- Full-frame replacement instead of a simple slab swap

- Rot repair around the jamb or threshold
- New trim, casing, or paint prep
- Upgraded deadbolts or smart lock installation
- Side lights, transoms, or custom glass options

How To Read A Quote Without Getting Burned

A good quote should clearly state whether the installer is replacing just the slab or the entire prehung unit, because that one detail changes the labor, the materials, and the likely final cost.

A useful quote should also address the frame, threshold, and weatherstripping, since those items usually reveal whether the cheaper number is honest or incomplete.

When you compare bids, look for the same scope of work from each contractor. A lower quote that excludes trim repair, disposal, or lock rekeying may not actually be the better value.

Dallas homeowners should ask specifically about weather sealing, because a door that technically closes but still leaks air will cost more to live with later.

If the opening is out of square, or the old door sticks because the structure has shifted, the quote needs to reflect that reality instead of treating it as a basic replacement.

When Replacement Is Worth The Spend

The cheapest quote can be expensive later if it leaves out door installation the parts that prevent drafts, sticking, or water intrusion.

If the main entry is rough to operate or no longer looks right from the street, replacement often gives a better return than continuing to patch it.

Rear entries usually earn replacement status because of wear, weather exposure, and security concerns rather than curb appeal.

It is usually cheaper to replace a door before the problem spreads into the frame, the threshold, or the surrounding wall. Once water gets involved, the job becomes harder to price and harder to schedule.

A door replacement estimate is only useful if it reflects the actual opening. Measurements matter, and small differences in the frame can change the cost fast.