

Jan. 3, 1956

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METHOD AND PREASSEMBLED CASING FOR
FINISHING A ROUGH DOOR OPENING

2,728,956

Filed Sept. 19, 1952

2 Sheets-Sheet 2

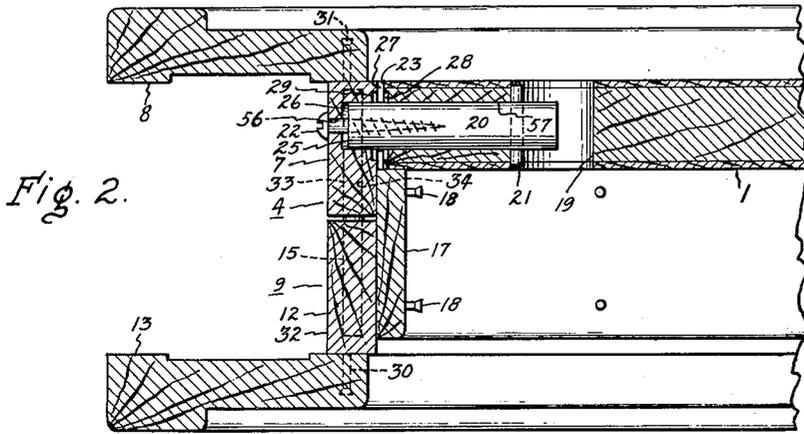


Fig. 2.

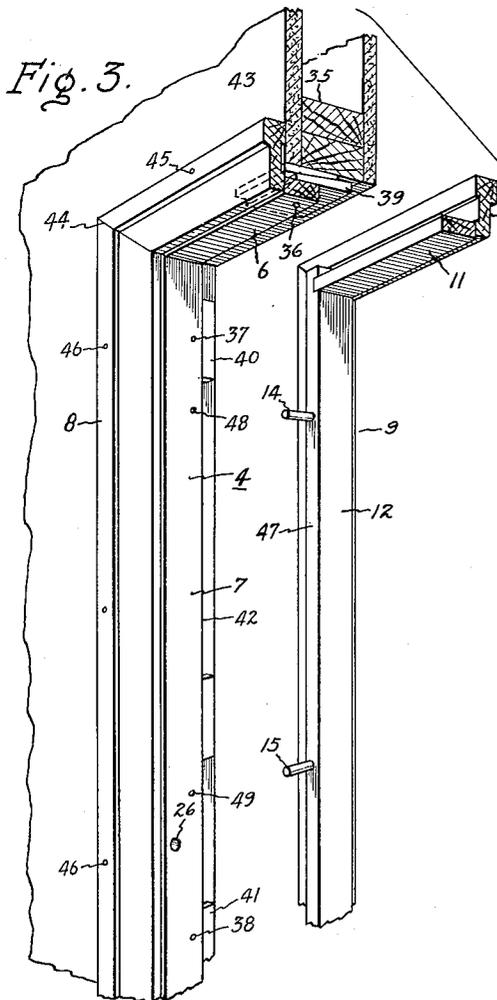


Fig. 3.

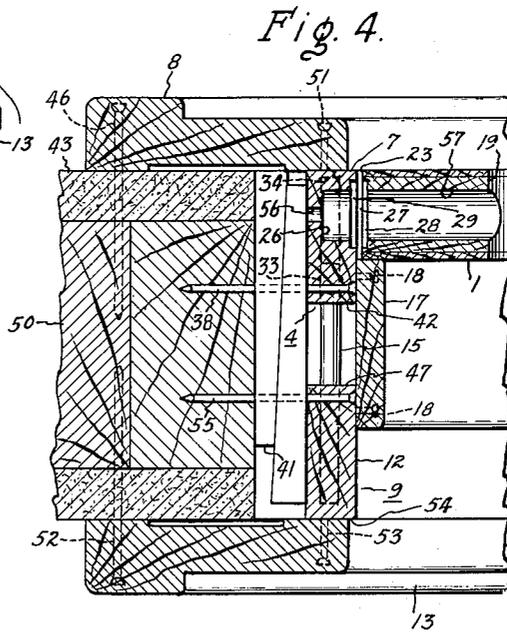


Fig. 4.

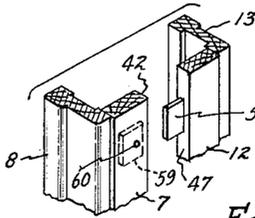


Fig. 5.

