Assembling a 3 Panel Sliding Patio Door

How to check your opening, put the frame together and hang the panels of a Pease 3 panel sliding patio door. The middle panel slides and the two outer panels are fixed. The door arrives flat-packed. **Plan on two people or more**: the glass panels are heavy.

What you'll need

- Level, measuring tape and square
- Rubber mallet
- Robertson (square drive) screwdrivers, #1 and #2
- Phillips screwdrivers, #1 and #2
- Flat head screwdriver and utility knife
- Drill with a 1/8" bit, hammer and a block of wood
- Caulking gun and silicone sealant

What's in the boxes

- **Frame kit:** the head, the sill and two jambs, the meeting rails, the fixed panel support (if it is not already on) and the hardware bags
- **Sliding panel kit:** the middle panel, which slides, and the screen if your door comes with one
- **Fixed panel kits:** the two outer panels, which stay put
- All the screws are in the hardware bags. The frame pieces are pre-drilled.

Work safely. Never work alone, and lift with two people. Handle the glass with care: broken or cracked glass can cause severe injury. Wear safety glasses and gloves. If you are removing an old door from a house built before 1979, the paint may contain lead: see epa.gov/lead. **Read every step before you start:** a door that is not installed to these instructions may not be covered by the warranty.

Before you build

Check the opening first

The door is listed by the outside size of its frame. Your rough opening (the framed hole, stud to stud and floor to header) must be 1/4" to 1" larger than the frame in width and in height. Measure before you take the old door out.



Not to scale.

Which way does yours open?

Stand outside, facing the door. **O** is a fixed panel and **X** is the panel that slides. The middle panel slides to the right or to the left. Your order says which you have. Check it before you build the frame.



Seen from outside the house. Not to scale.

Rough opening for each size

Door	Frame size (width × height)	Rough opening width	Rough opening height
9 ft x 6 ft 8 in	107-1/2" × 79-1/2"	107-3/4" to 108-1/2"	79-3/4" to 80-1/2"
12 ft x 6 ft 8 in	143-1/2" × 79-1/2"	143-3/4" to 144-1/2"	79-3/4" to 80-1/2"
9 ft x 8 ft	107-1/2" × 95-1/2"	107-3/4" to 108-1/2"	95-3/4" to 96-1/2"
12 ft x 8 ft	143-1/2" × 95-1/2"	143-3/4" to 144-1/2"	95-3/4" to 96-1/2"
Custom width	the frame size on your order	frame width + 1/4" to + 1"	as above, for your height

The frame

1. Lay out the frame

Work on a flat, clean surface close to the opening. Find the four pre-drilled frame pieces: the head, the sill and the two jambs (the jambs have wood inside).

The head and the sill come with a foam pad already in place. Leave it on.

2. Screw the frame together

Join the jambs to the head and to the sill with the **#8-10 × 2-1/2"** screws, 6 screws at each corner. Always drive these screws horizontally.

When all four corners are done, fit the jamb foams.

3. Set the frame in the opening

Stand the assembled frame in the opening. It must sit **level, plumb and square, with no twist**, and the right way up. A frame that is out of square, twisted or not vertical is not covered by the warranty.

Seal the frame to the wall so water cannot get behind it. If the siding or trim around the opening was damaged when the old door came out, repair it first, and make sure the framing of the opening is sound.

The hardware includes ten **#8-10 × 3"** screws marked for installation. They fasten the frame in the opening.

The two fixed panels

4. Put in the fixed panels

Install the cavity cap on the fixed panel support.

There is a fixed panel at each side of the door. Slide each one in with its inside face toward the room and seat it fully at the base of the frame. The reinforced edge goes toward the **center of the door**, not against the jamb.

5. Fasten them top and bottom

Top: slide a head fixing block in above each fixed panel. Screw it to the panel with the **#8 × 1"** screw first, then to the frame with the **#8 × 2-1/4"** screw.

Bottom: fix the bottom of each panel with a **#8 × 3"** screw. Then drive a **#6 × 1"** screw inside the weatherstrip, in line with the bottom of the glass.

6. Fit the fixed meeting rail and the dust plug

The meeting rail with no cut-outs in it belongs to a fixed panel: the one on the side the middle panel slides toward. Set its top and bottom first, flush with the top and bottom of the panel. Then press the rest in, starting at the bottom and working up.

Fit the dust plug in the interlock, under the meeting rail.

The astragal

7. Seat the astragal

The astragal is the upright post that the sliding panel closes against. It stands at the inner edge of the other fixed panel.

Insert it into the frame at the bottom first, then at the top. Knock it into place with a hammer and a block of wood. It must be seated along its whole length and stay firmly in place.

8. Fasten and seal it

With the 1/8" bit, drill the 4 holes through the astragal into the reinforced edge of the fixed panel. **Take care not to damage the outside surface.**

Fix the astragal to the panel with the four **#10 × 3"** self-tapping screws, then install the groove cover.

Seal the joints where the astragal meets the sill and the head with silicone.

9. Foam seals, threshold and filler

Fit the foam seals: the U-shaped piece at the sill, next to the rail, and the square piece at the head.

Install the threshold. Then install the exterior cavity filler at the head and at the jamb.

The sliding panel

10. Hang the sliding panel

Lift the sliding panel into the frame with its inside face toward the room. Put the top of the panel in first, then lower the bottom onto the sill.

11. Set the rollers

Set the panel rollers to the third position.

Check that the panel is square with the frame and adjust if it is not. Then fit the finishing plugs on the bottom rail.

12. Fit the sliding meeting rail

Install the meeting rail on the sliding panel. Set its top and bottom first, then press the rest in, starting at the bottom and working up.

It must be flush with the top of the panel.

13. Bumper, filler and weatherstrip

Install the bumper on the fixed panel. Install the interior cavity filler.

Close the sliding panel. Fasten the head pile weatherstrip above the point where the two panels interlock, with the **#8 × 3/4"** screw.

Handles and screen

14. Fit the handles and the keeper

Install the outside and inside handles on the sliding panel with the two white **#8 × 2-3/16"** screws. Check that the latch works before you tighten the screws.

The lock keeper (the zinc strike in the keeper bag) goes on the astragal, where the latch meets it. Fasten it with its four **#10 × 1-1/4"** screws.

15. Hang the screen

Stand outside. Lift the screen into the sliding rail at the head, with its black weatherstrip facing the house, and rest it on the outer aluminum rail of the sill.

Slide the screen and check that it lines up with the jamb. Adjust the lower rollers with the adjusting screws at each end of the screen. Then install the screen keeper.

Watch it done. The maker's video of a 3 panel door going together is on the 3 panel sliding patio door page at peasedoors.com. The maker's printed instructions, with a drawing for every step, are in the jamb box.

If something doesn't fit

Stop before you force anything, and before you drill or cut. A photo helps us see what you see.

Call or text us at **513-871-8907**, Monday to Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM ET. More help at peasedoors.com.