zealand

Overview

Here are tips and suggestions on selecting and installing hinges. Read these instructions carefully. Following these simple steps can save time and effort and help you end up with a neater, more satisfactory job.

Tools & Material Checklist

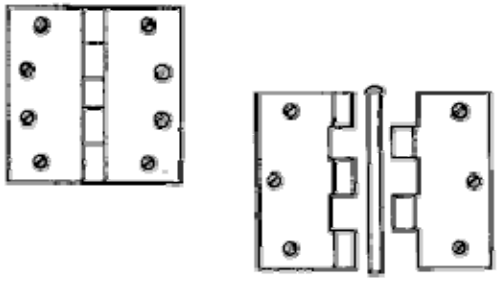
- Hinges (Correct Size)
- Screwdriver
- Folding Rule
- Hammer
- Hand Saw
- Mallet
- Screws (Correct Size)
- Hand Drill
- Wood Chisel (Correct Size)
- Sabre Saw
- Sandpaper
- T Square

Selecting Hinges

There are far too many different types of hinges to describe in detail in this brief instruction sheet. We will review only the popular types of hinges you might use on a 'do-it-yourself' job around the house.

Butt hinges

The most common hinges used for hanging doors. Butt hinges are either loose pin or fixed pin (See Fig.l). Loose pin hinges allow a door to be removed without unscrewing the hinges from either the door or door iamb (frame). Loose pin hinges should never be used on outer opening external doors. Intruders can remove the pins and then lift the doors out to gain entry.



Butt and loose pin butt hinges are most commonly used

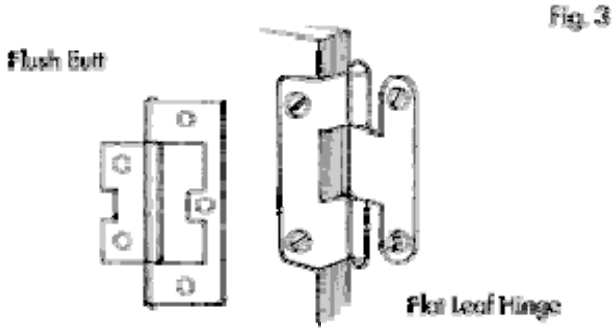
Loose Joint Butt hinges

(Fig. 2) allow a door to be removed by lifting it high enough to ensure one section of the hinge clears the pin of the other section. That is obviously an advantage if a door needs to be removed frequently.

Loose Joint Hinge

Flat Leaf hinges

(Fig. 3) are shaped to provide back fixing in particleboard cupboard doors, where fixing into end grain could not be relied on to hold.

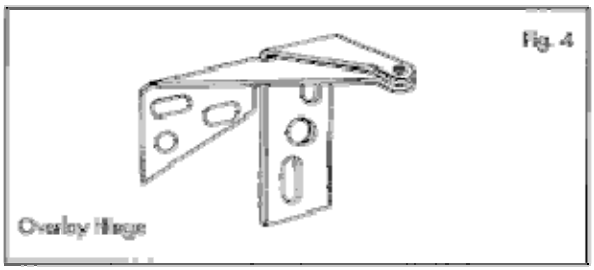


Flush Butt hinges

(Fig. 3) These are also used on cabinet doors. They don't need recessing.

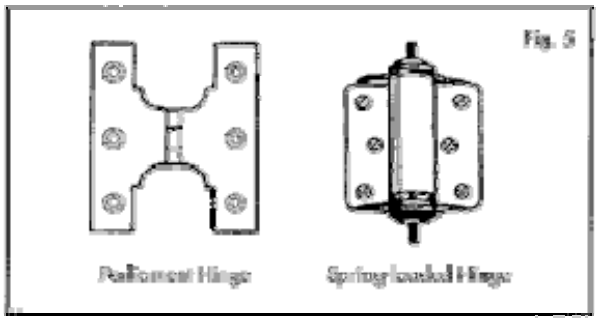
Fully Concealed Overlay hinge

(Fig. 4) These can be used for overlay doors or flush doors. The primary advantage of the overlay hinge is that it requires no door frame for mounting.



Parliament hinge

(Fig. 5) This is used almost exclusively on French doors. It allows a full 180° opening clearing facings or architraves.



Spring Loaded hinge

(Fig. 5) This has a built-in spring mechanism that closes the door after each opening.