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METHOD AND PREASSEMBLED CASING FOR FINISHING A ROUGH DOOR OPENING

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Application September 19, 1952, Serial No. 310,445

12 Claims. (Cl. 20—11)

My invention relates to preassembled door casings adapted for installation in rough door openings in homes and other buildings, to bracing means to prevent damage to the casing during shipment and before installation thereof, and to methods of finishing rough door openings, and further particularly pertains to methods of installing a preassembled door casing quickly and in a manner to provide a thoroughly rigid finished doorway.

An object of my invention is to provide an improved arrangement for bracing a door member at its swinging or lock edge to a preassembled door jamb, whereby the door forms a firm cross brace for the casing to prevent damage during handling of the casing prior to installation.

A further object of my invention is to provide a preassembled door casing which may be inexpensively manufactured and readily installed in a rough opening with a minimum of carpentry skill and effort and so as to be firmly and rigidly affixed to the door buck of the rough opening.

An additional object of my invention is to provide methods of finishing rough door openings which comprise simple pre-assembly steps, and simple installation steps within the skill of the least experience carpenters, wherein the methods result in highly accurate alignment of the parts of the casings, particularly with respect to plumb position, and provide that the casing in each case is rigidly affixed to the door buck.

Another object of my invention is to provide an improved preassembled door casing for ready installation in exactly dimensioned rough door openings in walls of any usual thickness.

A particular advantage inherent in the method and in the combination according to my invention is that nail holes are not made in visible portions of the casing which, in older types of construction, do not have nail holes. In this respect, as in all other respects, casings in accord with my invention, and installed in accord with my method, are substantially identical in appearance to doors constructed and installed in accord with old conventional methods by the most highly skilled and experienced finish carpenters.

The preassembled door casing in accord with my invention, and the methods mentioned hereinabove, have the desired effect of permitting economies in labor and materials in the finishing of rough door openings.

The novel features which I believe to be characteristic of my invention are set forth with particularity in the appended claims. My invention itself, however, both as to its organization and method of operation, together with further objects and advantages thereof, may best be understood by reference to the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a complete door casing preassembled for shipment to a building site, portions of the casing being cut-away;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged bottom sectional view of a por-

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tion of the door and of the casing members taken along line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a portion of the door casing of Fig. 1 during installation in a rough door opening, one unitary portion of the casing having been separated from another;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged bottom sectional view taken at the same area as that shown in Fig. 2, but disclosing the arrangement of the assembled casing after installation and after attachment to the door buck to finish the rough opening; and

Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail perspective view of a small portion of a door casing in accord with a modification of my invention.

As seen in Fig. 1, the preassembled door casing comprises a door member 1, which may be of the flush type, or of the panel or other desired type, hingedly connected, by hinges 2 and 3 to a jamb or jamb member 4, the hinges being mounted to the load-bearing jamb portion 5, which, with head jamb portion 6 and a lock side jamb portion 7, comprises one of two separable jambs or jamb members of the casing. The portions 5, 6 and 7 will be recognized as comprising approximately one-half of what is usually referred to as a door frame, and to which a trim strip and door stop may be attached.

A suitable trim strip 8 is pre-affixed, in accord with my invention, to the outer edge of this first jamb member completely around the opening to extend outwardly therefrom and, upon installation of the jamb member, to abut or partially to cover wall surfaces adjacent to the door opening, and thus to trim or finish about the rough opening.

A second jamb member 9 is provided, which comprises a portion 10, adapted to parallel portion 5 of the first jamb member, a header portion 11 which parallels header portion 6, and an opposing side portion 12 to parallel portion 7 of the first jamb member. A trim strip 13 is affixed to the outer edge of the second jamb member completely around the opening to extend outwardly, in the manner of trim strip 8, preferably to cover a portion of the adjacent wall surface.

Dowel or tenon members 14, 15 and 16 are disposed in bores in jamb members 4 and 9, there being, preferably, three such dowels for members 7 and 12, three for members 5 and 10 and one for members 6 and 11. The bores in which these dowels are disposed are preferably horizontal and extend into the respective jamb members from their inner edges. During manufacture, the dowels are glued or nailed in place in one or the other of jamb members 4 and 9. Preferably, the dowels are pre-affixed in the respective bores in member 9 and, prior to final installation of the unit, the dowel portions which extend from member 9 are disposed in the bores or mortises in member 4 and are slidably engaged therein to retain members 4 and 9 in alignment but later to permit separation of jamb members 4 and 9.

