

Stall Door Repair

The aluminum C-channel uprights in stall doors seem pretty fragile sometimes. After a while, after some horses, the channel can fail just above the wood that makes up the lower part of the door (illus. 1).

So...

How best can you disguise the ever-ready, always used, 2x4?

Look at the “after” picture (illus. 2), and measure how long to cut the nominal 2x4 (a perfect 2x3 might work). Note clips and rollers.

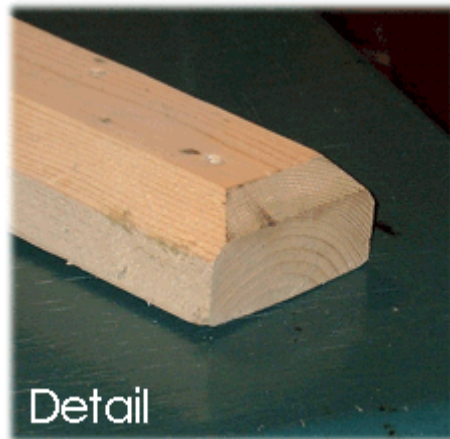


Cut to length.

For a 2x4, then rip-saw its width to three inches actual (removing half an inch of material).

Then develop an optical illusion: Trim a very little material from the wood's "top/outer" corners:

Test, and make the board's 90-degree side-height dimension equal the measure of this newly cut 45-degree surface (each measure slightly more than 3/4 of an inch). Trim the ends of the stick with the same 45-degree cut (see illus. "detail").



You now see how much (how absolutely little, in fact) material has been removed, and yet the 2x4 seems twice as light, and has become comfortable to handle.

Sand it some.

Two 3-inch by 1/4-inch lag screws with washers (full pilot holes in the new piece, somewhat smaller holes in the door header), attach the brace at the top. 2 1/2-inch drywall screws, centered one on each stall-door board, attach the lower portion of the repair.

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