

# PEAK OAK

## OAK FLOORING, OAK DOORS & WROUGHT IRONWARE



### How To Fit An Oak Door

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## Introduction

As many of you will already have seen, we have a guide available on [How To Assemble An Oak Ledged Door](#).

Once the door is assembled the next step is of course fitting the [oak door](#) into place.

This step by step guide outlines the sequence for fitting an oak ledged door with wrought iron T-hinges and a Suffolk latch.

## What You Will Need

- Assembled Oak Ledged Door
- Suffolk Latch & Hinge Set
- Spirit Level
- Screwdriver
- Screws
- Handsaw
- Plane
- Hand Drill

## 1. Install Door Frame

Before you begin to fit your oak door, you need to ensure that the door casing or frame is perfectly perpendicular and square within the opening.

Get this wrong and you will plant the seeds of much strife later on – you have been warned!

## 2. Measure The Door

The next step is measure out the length and width of the door frame and the length and width of your oak ledged door.

If the measurements of the door do not match those of the door frame you should trim the door to an approximate size using a handsaw.

An extra 2-3mm extra should also be trimmed from the oak door to accommodate for the gaps.



Next, trial fit the door in the frame, making sure that the door edge to be attached by the hinges is perfectly aligned with the frame and with an even 2-3mm gap all the way down.

**Note: The traditional fitting of oak ledged doors is for the ledged side of the door to face the inside of the room.**

Now mark any edges of the door which need planing to provide an even 2-3mm gap all the way around the door.



Using a hand plane, remove the marked areas a little at a time and keep trial fitting until the gaps are even around the entire door.

You may wish to have a slightly larger gap for the door bottom, if it needs to clear any unevenness in the floor.



### 3. Fitting The Hinges

Now that the door has been correctly modified to fit into the door frame, the next step is to install the hinges for the door.

When installing the top hinge, you should look to place it as close to the top ledge of the door as possible.

The center of the hinge knuckle should also be aligned centrally to the 2-3mm gap of the door.

**Note: Traditionally, the T-hinges were fitted to the door boards NOT the ledges and this is how we recommend you fit them.**





Once aligned, drill pilot holes through the hinge into the door casing/frame.

Attach the hinge to the door frame using strong screws.

Now pull the unattached “long” part of the hinge across the door boards to remove any play in the hinge.

Once again, drill pilot holes and attach the hinge to the door boards using just a couple of screws (once you’ve tested that the door hangs and swings correctly, you can attach the remaining screws).



Once the top hinge has been fitted the next step is to fit the bottom hinge of the door.

This hinge should be aligned just above the bottom ledge of the door.

As before, drill pilot holes into the frame and attach the hinge using strong screws.

This time push the unattached part of the hinge in towards the knuckle to remove any play.



Again, attach the hinge to the door boards using a couple of screws to allow for adjustment.



#### **4. Fitting The Latch**

Now that the hinges have been fitted, the next step is to fit the latch to the door.

Start by taking the door bar of the latch and marking out where you would like the screw that will hold it, to be positioned.

This is normally just a couple of centimeters above the second ledge.

Once marked, drill a pilot hole and attach the bar using a strong screw.



Next, line up exactly where you would like the clasp to be placed on your door frame in relation to the bar.

You may prefer the door bar to be fitted straight and therefore will need the clasp to be level with the bar.

In this example we have fitted the door bar at an angle as we believe it rides easier when closing.



Once this point has been marked, drill a pilot hole to stop the frame splitting.

Knock the clasp into the pilot hole gently using a hammer.





Next, attach the staple using pilot holes and strong screws.





Test the operation of the bar and clasp and once you're satisfied that the door will close easily, screw the clasp to the frame, drilling a pilot hole first.



With these parts now installed, you can now finally fit the main part of the latch.

First, ensure that the width of the drill bit is fractionally wider than the thickness of the latch bar.



Mark out a point at the base of the door bar when it is in its “sitting” or closed position.

This mark should be made at around the midpoint of the door bar’s length.

Now mark a second point, a couple of centimeters (equivalent to the latch bar’s depth) down from the first point, to ensure that the top of the latch bar will just touch the bottom of the door bar.

Finally, mark a point above the first point for the door bar’s open position.



Drill a hole through each of the marks and then join the holes to create one large hole, big enough for the latch bar to fit through.

You may want to use a chisel to make the hole edges appear smoother and cleaner.





The final task is to fit the handle.

To do this, simply align the handle vertically on the outside of the door, drill pilot holes and attach using strong screws.





## 5. Final Touches

Once you're happy that the door works perfectly, return to any holes in the hinges which need screws, and check that everything is tight and secure.



## 6. Job Done!



