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The 7 Best Retractable Screen Doors of 2024

Sit back and enjoy cool, refreshing air from within your home

By NICOLE PYLES | Updated on 08/22/24

Reviewed by DEANE BIERMEIER Fact checked by ELIZABETH MACLENNAN

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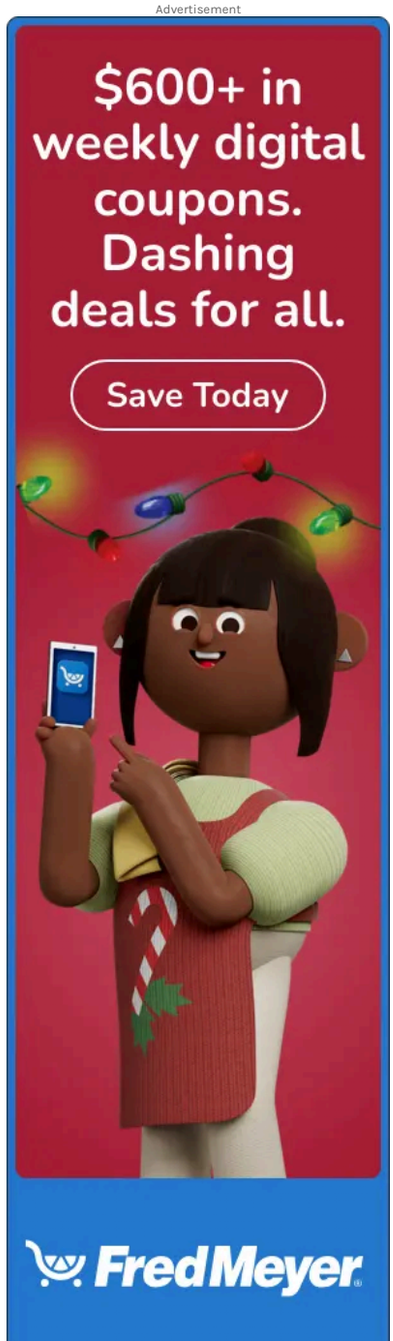

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The Spruce / Marcus Millan

A retractable screen door gives you numerous benefits over swinging, spring-loaded, or sliding options. While it still allows you to enjoy a fresh breeze and block out flying insects, it gives you an unobstructed view of the outside, and it can retract out of view when not in use.

Many retractable screen doors become an almost-invisible addition to your front door or back patio door. Some options are versatile enough to function well with other designs, like French doors.

"Unlike hinged screen doors that require swinging space, retractable screens maximize your doorway area," says Margaret Kemmeter, Kitchen & Bath Designer at SIMS Exteriors and Remodeling. Retractable screens are usually housed in a protective casing, reducing wear and tear compared to fixed screens that are usually exposed to the elements, she says.

We researched the best retractable screen doors, narrowing down options to those made of durable materials. We also identified ones that accommodate different styles of doors and are simple to open and shut. Our picks have various sizing options and are known for their solid performance.

Our Top Picks

Best Overall:
Larson Brisa Retractable Screen Door at Amazon | $249
Jump to Review

Best Value:
Flux Phenom Magnetic Screen Door at Amazon | $20
Jump to Review

Best Weather-Resistant:
Larson Tradewinds Retractable Screen Storm Door at Lowes | $464
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Best for French Doors:
Larson Brisa Double Retractable Screen Door at Amazon | $370
Jump to Review

Easiest to Install:
Andersen LuminAire Retractable Screen Door at Home Depot | $179
Jump to Review

Best for Pets:
Larson Tradewinds Aluminum Storm Door at Lowes | $450
Jump to Review

Best Sliding:
Roomnest Retractable Screen Door at Amazon | $89
Jump to Review

Best Budget:
Augo Magnetic Screen Door at Amazon | $27
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Best Overall

Larson Brisa Retractable Screen Door

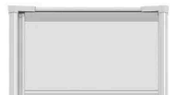

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PHOTO: Amazon

$249 at Amazon

$270 at Wayfair

$398 at Home Depot

What We Like

- Suitable for various door-types
- Available in various color options
- Screen visibility
- Built-in handle

What We Don't Like

- Exterior mounting

Our top pick is the Larson Brisa Retractable Screen Door. We like it for its flexibility to work with a variety of door types, whether it's an inswing or outswing door, or whether you need the door handle to open left or right. The handle is ergonomic, easily sliding open with one hand and remains securely locked with a built-in latch.

