Aspects of Door Hinge Specifications

Hinge Anatomy

- Pin
- Corner
- Screw Hole
- Leaf
- Butt/Barrel/Knuckle

Specification Details

**Base Metal:** (Regardless of color) this refers to the material makeup of the hinge. Common base metals are: Steel, Solid Brass, and Stainless Steel. Steel hinges are ferrous (contain iron which is magnetized). Solid Brass and Stainless Steel hinges are non-ferrous and will not attract a magnet.

**Size:** This refers to the height and width of the open hinge (leaves spread). Common sizes are 3-1/2"x3-1/2", 4"x4", 4-1/2"x4-1/2".

**Thickness:** The thickness of the leaves are measured in Imperial Gauge or Millimeters. But often sold by generic names like "residential" (thin) or "heavy duty" (thicker). Residential hinges are typically 2mm-2.5mm and Heavy Duty hinges are typically 3.0mm-3.5mm in thickness.

**Bearing:** This refers to the mechanical structure that bears the weight of the door. Typical bearings are Plain Bearing, Ball Bearing, or Spring (Self Closing). Plain bearing has a straight pin, ball bearing has ball bearings in the barrel to reduce friction and carry more door weight. Spring bearing hinges (also called "self closing" or by a manufacturer name "Bommer") have a tension spring in the barrel to close the door. Most hinges are Plain Bearing by default and will specify a different bearing.


**Corner:** Our standard hinge corner is 1/4" Radius Corner. Other corner specifications are Square Corner and 5/8" Radius Corner. All hinges are mortised into the jamb and door.

Other Details

**Hole Pattern:** Screw holes on the hinge leaves can be layed out in "zig-zag" or "crescent" shaped patterns.

**Screw Type:** Hinge screws vary in length and thread. Wood screws typically come in either a wood boring "fly-cut" variety or in a coarse thread.