

## Quick Reference Guide

March 2025  
Version 25.0

### Chapter 20 – Storm Door and Porch Rails

Installing Storm Doors	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Consult with Construction Supervisor to determine the door swing.</li><li>2. Remove the door from packaging and check for any damage.</li><li>3. Measure the opening between brickmold at the top, middle and bottom of the opening.</li><li>4. Refer to the Door Manufacturer instructions to determine whether flat shims need to be added to reduce the rough opening. If they are, begin by installing strips of ¼"x1" flat shims (in construction trailer) on the hinge side of the door frame with trim nails.</li><li>5. Follow Steps 2-4c in the Door Manufacturer instructions. Then, temporarily tack the strike side rail on the strike side of the opening and shim the strike side, if needed.</li><li>6. Secure the closer bracket to the door jamb, by replacing two of the screws closest to the center of the jamb with #12x3" screws.</li><li>7. Follow the remaining Door Manufacturer instructions.</li><li>8. Place a bead of finish caulk on the back side of the door top rail and install it.</li><li>9. Install the wind chain.</li><li>10. Make sure screen component on the exterior of the door is above the glass component</li></ol>
Installing Porch Rails	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>11. Slide attachment sleeves onto each end of the front bottom railing, center it on the posts and aligned parallel with the siding, and attach the sleeves to the posts.</li><li>12. Insert the spindles along the length of the railing.</li><li>13. Slide attachment sleeves onto each end of the top railing. Position the top railing so each spindle slides completely into the corresponding slot on the railing. Center the sleeves on the posts and attach.</li><li>14. For side railings, position the bottom railing between the house and a post, a slide attachment sleeves onto each end of the railing, align it so it is parallel to the edge of the porch slab, and adjust the height of the railing nearest the house until it is level. Attach the sleeves to the post and the house (being sure not to drive the screws so tightly as to distort the vinyl siding).</li><li>15. Insert the spindles along the length of the railing.</li><li>16. Slide attachment sleeves onto each end of the top railing. Position the top railing so each spindle slides completely into the corresponding slot on the railing. Attach the sleeves to the post and the house (being sure not to drive the screws so tightly as to distort the vinyl siding).</li><li>17. If plugs are available, install plugs over each screw.</li></ol>

## Quality Points

### Chapter 20 – Storm Door and Porch Rails

- Storm door is installed so that it
  - Has the desired swing orientation
  - Swings freely
  - Latches tightly
  - Is protected with a wind chain securely attached to the head jamb
  - Has the closer bracket secured to the door jamb with two #12x3" screws
  - Has the screen component on the exterior of the door situated above the glass component
  
- Porch rails are installed with
  - Front rails parallel to the front siding
  - Side rails level and parallel to the edge of the porch slab
  - All spindles securely in their slots
  - Attachment sleeves secured to siding without distorting the siding or centered on posts and secured
  - Plugs, if available, installed over each screw