A door stop 17 is loosely tacked in place, by means of nails 18, to retain jamb members 4 and 9 with their respective inner edges in contact during shipment. The nails 18 are driven through the stop member and into the jamb members sufficiently far to hold the jamb members rigidly together, but at the same time the heads of nails 18 remain exposed sufficiently to be readily engageable by the claws of a hammer for partial or complete withdrawal to permit disassembly to the extent of removal of the door stop from the casing and the separation of jamb members 4 and 9. In some cases, it may be desired permanently to pre-affix stop member 17 to jamb member 4, such as by nailing or gluing, and to drive partially only those nails which would attach the stop member to jamb member 9, but certain disadvantages

result from such permanent preaffixing which will be clear from the later discussion.

Door 1 is pre-drilled to receive a suitable tubular lock. Thus transverse bore 19 to receive the body of a lock extends through the door adjacent its swinging edge, and a suitable lock bolt opening perpendicularly intersects the transverse bore. To provide bracing of the frame during handling prior to installation, a bracing member in the form of a dowel 20 is inserted in the lock bolt opening and extends into the cooperating lock bolt opening in portion 7 of jamb member 4. This dowel 20 is held in place by means of a pin 21 extending through the dowel and bearing against a wall of bore 19. The pin 21 thus comprises means to retain the dowel in the door and to prevent its being pulled out. Opposing the pin 21, and holding the pin firmly against the wall of bore 19, is a screw 22 extending through the portion 7 of the jamb member and threadedly engaged in the end of dowel 20. The operation of dowel 20, and of pin 21 and screw 22, is to urge the swinging edge 23 of the door toward jamb portion 7. Blocks 24 are interposed, preferably, between the door edge 23 and jamb portion 7 to retain the door and jamb member in the position in which they are separated by the traditional thickness of a silver dollar, and the blocks 24, accordingly, should be of about this thickness. Since the jamb member will be at least slightly resilient, and since the separation between the door edge and jamb is slight, the blocks 24 may be omitted, and the door edge, adjacent dowel 20, may be clamped in direct engagement with the jamb without appreciable warping of the jamb.

Further details of the arrangement of dowel 20 and its associated parts are readily seen in Fig. 2, to which attention is now invited. Pin 21 is seen to pass completely through dowel 20 and to bear, at its extending end portions, on the wall of bore 19 immediately adjacent the door bolt opening in which dowel 20 is disposed. The extending end 25 of dowel 20 engages in opening 26 in jamb portion 7. Opening 26 comprises a pre-drilled lock bolt opening in jamb portion 7, and it is only partially drilled through the jamb. If desired, opening 26 may extend completely through jamb portion 7, and a plate or washer would then be provided under the head of screw 22. Screw 22 enters the back of jamb portion 7 and extends into opening 26 to screw into end 25 of dowel 20. The head of the screw bears against the back of jamb portion 7 and urges end 25 in the direction into opening 26. Motion of the dowel 20 in this direction is opposed by engagement of pin 21 against the wall of bore 19, and the bracing means, including the screw, dowel and pin, clamp the jamb portion and door edge firmly together. As previously described in connection with Fig. 1, blocks 24 may be interposed in the space 27 separating the swinging edge 23 from the front face of jamb portion 7, if desired. The door and jamb preferably have shallow recesses or mortises 28 and 29 to receive suitable escutcheon plates about the door bolt openings of the door and jamb, respectively.

The dowel 20 preferably fits closely within the door bolt openings of the door and jamb portion to prevent substantial relative motion between the door edge and the jamb portion, but the fit is sufficiently loose to permit the dowel later to be slipped out of these openings and to be removed therefrom. A diameter of $1\frac{1}{16}$ inch for the openings would be appropriate for a dowel diameter of $\frac{7}{8}$ or $\frac{29}{32}$ inch, for example. Removal of the dowel during installation of the casing is accomplished by backing screw 22 out of the dowel a short distance, by then tapping the head of the screw to drive the dowel in the direction out of opening 26, and further into bore 19, by continuing to back out screw 22 until it is completely removed, and by thereafter swinging the door on its hinges until edge 23 is clear of the

casing. At this time pin 21 is pulled out of dowel 20, and the dowel may be slipped completely out of the door. A suitable door lock mechanism, including a bolt, escutcheons and knobs, may now be installable immediately, although it is suggested that convenience may dictate that the installation of a lock mechanism be deferred until after any necessary paint has been applied to the door and casing. During the interim, the dowel 20 may be used as a temporary latch operable by the fingers in opening 19.