Back Flap hinge

(Fig. 6) This is a version of the butt hinge with both flaps being square. However, it is primarily a furniture type hinge and not widely used on general construction.

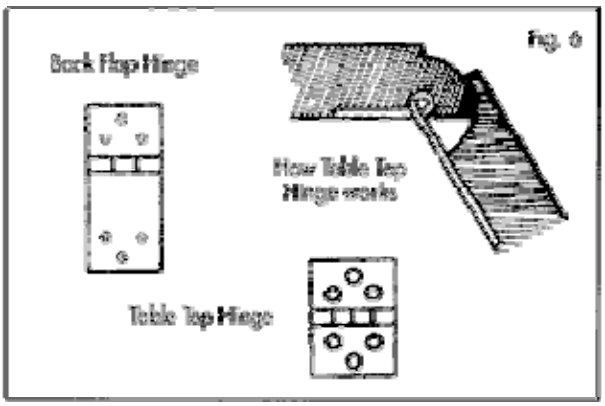
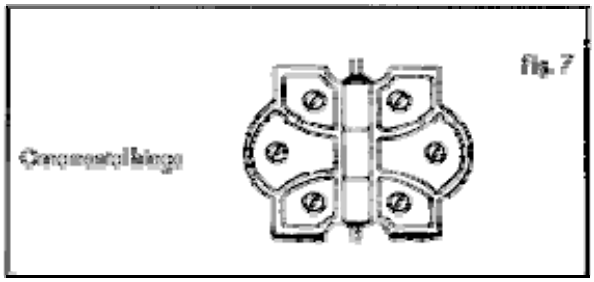


Table Top hinge

(Fig. 6) These can be used for any construction where one leaf in a section of wood needs to be dropped, somewhat like a table top. The drawing in (Fig. 6) illustrates how a table top hinge works.

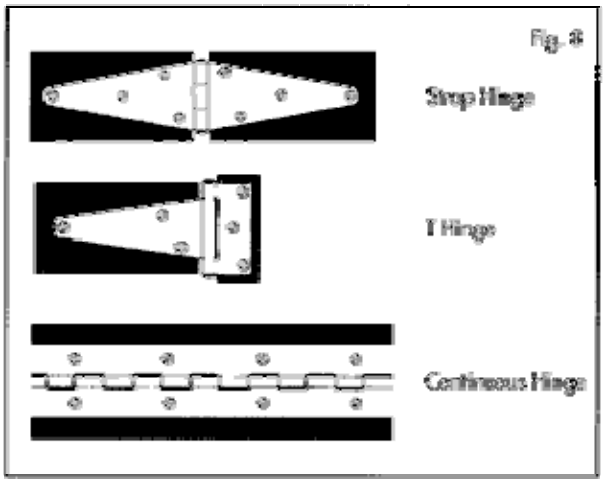
Ornamental hinges

(Fig. 7) These are used almost exclusively on cabinet work and on some types of furniture.



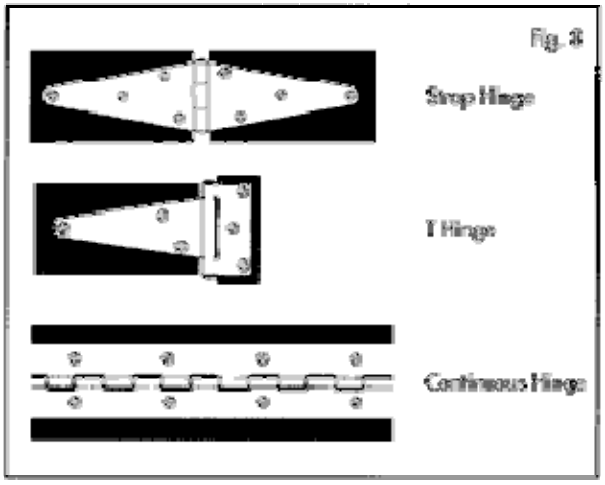
Strap hinges and T hinges

(Fig. 8) These are available in many sizes. They are used mainly for heavy exterior gate and shed type installations.



