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Fix Problem Doors

Your Problem

- Doors Squeak.
- Door knob rattles.
- Doors stick or drag.
- Door may not close because it strikes the frame.
- Lock may not catch.

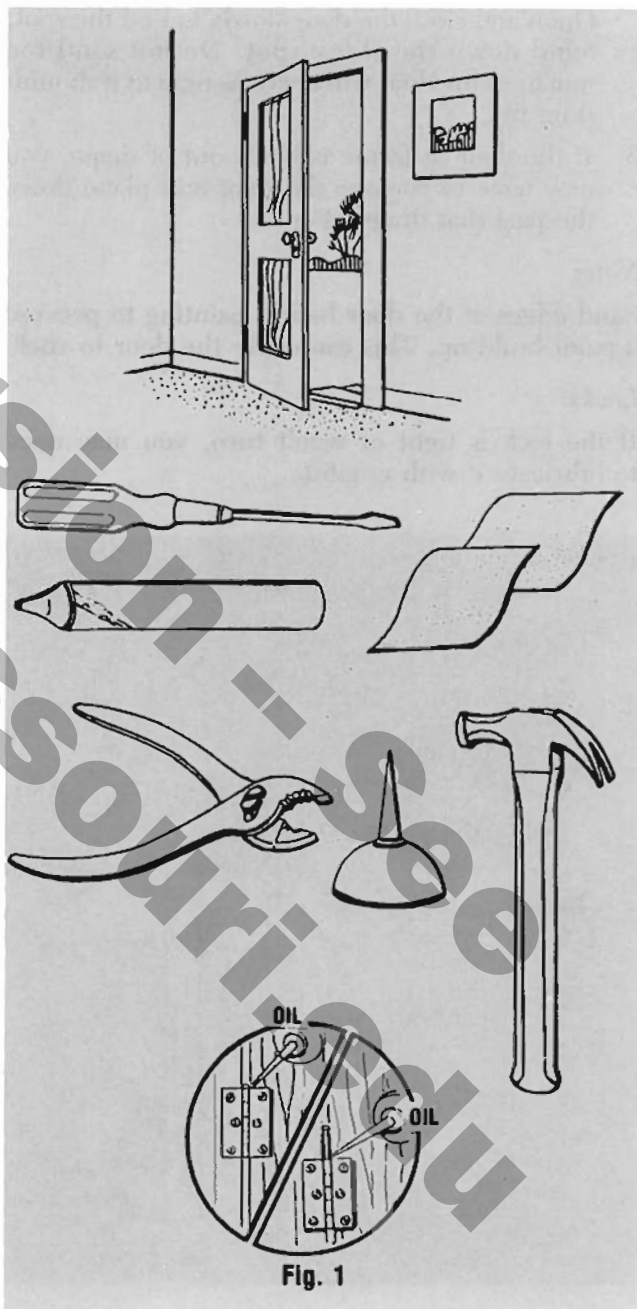
What You Need

- Oil
- Graphite
- Screwdriver
- Hammer
- Sandpaper
- Pliers

How-To

For Noise:

1. You can usually stop a door squeak by putting a few drops of oil at the top of each hinge. Move the door back and forth to work the oil into the hinge. If the squeaking does not stop, raise the pin and add more oil. (Fig. 1).



This guide was adapted from USDA Extension Service Program Aid No. 1034.

- Noisy or squeaking locks should be lubricated with graphite. You can buy this at a hardware store. (Fig. 2).
- To stop the rattle in the knob, loosen the set-screw on the knob. (Fig. 3). Remove the knob. Put a small piece of putty or modeling clay in the knob. (Fig. 4). Put the knob back on. Push it on as far as possible. Tighten the screw.

For Sticking or Dragging Doors:

- Tighten screws in the hinges. If screws are not holding, replace them, one at a time, with a longer screw. Or insert a matchstick in the hole and put the old screw back in. (Fig. 5).
- Look for a shiny spot on the door where it sticks. Open and close the door slowly to find the spot. Sand down the shiny spot. Do not sand too much, or the door will not fit as tight as it should. (Fig. 6).
- If the door or frame is badly out of shape, you may have to remove the door and plane down the part that drags. (Fig. 7).

Note:

Sand edges of the door before painting to prevent a paint build-up. This can cause the door to stick.

Locks:

If the lock is tight or won't turn, you may need to lubricate it with graphite.

