

When a garage door spring snaps, life stops with a thud you can feel in your chest. The door gets heavy, the opener strains or refuses to move, and your car may be stuck until someone with the right tools arrives. I have been under more than a few doors with a scale, winding bars, and a notepad. The question every homeowner asks first is simple: what does a fair spring repair cost, and what drives the number up or down?

The short answer is that most homeowners in the Greater Houston area pay between 200 and 650 dollars to get their garage door spring situation corrected, depending on the setup, door size, and whether anything else was damaged in the event. The longer answer is worth understanding, because small details, from coil diameter to travel limits, change both the cost and the quality of the fix.

How garage door springs work and why they fail

A sectional overhead door weighs more than most people realize. A typical insulated double car door can weigh 160 to 240 pounds, and some wood overlay or full view aluminum doors can push past 300. Springs handle that weight so your opener is only guiding the door, not deadlifting it every morning.

There are two common spring types. Torsion springs sit on a shaft above the door and twist to store energy. Extension springs stretch along the horizontal tracks. Torsion setups are more stable, safer when they fail, and easier to tune precisely. Extension systems cost less up front, but they can be noisy and they rely on safety cables.

Spring are rated in cycles, roughly one open and close sequence. Standard residential springs are often 10,000 cycles. On a busy door that sees 6 to 8 cycles per day, you are looking at 3 to 5 years before one gives up. High cycle springs, 20,000 to 50,000 cycles, last longer and run a bit more in materials, but they often reduce long term costs if you plan to keep the home.

When a torsion spring breaks, it usually pops clean with a visible gap in the coil. The door gets heavy immediately. If it breaks while the door is up, the opener can slam the door down or jam the system. Extension springs tend to fray or stretch before they break, and when they let go, they can whip unless safety cables hold them in place.

What pros charge in Greater Houston

Rates vary by market, but I will frame numbers using what I see and hear from technicians working garage door repair Houston and nearby communities, including Conroe, Spring, TX, Humble, Cypress, Magnolia, New Caney, and Willis.

A straightforward torsion spring replacement on a standard steel door usually lands between 250 and 450 dollars for a single spring, and 300 to 650 dollars for a two spring setup. That total includes parts, labor, a basic tune, and travel. Heavier doors, specialty hardware, and after hours calls move the needle.

Extension spring replacement can come in lower, often 200 to 350 dollars, but many shops in the area recommend converting older extension systems to torsion for safety and smoother operation. A conversion adds parts and time, pushing totals into the 450 to 800 dollar range depending on door width, headroom, and whether you need a new center bearing plate or track work.

Service call fees in and around Houston range from 79 to 129 dollars during regular hours. In many cases that fee is waived or rolled into the final repair cost when you authorize the work. After hours, weekends, or holidays often add 75 to 150 dollars. Companies handling Conroe garage door repair or garage door repair Humble TX tend to align with these Houston prices, though rural travel or tolls can add modest surcharges.



A line item view of spring repair cost

It helps to see how the invoice breaks down. While every company structures pricing differently, most spring jobs in the residential garage door repair category include the same ingredients.

- **Parts.** Standard oil tempered torsion springs typically cost the shop 40 to 90 dollars each depending on wire size, inside diameter, and length. High cycle springs, powder coated or galvanized options, and unusual sizes add cost. End bearings, center bearings, winding cones, and cables may also be replaced if worn. If you see two springs on the bar, plan on replacing both for balance and reliability.
- **Labor.** Most pros budget 60 to 120 minutes for a clean torsion job on a typical 16 by 7 double door, which includes safety checks, balancing, travel limits, and force adjustments on the opener. Labor rates in the Houston area commonly run 90 to 150 dollars per hour for a licensed and insured technician in a properly stocked truck.
- **Balancing and tune up.** A thorough tech will relevel the door, set track clearances, lubricate rollers and hinges, check drums and cables, and test auto reverse. Some shops include this in the spring line item, others list it as a separate tune charge, usually 29 to 59 dollars.
- **Warranty.** Standard springs often carry a part warranty of 1 to 5 years and labor of 30 to 365 days. High cycle packages can offer longer terms. Longer warranties sometimes reflect better components, but they can also reflect higher base pricing. Ask how claims are handled and whether the warranty is transferable.
- **Trip or service fee.** Expect this to be waived if you complete the repair, but it will appear if you decline after diagnosis.