If you're concerned about the screen being difficult to see for pets, young children, or even yourself, stripes are subtly woven into the durable screen. At the same time, it's easy for you to see through, without obstructing your view of the outdoors.

Plus, it has an aluminum frame, ideal for preventing damage while going in and out of the doorway. One downside, though, is that it's not designed to withstand extreme weather.

With three different sizing options available, it should fit most door frames without any issues. You'll also need to keep in mind that it's designed to be a bit larger than your door frame's overall size as it is mounted on the exterior. So, this may not be ideal if you want a screen door that has a seamless appearance.

Still, the screen's glide open system means you can avoid hearing slamming noises during the day, if you go in and out the door. We also like that the retractable screen door comes with a built-in handle. That means you won't have to worry about purchasing one separately, and it'll accommodate this specific screen.

Dimensions: 36 x 80 inches, 36 x 78 inches, 36 x 96 inches | **Frame Material:** Aluminum | **Color Options:** White, black, or brown

Best Value

Flux Phenom Magnetic Screen Door

PHOTO: Amazon

$20 at Amazon

What We Like

- Easy installation
- Visible mesh screen
- Suitable for renters

What We Don't Like

- Low aesthetic appeal
- Not highly durable

If you're looking for the most cost-effective option, we recommend the FLUX Magnetic Screen Door. It's ideal if you're renting a home or an apartment, or want to avoid any complicated installation process.

This screen is the least complicated to install on our list and the simplest to remove when no longer needed for the season or if you are moving. It's mounted to your door with the included 26 push pins and double-stick black tape. Plus, it doesn't require any special tools to install.

The mesh screen opens in the middle and fits most standard door sizes at about 38 x 82 inches. You can easily push through the screen, even if your arms are full, as the screen automatically opens and then closes.

There are other sizing options available, depending on your specific needs. It can easily be mounted on outward open doors or inward open ones. You'll just need to mount the screen either on the inside or outside of your door, based on your preference. It's also visible to pets and small children, thanks to the lining down the middle, so you won't need to worry about anyone not seeing the screen in your doorway.

Overall, this screen option prioritizes form and function over aesthetic-appeal. Black, white, and gray options are available, making it somewhat flexible for certain design choices.

It also may not be the most long-lasting option as the sticky tape may weaken after a few years of usage. Fortunately, it's a cinch to replace and re-install a new one.

Dimensions: 36 x 82 inches, 48 x 80 inches | **Frame Material:** Strengthened polyester mesh | **Color Options:** White, black, or gray

Best Weather-Resistant

Larson Tradewinds Retractable Screen Storm Door

PHOTO: Lowe's

$464 at Lowes

What We Like

- Dual weather strip
- Thick door frame
- Universal hinge

What We Don't Like

- Complicated installation
- Door handle sold separately

If you're looking for a retractable screen door that can withstand harsh weather rather than gentle spring or summer breezes, we recommend the Larson Tradewinds Retractable Screen Aluminum Storm Door. This option offers dual benefits with an included retractable screen door when you want fresh air that hides away and converts into a storm door to protect you from the elements.

We like that this storm door is made of 1⅞-inch frame that includes an overlapping edge around your door and a dual weather strip. This is ideal if you are looking to keep out cold air and icy weather during the winter season. You can also lower the upper glass frame to expose the screen, allowing in fresh air during the warmer seasons.

We also like that the door is made of low-e (low-emissivity glass, which can reflect UV rays and is more energy efficient. Similar to our best pick, this option also has a universal hinge, so you can install it on right or left swing doors. There is a bottom button that keeps the door open with a tap of your foot, ideal if you want to hang onto your coffee cup while you wait for someone to come inside or if you need to accept a delivery.

