Margin Definitions

The margin is the space between the door panel and the frame and/or sill. The purpose of the margin is to allow the door panel the clearance to open and close properly while keeping the weather on the outside. There are several margins to understand around a door panel:

Hinge Margin: Space between the door panel and door frame on the hinge side of the door. A standard hinge margin is **1/16**", but can vary based upon the hinges used.

Strike Margin: Space between the door panel and door frame on the strike, or handle, side of the door. The standard strike margin is **5/32**".

Top Margin: Space at the top of the door panel. A typical top margin or header margin is **1/8**".

Bottom (Sweep) Margin: The bottom margin varies from an inswing door to an outswing door. **For an inswing door**, the bottom margin is the space between the bottom of the door panel and the top of the sill cap. An inswing sweep margin is typically **7/16". For an outswing door**, the bottom margin is the space between the bottom of the door panel and the sill deck. The outswing bottom margin is typically **1/8"**.

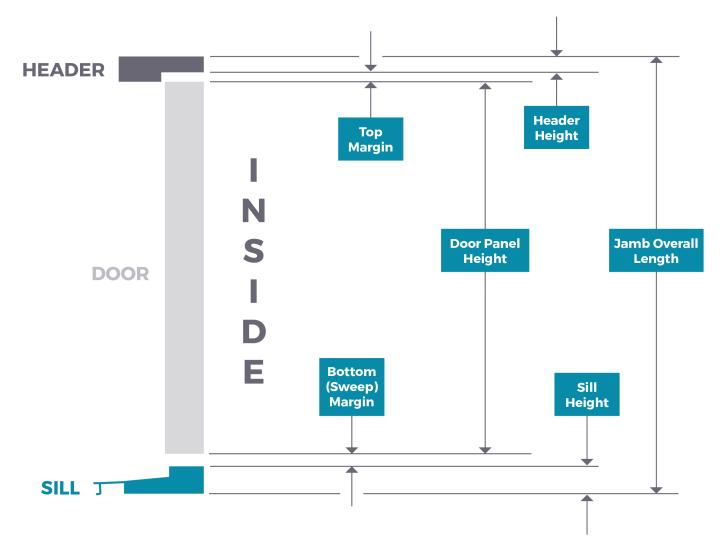
<u>Sidelite Margin</u>: Sidelites are stationary panels that only need enough space to be installed into the door frame. The typical sidelite margin is **1/32**".



Help! I want to build my own door!

With the right tools, a do-it-yourself project is satisfying. In order to do it right, your tools should include the right knowledge as well.

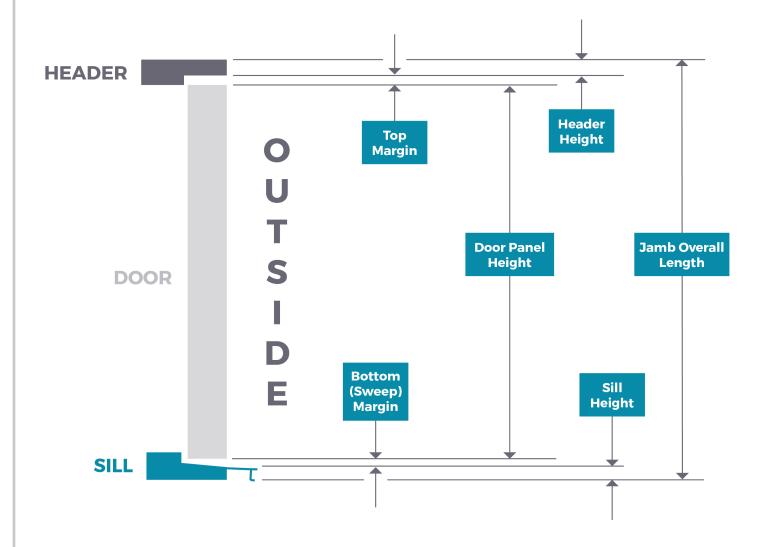
TO DETERMINE FRAME HEIGHT FOR AN INSWING DOOR:



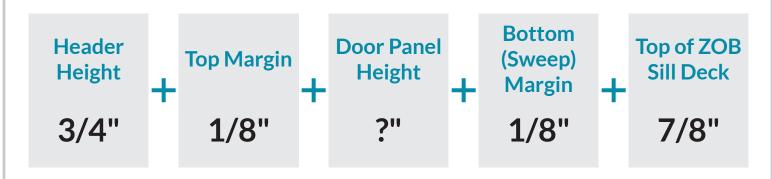
Header Height + Top Margin + Height of the Panel + Bottom (Sweep) Margin + Sill Height



TO DETERMINE FRAME HEIGHT FOR AN OUTSWING DOOR:

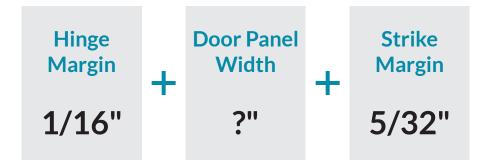


Header Height + Top Margin + Height of the Panel + Bottom (Sweep) Margin + Sill Height



TO DETERMINE THE WIDTH FOR AN SINGLE DOOR PANEL:

Hinge Margin + Door Panel Width + Strike Margin



TO DETERMINE THE WIDTH FOR AN FRENCH DOOR SYSTEM:

Hinge Margin + Active Door Panel Width + Strike Margin + Astragal Thickness + Passive Door Panel Width + Hinge Margin

