

A hailstorm or wind-driven storm can leave a door looking serviceable while still ruining how it seals and operates. In Coppell, TX, a door that takes a hit from hail or wind can quickly become more than a cosmetic issue, especially once the Texas weather starts working on the weak spots.

What Hail And Wind Do To Exterior Doors

Hail can bruise the surface of fiberglass, dent steel skins, chip paint, and leave visible impact marks on trim and thresholds. Fiberglass and steel usually handle the weather better than wood, but neither is immune to impact or water intrusion.

A quick walk-through after the storm should include the slab, frame, threshold, casing, and lockset area. If the deadbolt suddenly needs a hard shove, or the latch only catches when the slab is lifted by hand, that is often a sign the frame or hinges shifted.

Water staining around the bottom of the jamb, peeling finish, or soft wood near the threshold usually means moisture got where it should not have.

How To Decide Whether Storm Damage Calls For Replacement

The decision usually comes down to whether the door still seals, locks, and operates without forcing the hardware. But once the slab is bent, swollen, warped, or cracked through, replacement tends to be the better long-term fix.

That includes hinges, strike plate alignment, threshold condition, side jambs, and the surrounding trim. Storm damage and seasonal shifting can overlap, and the symptoms often look the same to a homeowner.

When replacement makes sense, the usual signs are straightforward:

- The slab is bent, split, or warped beyond normal adjustment.
- The frame is damaged enough that the opening cannot hold a seal.
- The lock or deadbolt will not align even after hinge adjustments.
- Water has entered around the jamb, threshold, or lower trim.
- The surface damage is severe enough that ongoing weather exposure will keep making it worse.

That is especially true for front entries, patio doors, and doors that protect conditioned air from leaking out.

Before You Replace A Storm-Damaged Door

Coverage depends on the policy language, the cause of the loss, and the adjuster's findings. If the door no longer closes properly, document that too, because operation problems often matter just as much as the visible damage.

Permits are another point where homeowners get tripped up. If the work includes a patio door swap, a new exterior opening, or changes to framing, it is smart to verify the permit side before the job starts.

If the door is letting in rain or air, a short-term stabilization step may keep the opening usable until the new unit is ready. The goal is to protect the opening until the replacement can be done correctly.

What To Look For In A New Exterior Door After Storm Damage

A storm-damaged [residential doors Coppel Window Replacement](#) door is a good time to upgrade, not just replace like for like. If the opening sees strong west sun, finish durability becomes just as important as the door core.

Energy performance is another practical filter. A replacement should close firmly, lock cleanly, and resist drafts under pressure.

Good installers check plumb, level, square, and shim placement before fastening the unit, then test the lock and sweep at the end. If the house has moved, the new door should be set with that reality in mind, not forced into an opening that is already under stress.

If you are comparing options, focus on these basics:

- How the frame and slab handle heat, moisture, and impact.
- Whether the door actually closes tight against air and water intrusion.
- How well the hinges, latch, and deadbolt hold up after installation.
- How much maintenance the surface will need over time.
- Warranty coverage for the door and labor.

That means a door that looks right, locks properly, and stays tight when the weather turns.