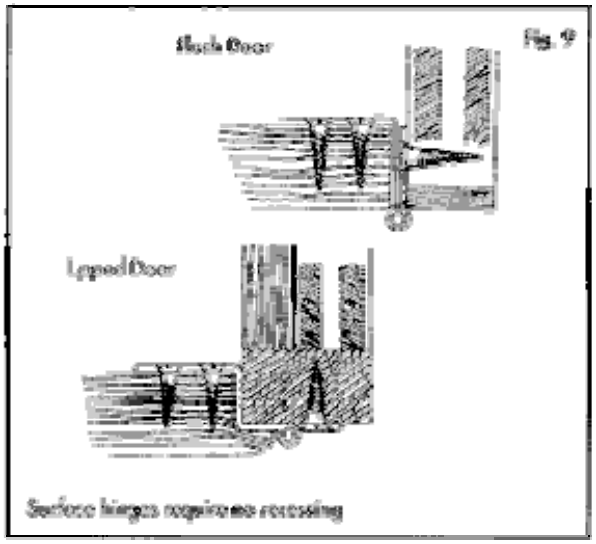
Continuous hinge

(Fig. 8} This is also called a piano hinge. Used mainly for the lids of chests and cabinets, it is available in many sizes and finishes.



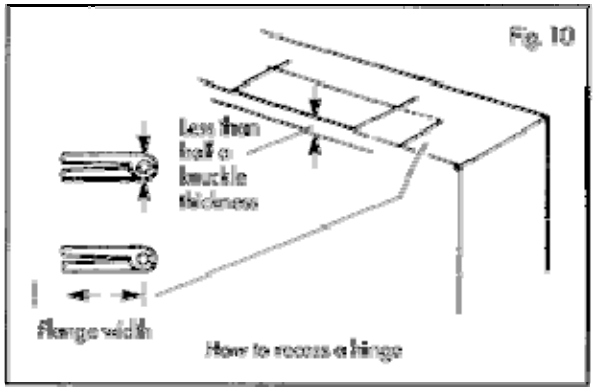
Other types of hinge

There are various types of surface mount hinges, (Fig.9), both for flush and lipped doors. Such surface hinges require no recessing.

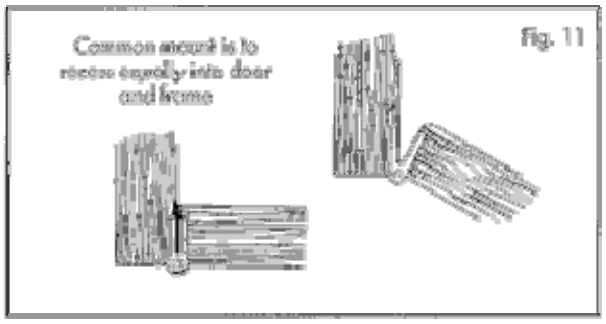


Installing Hinges

Most butt type hinges have to be recessed, so that one leaf of the hinge is set flush into the door edge and the other into the jamb (see Fig. 10).

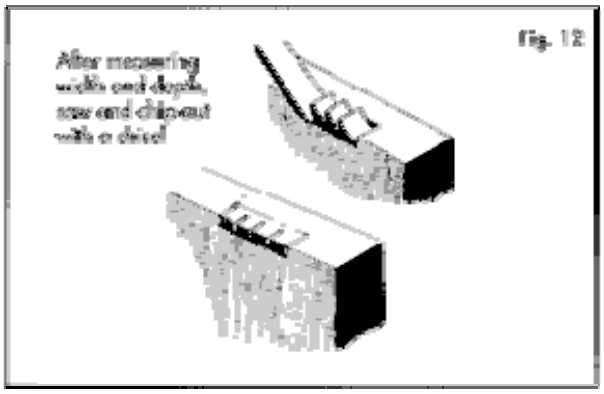


The hinge should be laid against the edge of the door and the jamb where it is to be mounted, and markings made as illustrated using an adjustable square. Slightly less than half the thickness of the knuckle should be marked on the side of the door, and the width of the flange marked on the door edge. Mark these dimensions exactly.



How the recessing is done will depend on how you plan to mount the hinges. The most common way is to recess the hinge into both the door and the door frame (Fig. **11**). When this is done, the recessing is equal on both the edge of

the door and the frame.



After measuring the width and depth of the hinge (Fig. 12), saw and chip out the recessed area with a wood chisel and a hammer. Be sure to use a sharp chisel.

Please Note:

Whilst the advice and recommendations contained in this brochure have been produced with proper care, they are offered only with the object of assisting those interested in home improvement projects and placeMakers does not accept responsibility for the advice, recommendations etc, contained herein.

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