On extension setups, parts are cheaper, but the labor to fight century old hardware or tight headroom can offset that. When I write a ticket in a home older than 30 years, half the job can be freeing rusted fasteners without damaging the jamb.

Quick price snapshots you can benchmark

- Torsion spring replacement, one spring, standard steel double door: 250 to 450 dollars total.
- Torsion spring replacement, two springs, standard steel double door: 300 to 650 dollars total.
- Extension spring replacement, single door: 200 to 350 dollars total.
- Conversion from extension to torsion on a typical 16 foot door: 450 to 800 dollars total.
- After hours or emergency surcharge: 75 to 150 dollars, added to the totals above.

These figures fit most garage door repair Houston TX visits I have seen recently. If you own a heavy wood carriage style door or an oversize 18 foot door, expect the higher end or above.

When add ons change the bill

Springs rarely fail in a vacuum. If you have a broken garage door spring, the opener may have strained before you noticed. Cables may have frayed, rollers may have developed flat spots, and drums can slip if set screws loosened. Each of these items is modest alone, but together they alter the invoice.

I budget 20 to 35 dollars per nylon roller in materials and 60 to 120 dollars in labor to replace a full set, depending on access and whether hinges need attention. Cables usually add 30 to 60 dollars in parts and 60 to 120 dollars in labor, because drums have to be loosened and tension rebalanced. A door that jumped the tracks after a spring break can require a track straighten, panel reset, and hinge swap. Off track events usually price between 125 and 250 dollars unless a panel is bent beyond recovery.

If a customer pulled the red emergency release while the door was up, the opener trolley can slam and crack. That repair is relatively inexpensive, often 40 to 120 dollars for the trolley kit if the rest of the opener is healthy. If the motor cooked its gear assembly or the rack on a belt system shredded, it can push you into opener repair or replacement territory.

Opener repair versus new garage door openers

What is the average cost to fix a garage door opener? In the Houston market, opener repair often runs 100 to 250 dollars for common issues like a bad logic board, travel limit switches, safety sensor replacement, or a new belt. Older chain drive units with worn drive gears fall in a similar range if the motor is otherwise sound.

At a certain point, replacing the opener makes financial sense. The garage door opener installation cost for a belt drive, DC motor, Wi Fi enabled unit with battery backup, such as a typical LiftMaster model, lands between 450 and 850 dollars installed, depending on horsepower class, rail length, included peripherals, and whether you need a new bracket or reinforcement strut. Heavier doors require 3/4 to 1 1/4 HP class units, and that shifts you toward the higher end. If you search for LiftMaster Garage Door Opener nearby, you will see specials that bundle keypad, remotes, and installation, which can bring the package price down.

How much does it cost to service an electric garage door, not including parts? A tune and safety check, align sensors, lube and adjust, and dial in force limits usually bills at 120 to 200 dollars in our region. Many shops offer annual maintenance plans in the 100 to 180 dollar range that include one visit and discounted repairs. If your opener is underpowered for the door weight, no amount of service will protect the motor from premature wear. Your tech should tell you that plainly.

Residential versus commercial considerations

Commercial garage door repair brings different hardware and pricing. Commercial torsion springs are larger, doors heavier, hardware beefier, and safety protocols stricter. A spring job on a rolling steel or heavy sectional at a small warehouse can start at 600 dollars and climb past 1,500 dollars, especially if site rules require two techs, scissor lifts, or off hours. For homeowners reading up on residential garage door repair, those numbers are not representative of what you will pay at your house.

