

Securing the Garage Door



Here's the potential problem area.

If you have a garage door opener, it has some sort of door release so that you can manually open the door in the event of a power outage. In many cases, it's a small lever with a rope pull on it. When you yank the rope, the lever comes down and disengages the carrier from the door. Criminals who know the trick can disengage that little lever from OUTSIDE. While most bad guys may not know it, some do and with practice, it is quick and effective. So what can you do to thwart this without keeping your garage door out of service in a power loss?

First, and easiest, I suppose is to remove the rope and replace the small "key-chain like" ring that comes with many garage door opener units with a small S-hook (available from any hardware store) and



then simply remove the rope. Then you can just keep it in a safe place so that you can hook it back onto the small lever and pull as normal. **Pros:** Simple, quick, easy, cheap. **Cons:** You can lose the rope and then it gets harder to operate the lever and release the door if you need to get the car out (or in).

Another quick and easy option is to leave the rope in place and use a plastic cable tie (also available at the hardware store, or Radio Shack) to secure the lever to the carrier. Just make sure that you attach it to the carrier and NOT the track itself. If attached to the carrier properly, this does not affect the function of the door.

This particular (popular) unit has a small, very convenient hole so that you can pass the cable-tie through and then through the lever. If the power goes out and you need to exit through the big garage door, you simply need to cut the cable tie with a cutter or a good

