

## **It's time to replace your garage remote control**

So did your carport door opener fall out the window while you were driving? Did an excited German shepherd use it as a chew toy? Or did it simply get up and walk out on you, leaving your car stranded in the garage and you without a way to get to the office? Obviously these are just a few possible problems that may have come up. But really remotes get lost and damaged, it can happen to anyone and often does. This is why you will be excited to hear that you can purchase a new remote, repair or replacement at any quality garage door repair shop.

You could always call a locksmith and ask for help, but some people insist on doing things themselves.

The very first thing you need to do to get the replacement process underway is to get the make and model number off the a) opener and if possible b) the damaged remote itself. If you don't have a copy of the manual handy, go get yourself something to stand on, the number is printed on the unit and that's mounted on your garage ceiling. This would be a good point to grab a friend and ask them for a quick hand, better safe than sorry! The next step is to head to the store the unit was originally bought from. If, as luck would have it, you purchased the house used, and don't know who the original installer is, don't worry, it's not a lost cause. The option to write to the original manufacturer is still available. No? You still want to carry on and do this yourself? Well I am about to make you very happy. Did you know that like the universal tv remote, you can get a universal door remote for your garage? Well you can!

This universal remote will have a guide to the setup and codes you will need, just like the one for your TV. Some of these may require a working remote for your door so it can copy the frequency. Take careful note of the numbers of any remotes you still have, some systems have a maximum number of remotes that will work on them (the majority of residential ones max out at 5). Once you pass the limit it will start to push older remotes out of the memory, and you really don't want to ruin the remotes that still work. But this will give you access to your garage again, and while not really a repair, a replacement will most definitely do the trick.

Remotes have gotten more and more technically advanced, and now the option to use your smartphone, tablet or computer to control the door, garage lights and more is available too. Another extra is to have the remote in dash mounted in your car. You never have to worry about losing it again. Try not to get too excited about all the latest bells and whistles though, remember, the top priority is that it opens the garage for you. Also remember that if your remote is a keychain type, you really want to keep an eye on them. You don't want to lose your keys, have someone find them and have full access to your car and house! Also, kids love to push buttons, and you don't need them accidentally leaving you

garage open all night letting people or wild animals in. Auto mounted remote openers are more secure and less susceptible to little roaming fingers. There really is no need to be able to open the garage from any room in your house, so why bother opening yourself up to the extra possibility of trouble?

Nest tie your remote goes for a walk, has a breakdown, or simply falls apart, don't think of it as a trial but as a learning experience.