Fig. 2 discloses further details of the arrangement of the casing after preassembly and prior to the start of the final installation steps. Trim strip 13 is seen to be permanently pre-affixed to the outer edge of jamb portion 12, as by nails 30, or by gluing if desired, and trim strip 8 is similarly permanently attached to the outer edge of jamb portion 7 by nails 31.

Tenon or dowel 15 seen in this view, like dowels 14 and 16, is preferably glued in place in jamb portion 12, although other means may be employed to fasten dowels 14, 15 and 16 in jamb portion 12. It will be apparent, for example, that a nail may be driven through the back face 32 of the jamb portion into dowel 15 to anchor it in place in portion 12, if desired. The extending portion 33 of dowel 15 is slidably engaged in mortise opening 34 which has been pre-drilled into the inner edge of jamb portion 7. The dowel spans the preferably very small space between the confronting inner edges of jamb portions 7 and 12. The fit of the dowel 15, and of the other dowels, in the mortise openings provided in jamb portion 7 is such as to prevent any substantial motion between the jamb members, but the fit should be a little less tight than a driven fit since the dowels must slide out of the mortise openings in jamb member 4 to permit the casing to be divided into the two approximate halves, which, as seen in Fig. 3, will permit the installation of the pre-assembled casing in the rough opening to be finished.

It is further apparent from Fig. 2 that separation of the jamb members is prevented temporarily by nails 18 driven partially through door stop 17 and into portions 7 and 12 of the respective jamb units. In order to separate the jamb or casing units for the final installation steps, a sufficient number of the nails 18 are withdrawn to disconnect stop 17 from at least one of the jamb members, and preferably all nails 18 are withdrawn to permit the stop 17 to be removed completely from the jambs.

The two major casing "halves" or units may now be separated for installation in a rough opening, and reference is now made to Fig. 3. As there seen, one unit comprises the trim strip 8, and the door-carrying jamb member 4, which has the lock bolt opening 26 in the portion 7 thereof. The door itself, though not shown in this figure, also comprises a portion of this unit. The other unit comprises trim strip 13 and jamb member 9, of which sections of jamb portions 11 and 12 are shown.

Jamb member 4 is shown in Fig. 3 as having been attached to the door buck, of which only the head portion is seen, by means of nails 36, 37, 38 driven through the respective jamb members 6 and 7 so as to pass through wedges 39, 40, 41 inserted between the jamb member and the door buck. After insertion of the inner edge 42 of jamb member 4 into the rough opening to the limit imposed by engagement of the trim strip 8 with the surface of the wall 43 about the rough opening, the wedges 39, 40, 41 have been inserted under the jamb portions from the inner edge side to wedge between the jamb portions and the buck. While wedges behind the side jamb portions are necessary, the wedges 39 at the head jamb portion are not essential and will be omitted unless an unusually rigid frame is desired. The permanent attachment of trim strip 8 to the outer edge of the jamb member 4 obviously does not interfere with the positioning of the

wedges in this manner. The wedges are applied as necessary to adjust and brace jamb member 4 into accurate plumb position in the rough opening. Nails 36, 37, 38 are driven through the jamb member adjacent its inner edge 42 after adjusting the wedges and serve to hold the jamb member rigidly against the faces of the wedges and prevent any appreciable movement of the jamb member thereafter. The fact that the door member is hinged in place in jamb member 4 prior to the positioning of the wedges is important in permitting the wedges to be so adjusted as to bring the jamb portions into exactly the correct desired positions relative to the door edges and, upon nailing, to retain the jamb portions rigidly fixed in their proper positions.

The method of attaching trim strip 8 to the jamb member is not indicated in Fig. 3 but it has been found satisfactory either to nail the strip in position by means of nails driven into jamb member 4 at its outer edge or by gluing the trim strip directly to the outer edge of the jamb member, or both. The miter joint in the trim strip at 44, as well as the other miter joints in trim strips 8 and 13, are preferably glued during manufacture or pre-assembly of the door unit and may be further reinforced by corrugated fasteners, staples or plates of any desired type applied to the back surfaces of the trim strip. It will usually be found desirable further to strengthen the attachment of the unit in the rough opening by driving finishing nails 45, 46 through the trim strip and into wall 43, the nails being preferably sufficiently long to enter the door buck.