The door handle is sold separately, so keep that in mind when considering this option. Also, installation may be a bit complicated; but, you can request a Lowe's team member to complete this process for you. Keep in mind that this may increase your overall costs.

Dimensions: 36 x 96 inches, 32 x 81 inches, 36 x 81 inches, 34 x 81 inches, 30 x 81 inches | **Frame Material:** Aluminum | **Color Options:** Sandstone, white, graphite, almond, brown, black

Best for French Doors

Larson Brisa Double Retractable Screen Door

PHOTO: Amazon

$370 at Amazon

$431 at Lowes

$430 at Ace Hardware

What We Like

- Double-screen door
- Easy installation
- Several colors available

What We Don't Like

- Minimal sizing options
- May need sizing adjustments

If you want to leave your French doors open without inviting bugs, we recommend the Larson Brisa Double Retractable Screen Door Kit. This is a full-view double screen door. We love that you'll gain an abundance of fresh air with coverage for both of your doors in a single unit, rather than having one screen door at a time.

Like the other Larson pick on our list, it's surface-mounted to your door's molding or trim. You'll avoid any ill-fitting track having to be fitted within your French door frame. Plus, it allows for excellent ventilation while minimizing any obstruction of the view. We noticed that there aren't as many sizing options for this pick as others on our list. It's supposed to be larger than your door frame, so keep that in mind when selecting yours.

We like that it is suitable for both inswing and outswing doors, as well as left and right door handle openings. In addition, the screen retracts easily out of view, while also locking in place when closed.

As a result, this is a secure, versatile option for all kinds of French doors. You can also select from three colors, making it a seamless addition to your home, and without it distracting from the beauty of your French doors.

This screen door also has an easy installation process of roughly 30 minutes. The only assembly tool you need is a power drill. If you need to make adjustments for sizing, you may have a lengthier installation process.

Dimensions: 72 x 80 inches | **Frame Material:** Aluminum | **Color Options:** White, brown, sandstone

Easiest to Install

Andersen LuminAire Retractable Screen Door

PHOTO: The Home Depot

$179 at Home Depot

What We Like

- Comes in several colors
- Clear instructions and video
- Installs in door frame

What We Don't Like

- Not compatible with patio doors
- Screen not clearly visible

If you want easy installation without compromising on quality and aesthetics, we recommend the LuminAire Single Retractable Screen Door. This option includes online videos to guide you through the installation process. Plus, the included installation guide provides clear instructions on assembly.

We like that this screen has a latch that locks, ideal for security purposes and peace of mind at night. Like other picks on our list, the screen encompasses the entire door, allowing for an abundance of air flow and natural light to come in without obstruction.

However, note that the screen is fairly transparent. While this is ideal if you love a full view of your outdoor space, others in your household, namely pets and small children, may run into the screen.

You can install this screen door for either left or right-handed open doors. But it is not compatible with patio doors. You'll want to keep that in mind when considering this for your home.

Unlike our Larsen pick, this option actually installs in the door frame, instead of the exterior. This can give you a cleaner look, so you can maintain the appearance of your entryway. Plus, this screen door comes with five color choices: white, sandstone, charcoal gray, bronze, and black.

Dimensions: 32-36 x 78 inches, 32-36 x 80 inches, 32-36 x 84 inches | **Frame Material:** Aluminum | **Color Options:** White, sandstone, charcoal gray, bronze, and black.

Best for Pets

Larson Tradewinds Aluminum Storm Door

PHOTO: Lowe's

$450 at Lowes

What We Like

- Pet door included
- Ideal for harsher weather
- Includes retractable screen

What We Don't Like

- Difficult installation
- Not suitable for large breeds

Pet owners may want to have a screen door that gives a furry family member freedom to go in and out of the house without deterrence. That's why we recommend the Larson Tradewinds Aluminum Storm Door With Retractable Screen.

The built-in pet door is suitable for pets up to 40 pounds, giving them a chance to come and go as they please.

The opening is about 8 x 12 inches, making it ideal for small dog breeds or cats. It also stays closed with a magnet, so you won't have to worry about the pet door sticking or swinging open and closed as your pet comes and goes.