Regional realities that nudge price

Houston humidity, Conroe's mix of newer subdivisions and older lake houses, and coastal air closer to Galveston all influence corrosion. Springs and steel hardware work hard in that environment. Powder coated or galvanized springs do not change the physics, but they help appearance and can delay surface rust. Garages in humid zones benefit from regular lubrication. I carry a light lithium spray for hinges and nylon rollers, and a silicone safe product for the opener rail and weatherstripping.

The layout of newer homes in places like Cypress and Magnolia often includes low headroom tracks or bonus space above the garage. Low headroom conversions need special drums and brackets, which add parts cost. Older homes in Spring, TX may still have extension springs with no safety cables. That is a day I always add safety cables even if the customer is on a tight budget. A spring can and will let go at the worst time, and those cables prevent a whipping failure.

What does it cost to service a garage door?

If by service you mean routine maintenance without a major part replacement, plan on 89 to 149 dollars for a visit that includes inspection, lubrication, minor track and hinge adjustments, rebalancing the door, and opener limit checks. Shops that focus on garage solutions, not just emergency repairs, offer that sort of service in Houston and surrounding areas. It is the least expensive way to extend spring and opener life, and it can flag issues early. A frayed cable or cracked hinge costs a fraction to replace before it fails and bends a panel.

Signs your spring is failing before it snaps

Springs talk to you if you listen. I look for elongated coils at the ends, rusty streaks, and a dry chirp as the door opens. If the door feels heavier than last month, or the opener begins to hesitate on the lift, that is the window to schedule a check. When the weather cools, metal contracts and weak coils crack. Preventive service in fall catches a lot of these. In a two spring setup, if one breaks, the other is almost the same age and stress level. Replacing them as a pair prevents an immediate callback and keeps the door balanced.

Safety notes homeowners should heed

A section door without a healthy spring is a back injury waiting to happen. A double door can exceed 200 pounds. If a spring breaks while the door is part way up, do not stand under it or try to force it closed by hand. If the opener is trying to move it, unplug it. Do not pull the red release if the door is up or jammed in the tracks, because it can drop. When a technician arrives, they will clamp the tracks to lock the door and then work the tension methodically. I have seen well meaning DIY attempts that scar tracks, twist shafts, and turn a 300 dollar spring swap into a 700 dollar rebuild.

Winding torsion springs requires proper tempered steel bars that fit the cones. Screwdrivers are not winding bars. That might sound obvious, yet I have pulled more than one snapped screwdriver shank from a wall stud. If you must do anything while you wait for garage door repairs near me, clear the area, move cars and bikes, and keep kids away from the [garage door repair spring](#) door.

When to consider a full door upgrade

Sometimes the spring failure reveals deeper issues. A cracked stile on a middle panel, delaminated wood overlay, or a badly rusted bottom section tips the equation toward a new door. Garage door installation for a new insulated steel double door in the Houston area can range from 1,500 to 3,500 dollars installed, more for custom designs or specialty glass. New doors include fresh tracks, springs correctly matched to the door weight, and a warranty that resets the clock on all moving parts. If your opener is older than a decade, swapping it during the door install saves money and labor, because everything is open and accessible.

Real invoices I have seen this year

A homeowner in Humble called with a single spring break on a 16 by 7 non insulated steel door. Two torsion springs originally, both seven years old. We replaced both with 20,000 cycle springs, new center bearing, lube and balance, and reprogrammed a LiftMaster MyQ opener whose travel had drifted. Total was 495 dollars, including a waived 99 dollar service fee because the repair was approved on site. The door now lifts with two fingers and the motor runs quieter.

In Conroe, a lakefront home had an older extension spring system on a 9 by 7 wood door. One spring stretched, one cable frayed. We converted to a single torsion spring setup using an angle mounted center bracket due to tight headroom, added safety cables as a belt and suspenders approach since the owner sometimes rents to guests, and replaced worn nylon rollers. The total came to 685 dollars. That was more than a simple extension swap, but the door now tracks straight and no longer slams the header on close.