After the door-carrying unit comprising jamb 4 has been thus installed, the inner edge 47 of the other unit comprising jamb member 9 is introduced into the rough opening and dowel members or tenons 14 and 15, together with the other provided tenons, enter the respective mortises provided in the inner edge 42 of jamb member 4. The unit is pushed into the rough opening until trim strip 13 meets the wall surface, and at this time small brads or nails are driven into openings 48, 49 in jamb member 4 to engage the extending portions of the tenons 14 and 15 within the mortises of the jamb member, the openings being preferably pre-drilled to insure accuracy. Such nails, when driven into openings 48 and 49, accordingly, penetrate and lock the tenons and thus complete the rigid attachment of jamb members 4 and 9 in fixed relative positions. Nails may also be driven through trim strip 13 into the wall and into the door buck to increase the rigidity of attachment of the casing.

Turning now to Fig. 4, which is a bottom sectional view of a portion of the casing after installation in the rough door opening, it will be seen that portion 7 of jamb member 4 has been braced by wedges 41 against the vertical door buck member 50 and that nail 38 has been driven through the jamb and wedges into the door buck firmly to retain the jamb portions 7 in position. Trim strip 8 has been nailed by nails 46 to the wall surface 43, the nails preferably penetrating buck 50. Prior to installation, the trim strip 8 will have been permanently affixed to jamb portion 7, as by nails 51. Tenon 15, originally affixed within jamb portion 12, bridges the space between the inner edge 47 of jamb portion 12 and the inner edge 42 of jamb portion 7. The tenon 15 is disposed with only a short end section within mortise 33 in jamb portion 7, and it is locked therein by a nail or brad disposed behind the nail 38 and not visible in this view. Trim strip 13 is attached by a nail 52 to the wall, like trim strip 8, and a nail 53 affixes the strip 13 to the outer edge 54 of jamb section 12. For additional strength, if desired, a nail 55 may be driven through portion 12 of jamb member 9 adjacent its inner edge 47 and through wedges 41 into buck 50, although such nailing is not essential in that the heaviest forces resulting from the weight of the door, such as occasioned by the slamming thereof, will be imposed on the jamb member 4 of which portion 7 is a part rather than on jamb member 9. As previously explained, the load-carrying jamb member 4 is firmly attached by

nails 38 and wedges 41 to the buck, at the lock edge 23 of the door and at the hinge edge of the door.

Door stop 17 is shown as held in place by nails 18 into each jamb member. The door stop 17 may be accurately located after the jamb members have been installed since the door 1 is hinged in place to the jamb member prior to installation and the door should swing freely within its appropriate jamb member. While pre-attachment of stop 17 to member 4 is possible, it has been found important to the most satisfactory final results that the stop should be located with respect to the door edges only after the jamb members are in final installed position, since some twisting or bending of the casing almost always results from variations in wall thickness and departures from true and smooth plumb wall surfaces. It is an important feature of my invention that the casing can be made to accommodate rough openings having substantial dimensional and alignment departures from proper size and shape without causing the door to bind and without leaving cracks between wall and trim, for example. The installation of the stop after the installation of the jamb members contribute substantially to this flexibility, and by locating the stop at this time, warpage or twisting of the door itself, which may have occurred at any time, is completely compensated.

The screw shown as 22 in Fig. 2 will have been removed from opening 56 in jamb portion 7 prior to the installation of the jamb portion in the rough opening. The dowel originally disposed in lock bolt opening 57 may, accordingly, be removed when desired, and a suitable tubular lock or latch may be installed in openings 19 and 57. Escutcheon plates are installed in recesses 28 and 29, and opening 26 in jamb portion 7 is then ready to receive the end of the door bolt in the usual manner to latch the door in closed position.

A satisfactory and sometimes preferable modification of the tenon arrangement for retaining the jamb members together is shown in Fig. 5. The tenon 58, which extends from the inner edge 46 of jamb section 12, is of rectangular configuration and may be substituted for the cylindrical tenons or dowels 14 and 15 heretofore described. The mortise 59 entering the inner edge of jamb portion 7 is, of course, made rectangular to receive the rectangular tenon 58. In door casings suitable for small homes, it is suggested that the tenon 58 may be formed of 1/4 inch stock about an inch or two in height and extending about 1 3/4 inches from the edge 46. Trim strips 8 and 13 are identified in Fig. 5 to assist in orienting the small section therein shown, and it will be understood that other portions of the construction may be in accord with the similarly designated corresponding portions of Figs. 1 through 4. The small nail-receiving opening 60, which extends into mortise 59 from the exposed face of jamb portion 7, adjacent edge 42, serves the purpose of similar openings 48, 49 shown in Fig. 3 in locating the point at which a nail should be driven to intersect the tenon, 14, 15 or 58 as the case may be, in the respective mortise in portion 7, thus to lock the tenon in the mortise and rigidly and firmly to attach the two jamb members to each other.