The retractable door frame is made of heavy-duty aluminum and has dual weatherstripping, great for enduring stormy weather conditions. Like our weather-resistant option, this can seal out the elements while giving you the chance to enjoy fresh air as you please. The screen door can disappear out of view above the window. You can easily open the window with one hand, and keep the door open with a tap of your toe, making it also an ergonomic option.

If you're looking for a pet door that keeps your pets inside, this may not be your best option. This one gives your cat or dog freedom of movement. Plus, it's not ideal for large dog breeds. In addition, the installation process is somewhat complex, so you may want to hire a professional, if you are not comfortable with DIY projects or home repairs.

Dimensions: 36 x 81 inches or 32 x 81 inches | **Frame Material:** Aluminum | **Color Options:** White, brown, black, almond, sandstone

Best Sliding

Roomnest Retractable Screen Door

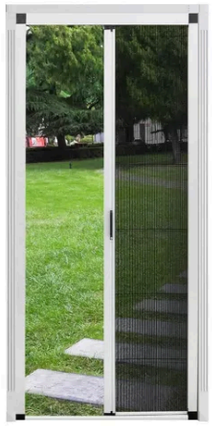

PHOTO: Amazon

$89 at Amazon

What We Like

- Customizable sizing
- No drill required
- Mesh screen slightly visible

What We Don't Like

- Not as durable

We think the Roomnest Retractable Screen Door is ideal for sliding patio doors. We appreciate that this is fully customizable for sizing, especially if you have any unusual sized doors that are not suitable for standard door sizes you may find on our list.

We like that the screen door's track is fairly low, so it's great for highly trafficked entryways or even for those with wheelchairs, who want to come and go with ease. This can also be installed inside and outside of the door frame, depending on your preference. Plus, the mesh screen has slight visibility, so there is less of a chance of someone in your household accidentally walking through it.

While it is made of an aluminum frame, this may not have the durability as you'd find with the Larson or LuminAire picks on our list, especially since you aren't mounting it with screws using a drill.

Plus, you won't need access to drill for installation, which we think is a plus for anyone renting a home. Instead you can use screws or a double-stick-backed tape, much like our FLUX Magnetic Screen Door Option.

Dimensions: 36 x 81 inches, 32 x 81 inches | **Frame Material:** Aluminum | **Color Options:** Champagne, black, brown, or white

Best Budget

Augo Magnetic Screen Door

Amazon Augo Magnetic Screen Door

PHOTO: Amazon

$27 at Amazon

What We Like

- Easy to install
- Magnetic closure for hands-free use
- Ideal for homes with children and pets

What We Don't Like

- No locking mechanism
- Not the most attractive

The Augo Magnetic Screen Door is a fast, effective, and affordable way to keep bugs out. It has 30 magnets that run along the seam, which allows for hands-free use. The two panels open and close automatically when people pass through, which, unlike the Larson Brisa Retractable Screen Door (our best overall pick), makes this screen a good choice for high-traffic households with children and pets.

It can be adjusted to fit door frames up to 38 inches wide x 83 inches tall, and it's constructed from heavy-duty black mesh to resist wear and tear. While this style isn't the most attractive or discreet, it's a good alternative to options with plastic or metal frames.

One unique feature of this screen door, compared to other magnetic ones, is that it has handy snaps to hold the sides in place to allow for easy entry and exit. It is also by far the easiest option to install from our list. Simply use the provided thumbtack and Velcro-like strips, and you're good to go. It's important to note, however, that this screen doesn't have any locking mechanism, and there is no way to keep children and pets from moving in and out (unless the door is closed).

Dimensions: 36 x 83 inches | **Frame material:** Fiberglass mesh | **Color options:** Black

Final Verdict

Our pick for the best overall retractable screen door is the Larson Brisa Retractable Screen Door. We like that it's suitable for a variety of door types, allowing you to install it on an inswing, outswing, or left-hinge or right-hinge doors. It also has an easy glide open system that allows for quiet function and uncomplicated opening and closing. We also recommend the FLUX Magnetic Screen Door. It has an easy installation process while allowing you to enjoy the fresh air without insects coming inside of your home.