A customer in Cypress had a broken garage door spring and a damaged opener gear from trying to lift through it. We replaced two springs, installed a gear and sprocket kit in a chain drive opener, and reset limits. Parts and labor landed at 560 dollars. The alternative would have been a new opener at around 550 to 700 dollars, but the motor tested strong and the homeowner preferred to squeeze a few more years from it.

How to talk costs with a technician

You can spot a pro by how they measure and explain. Expect them to ask door width, height, material, and whether the door is insulated. Good techs bring a scale to weigh the door if there is any doubt. When the weight and lift are known, spring selection is science, not guessing. Ask for the spring specs, wire size, inside diameter, and [garage repair near me](#) length, and the cycle rating. It should not be a secret. Ask whether both springs will be replaced on a two spring setup. Ask whether the tune includes track alignment, roller inspection, and auto reverse testing. Request a written estimate with parts and labor separated, and clarify the warranty terms.

If the tech pushes a large bundle before diagnosing, or refuses to list part numbers or cycle ratings, slow the process. Most reputable shops that handle garage door repair Conroe TX, garage door repair Magnolia TX, and garage door repair New Caney TX will share the details you need to make a smart call.

A short homeowner checklist before you call

- Verify the problem. Look for a visible gap in a torsion spring or a hanging extension spring. If the opener hums but the door does not move, unplug it.
- Note the door size and style. Single or double, insulated or not, steel, wood, or glass.
- Check for extras. Frayed cables, cracked hinges, or bent track help the dispatcher set expectations.
- Gather opener info. Brand, model, and age, especially if you suspect opener issues or need garage door opener repair.
- Ask about fees and warranty. Service call amount, whether it is waived with repair, and how long parts and labor are covered.

These small steps shorten the call and lead to cleaner quotes, whether you need garage door repair Houston, garage door repair Willis TX, or service across town.

Value adds that often pay off

High cycle springs do not just last longer. They reduce daily stress on the system and tend to maintain balance better across seasons. Nylon rollers with sealed bearings lower noise and vibration, which your neighbors in a tight subdivision will appreciate during early morning departures. Reinforcement struts across the top panel are cheap insurance, especially on double doors with openers mounted at center. Surge protection for the opener helps in storm season, which we all get enough of in Southeast Texas.

Smart openers can be more than a gadget. New garage door openers with Wi Fi allow remote checks and alerts. If you rely on deliveries or have teenagers that come and go, that peace of mind matters. When bundled during an opener install, the cost delta is small, and a lot of homeowners in Garage door repair Houston prices territory have adopted these units.

What a fair quote looks like

If you request garage door repairs near me and gather three quotes for a broken spring, the tight cluster usually reflects reality. Outliers at the low end may be using springs that are not correctly matched, or they may add fees on site. Outliers at the high end might include full rebuilds you do not need. A fair quote for a standard two spring replacement on a steel double door in Houston or Conroe will list two matched springs, labor, tune, safety test, and a warranty, with a total between 300 and 650 dollars. It should explain any suggested add ons, like cables, rollers, or a strut, and price them clearly so you can decide.

I like to leave a door that can be opened by hand smoothly, a balanced lift that sits at mid travel without drifting up or down, and an opener with travel limits that stop gently. If the work hits those marks and the bill sits in the ranges above, you are in the pocket.

Final thoughts anchored to dollars and sense

Springs are not glamorous, but they do the heavy lifting every day. Pay attention to cycle ratings, balance, and the health of the supporting parts. If your opener is grinding through a heavy door, fix the spring and balance first, then decide whether the motor still earns its keep. In the Greater Houston area, where we see everything from new construction in Spring, TX to vintage homes around Humble and the lake strengths near Conroe, a little preventive care, a correctly spec'd spring, and a clear conversation about costs will keep your garage door reliable, quiet, and safe.

If you are price shopping today, use the snapshots above as your baseline. Ask the tech to weigh the door if there is any doubt, to show you the spring specs they plan to install, and to outline the warranty. Whether you choose a large provider or a local garage door repair Conroe TX specialist, that approach leads to solid work at a fair price.