It will be understood that, while nails or brads are shown and described for use in attaching or locking the frame portions 5, 6, 7, 10, 11 and 12 of jamb members 4 and 9 to the buck, in attaching the trim strips 8 and 13 to the wall, and in locking the tenons 14, 15, 16 or 58 in their respective mortises, and in making other attachments or connections, screws, staples, corrugated fasteners or other driven attachment means may be substituted, whether such means are driven with a hammer, a screw driver or with some other implement or mechanism.

It will be apparent from the above disclosure that the door casing in accord with my invention is adaptable for installation in rough openings in walls of various thicknesses without modification of the casing, and that it is also adapted for installation in openings of various widths

and heights, in each instance within predetermined but rather wide limits. For example, the distance between the door bucks defining the opening may be just sufficient to permit the jamb members to fit between them and the wedges, such as wedges 40 and 41 may be very thin. The same casing will fit a much wider opening, wherein the bucks are two or three inches, or more, further apart, and in this case it may be necessary to use wedges of an inch or more in thickness, the required thickness being obtained by two or more tapered wedges as shown, by a greater number of tapered wedges, or by the combined use of flat and tapered wedges. The wall may have a thickness as little as the distance between the inner surfaces of the trim strips with the tenons inserted a maximum distance into their mortises and with the inner edges of the jamb members in contact, substantially as shown in Fig. 2, or the thickness may be so great as to permit only a very small portion of each tenon to enter its respective mortise. The maximum wall thickness might be, for example, slightly greater than the thickness indicated in Fig. 4. A pre-assembled casing in accord with the above disclosure can be proportioned for installation in openings in walls of from 4 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches to 5 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches, or even to 5 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches, in thickness.

While I have shown and described only certain preferred embodiments of my invention by way of illustration, many modifications will occur to those skilled in the art, and I therefore wish to have it understood that I intend, in the appended claims, to cover all such modifications as fall within the true spirit and scope of my invention.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. In a preassembled door unit comprising a jamb to which a door is hingedly mounted, said door being apertured at its swinging edge to receive a tubular lock and said jamb being correspondingly apertured to receive a bolt of such lock, the combination of: a member fitted within said aperture in said door and extending into said aperture in said jamb, disengageable anchoring means engaging said member and operative to prevent sliding of said member longitudinally out of said door aperture, and force-applying means engaging with said member and forceably bearing against a back face of said jamb adjacent said jamb aperture urging said member in a direction into said jamb aperture, said member fitting said apertures with sufficient lateral tightness to reinforce said jamb against damage.

2. A preassembled wooden door unit comprising a first jamb member for insertion into one side of a rough door opening, trim strips permanently affixed along the outer edge of said jamb member adapted and arranged to trim about said one side of said opening, a door hingedly mounted in said jamb member, said door being pre-drilled to receive a tubular lock, said jamb member having a pre-drilled lock bolt opening to align with said pre-drilled portion of said door, a second jamb member, a plurality of spaced, parallel extending tenon members affixed to one of said jamb members and extending from the inner edge of said one member in directions perpendicular to said inner edge and parallel to a face of said one jamb member, the other said jamb member having an inner edge confronting said inner edge of said one jamb member, and said other jamb member being apertured at its said inner edge to provide mortise openings to receive extending portions of said tenon members, said extending portions of said tenon members being slidably engaged respectively in said mortise openings, means comprising a door stop member removably attached to said jamb members to hold said jamb members in fixed relative position, a brace member locked against motion out of said door and disposed fittingly in said pre-drilled lock opening of said door and extending fittingly into said pre-drilled lock bolt opening of said first jamb member, and means bearing against said first jamb member and engag-

ing said brace member urging said brace member in the direction into said pre-drilled lock bolt opening of said first jamb member.