What to Look for in a Retractable Screen Door

Think About Size Compatibility

You'll want to look for a retractable screen door that is made to fit wherever you are planning to install it, whether it's your entryway, patio door, or backdoors. Having the right size will prevent any gaps in the door frame, which would only defeat the purpose of having one in your home.

Before installation, and before purchasing your retractable screen door, you should measure the dimensions of your already installed door. Write down these measurements, then double-check by measuring again before buying a screen door with the proper dimensions, explains Craig Thomas, virtual handyperson expert at Frontdoor.

However, some options, such as the Larson Brisa Retractable Screen Door (our best overall pick) and Larson Brisa Double Retractable Screen Door (our best for French doors) are mounted on the exterior of your doors, so you will want this option to be somewhat larger than your door frame sizes. As you consider which retractable screen doors are ideal for your home, pay attention to any specific guidance on measurements before purchasing.

Consider Mesh Options

There are a wide variety of mesh options, most made of either fiberglass or polyester. You also have the option of transparency with your mesh options. Ones like our Larson Brisa Retractable Screen Door (our best overall pick) or Larson Brisa Double Retractable Screen Door (best for French doors) have stripes woven into the material for you to easily see it's there.

Others, like the LuminAire Single Retractable Screen Door (our pick for easiest to install) is barely visible once it's mounted. This may be ideal if you want an unobstructed view of the outdoors, or may not be your preference if you want a mesh that's clearly visible for pets or small children.

In addition, your mesh option can either open through the middle, like our FLUX Magnetic Screen Door (best value pick) or the Roomnest Retractable Screen Door (best sliding). While the Larson Brisa Retractable Screen Door and Larson Brisa Double Retractable Screen Door open by sliding the screen to the left or right.

Decide on Installation

Installing your retractable screen door should be a relatively smooth process in comparison to more traditional swing or sliding screen doors. For most installations, a drill with screwdriver bits and a drill bit will get the job done, says Thomas. Installation is straightforward, but if you require some assistance, contact an experienced handyperson.

If you are concerned about the complications of installation, picks like our LuminAire Single Retractable Screen Door (our pick for easiest to install), comes with in-depth tutorials that walk you through the entire process. Plus, the FLUX Magnetic Screen Door (our best value pick) or the Roomnest Retractable Screen Door (best sliding) won't require you to have access to a drill to mount these to your doors.

Choose Your Design

Retractable screen doors come with a variety of design features that will benefit your home:

- **Wind Resistance:** Options like our Larson Tradewinds Retractable Screen Aluminum Storm Door (our selection for best weather-resistant) are designed to withstand harsh weather conditions, such as wind, rain, or snow. While you will want to keep the screen hidden away. When not in use, retable screen doors are protected from the elements from inside the home, resulting in a much longer lifespan than a typical screen door, especially for the screen material, says Thomas.

- **Pet Doors:** If you want your pet to have the freedom to come and go, a retractable screen door with a pet door installed is an ideal feature. The Larson Tradewinds Selection Pet Door (our best for pets) has one automatically installed.
- **Security Lock:** A screen door with a lock is an ideal safety feature. Our Larson picks, such as the Larson Brisa Retractable Screen Door, Larson Tradewinds Selection Pet Door, and Larson Brisa Double Retractable Screen Door have security locks installed. This is also the case for the LuminAire Single Retractable Screen Door.
- **Self-Closing:** If you don't want to worry about someone leaving the screen door open, you will want one with a self-closing function. The FLUX Magnetic Screen Door and the Roomnest Retractable Screen Door both automatically close, thanks to a magnetic strip in the opening.

Why Trust The Spruce?

Nicole Pyles has been a writer for The Spruce since June 2024. She has written for Better Homes & Gardens, Mental Floss, WOW! Women on Writing, and Woman's World. For this list, she consulted reviews and considered dozens of retractable screen doors, evaluating products on their installation requirements, size compatibility, materials, durability, and overall performance. She has used the FLUX Magnetic Screen Door for years on her own apartment patio door.

Our Experts:

- Craig Thomas, virtual handyperson expert at Frontdoor
- Margaret Kemmeter, Kitchen & Bath Designer at SIMS Exteriors and Remodeling.

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