3. A preassembled wooden door unit comprising a first jamb member for insertion into one side of a rough door opening, trim strips permanently affixed along the outer edge of said jamb member adapted and arranged to trim about said one side of said opening, a door hingedly mounted in said jamb member, said door being pre-drilled to receive a tubular lock, said jamb member having a pre-drilled lock bolt opening to align with said pre-drilled portion of said door, a second jamb member, a plurality of spaced, parallel extending tenon members affixed to one of said jamb members and extending from the inner edge of said one member in directions perpendicular to said inner edge and parallel to a face of said one jamb member, the other said jamb member having an inner edge confronting said inner edge of said one jamb member, and said other jamb member being apertured at its said inner edge to provide mortise openings to receive extending portions of said tenon members, said extending portions of said tenon members being slidably engaged respectively in said mortise openings, means comprising a door stop member removably attached to said jamb members to hold said jamb members in fixed relative position, a brace member locked against motion out of said door and disposed fittingly in said pre-drilled lock opening of said door and extending fittingly into said pre-drilled lock bolt opening of said first jamb member, and means bearing against said first jamb member and engaging said brace member urging said brace member in the direction into said pre-drilled lock bolt opening of said first jamb member, said means being disengageable from said brace member and said brace member being thereupon retractable into said door to release said door for swinging on its hinges.

4. A preassembled door unit comprising a door having a swinging edge apertured to receive a door bolt, a first jamb member having an inner edge and an outer edge, said door being hingedly attached to said first jamb member along the hinge edge of said door, said jamb member having an aperture to align with and confront said aperture of said swinging edge, a bracing member having ends respectively fitted with snug sliding fit in said apertures, means to retain said bracing member in said door aperture, means engaged with said jamb member and said bracing member forceably swinging said bracing member into said jamb aperture, a trim strip permanently affixed to said outer edge, a second jamb member for disposition alongside said first jamb member and having an inner edge toward said inner edge of said first jamb member and an outer edge, a trim strip permanently affixed to said last outer edge, plural mortise and tenon joint separably retaining said respective inner edges of said jamb members in predetermined alignment, and a door stop removably affixed to said jamb members to retain said inner edges in proximity to each other, said door stop being permanently affixable in selected position to said jamb members to bridge space therebetween and to provide a stop for said door in closed position.

5. The method of finishing a rough door opening which comprises: fabricating a first and a second door jamb unit for side-by-side placement in said opening, each said unit comprising a jamb member and trim strips permanently affixed thereto; attaching a plurality of tenons to extend from an inner edge of said jamb member of said first unit; mortising a confronting edge of said other jamb member respectively fittingly to receive extending portions of said tenons; hingedly mounting a door to said jamb member of said first unit; thereafter rigidly attaching said first unit in place in said rough opening by placing wedges between the jamb member thereof and the door buck, and by driving nails adjacent said inner edge to pass through said jamb member and said wedges and to enter said buck; positioning said second unit in said opening with said tenons extending into said respective mor-

tises of said jamb member of said second unit; driving nails into said jamb member of said second unit adjacent said mortised edge to intersect and lock said tenons in said mortises; and thereafter applying a door stop to span between said jamb members and to cover the heads of said wedge-penetrating nails and of said tenon-locking nails and to cover said inner edge and said mortised confronting edge of said respective jamb members.

6. In a split jamb pre-assembled door casing comprising a first jamb member hingedly supporting a door and having a plurality of extending dowels to engage in openings in a second jamb member, the method of installation in a rough opening which comprises the steps of: pre-affixing trim strips for opposite sides of said rough opening to the outer edges of said respective jamb members, positioning said first jamb member in said rough opening, inserting wedges behind said first jamb member between said first jamb member and the rough door buck adjustably to brace said first jamb member in desired plumb position, nailing adjacent the inner edge of said first jamb member, through said first jamb member and wedges into said buck, inserting said second jamb member in said rough opening toward the inner edge of said first jamb member to engage said dowels respectively in said openings in said second jamb member, nailing through a portion of said second jamb member adjacent its inner edge into said dowels to lock said jamb members in desired relative positions, and thereafter affixing to both said jamb members a door stop member to span between said inner edges and to cover the areas adjacent said inner edges in which said nails have been driven.

7. The method of finishing a rough door opening of inaccurate dimensions and imperfect shape varying within predetermined tolerances which comprises: assembling and shaping a first jamb member to fit within an opening of the smallest dimensions within said tolerances, permanently affixing a trim strip along an outer edge of said first jamb member, said trim strip being sufficiently wide to have outer dimensions when so affixed greater than the dimensions of the largest opening within said tolerances, affixing a plurality of tenon members to said jamb member to extend from an inner edge of said jamb member, assembling and shaping a second jamb member of the same height and width as said first member, similarly permanently affixing a second trim strip along an outer edge of said second jamb member, said second trim strip having outer dimensions at least as great as said outer dimensions of said first trim strip, mortising said second jamb member at its inner edge, said mortises of said second member being positioned and oriented to be in respective alignment with said tenon members of said first member when said jamb members are disposed with said inner edges in parallel aligned position, hingedly mounting a door to one said jamb member, inserting said inner edge of said one jamb member into said rough opening a distance limited by engagement of said affixed trim strip thereof with the wall about said opening, adjusting said one jamb member into plumb position in said rough opening by inserting wedges outside of said one jamb member between said one jamb member and the rough door bucks of said opening, attaching said jamb member and said wedges to said bucks to retain said one jamb member in said plumb position, inserting said inner edge of said other jamb member into the other side of said rough opening to engage each said tenon in its respective aligned mortise, said insertion being to the limit imposed by engagement of said trim strip of said second jamb member with the wall surface about said other side of said rough opening, anchoring each said tenon in its said respective mortise, and connecting a door stop in desired adjusted position to extend between and in partially covering relation to said jamb members.

8. The method of installing a casing and door in a rough wall opening which comprises, assembling a first jamb member comprising a generally rectangular frame having a door hinged therein and a trim strip attached

thereto to finish about said frame, assembling a second jamb member comprising a similar generally rectangular frame and a trim strip attached thereto to finish about said frame, said frames having respective inner edges adapted and arranged to be disposed adjacent each other within said opening, proportioning said frames to have a combined thickness not greater than the thickness of said wall, applying tenons to one said frame to extend from the inner edge thereof, mortising the other said frame at its inner edge fittingly to receive said tenons, inserting said first jamb member in said opening to a depth sufficient to engage its said trim strip with the wall surrounding said opening, inserting wedges into said wall opening outside of said frame of said first jamb member to position and to retain in position said first jamb member, driving attachment means into said wall through said frame of said first jamb member and said wedges, inserting said second jamb member into said opening in the direction to dispose said inner edges toward each other and to engage said tenons in said mortises, driving attachment means through said other frame into said tenons to lock said frames in relative position, thereafter selectively positioning a door stop to cover and span between said inner edges and to have an edge immediately adjacent the closed position of said door and permanently affixing said door stop to said frames in said selected position.

9. A pre-assembled door casing comprising: two parallel jamb members; a door, hinged to one said jamb member at the hinge edge of said door, having an opposed swinging edge, and having a lock bolt opening extending into said door at said swinging edge and an intersecting lock body opening extending through said door from face to face thereof; said other jamb member having a door bolt aperture aligned with said door bolt opening of said door and extending partially through said other jamb member; a dowel rod disposed in said door bolt opening and extending at one end into said lock body opening and at the other end into said door bolt aperture; a keeper affixed to said dowel at said one end engaged at a side of said lock body opening; and a screw extending through said other jamb member into said door bolt aperture and threadedly engaging in said dowel rod.

10. A pre-assembled door casing comprising a hinge side jamb member and an opposed lock side jamb member, a door member hinged to said hinge side jamb member, said lock side jamb member having a door-bolt-receiving aperture and said door member having a door bolt opening aligned with said aperture, an elongated reinforcing member having end portions respectively disposed in said opening and aperture and fitting therein sufficiently closely to prevent substantial motion between said door member and lock side jamb member at said opening and aperture in a direction laterally of said reinforcing member, one said end portion being anchored against longitudinal motion to the one of said door and jamb members in which said one end portion is disposed, and means to draw and lock the other said end portion into the member in which said other end portion is disposed.

11. In a pre-assembled door casing and comprising a swingable door member pre-drilled in a swinging edge to form a lock bolt opening and a jamb member confronting said drilled edge of said door member and having a pre-formed door-bolt-receiving aperture aligned with said opening, the combination of a reinforcing device having a portion disposed in said opening in said door member and protruding beyond said edge, the protruding portion of said device being engaged in said aperture in said jamb member, said device being anchored in one said member, and means on the other said member to draw said device into said other member and to lock said device in said other member.

12. In a pre-assembled door casing and comprising a swingable door member pre-drilled in a swinging edge to form a lock bolt opening and a jamb member confronting said drilled edge of said door member and having a pre-formed door-bolt-receiving aperture aligned with said

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opening, the combination of an elongated reinforcing device having a portion disposed in said opening and anchored against longitudinal motion to said door member and protruding beyond said edge, the protruding portion of said device being engaged in said aperture in said jamb member, and means on said jamb member to draw said protruding portion of said device into said aperture and to retain said protruding portion in inwardly drawn position in said aperture.

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