

Re: Solve the Garage Door Opener Puzzle !

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Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2008-12/msg01985.html>

- *From:* Jim Thompson <To-Email-Use-The-Envelope-Icon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 15 Dec 2008 09:03:27 -0700
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On Mon, 15 Dec 2008 15:33:28 GMT, Charlie E. <edmondson@xxxxxxx> wrote:

On Mon, 15 Dec 2008 07:32:46 -0700, Jim Thompson <To-Email-Use-The-Envelope-Icon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Mon, 15 Dec 2008 03:14:10 GMT, Charlie E. <edmondson@xxxxxxx> wrote:

On Wed, 10 Dec 2008 19:40:13 -0500, Spehro Pefhany <speffSNIP@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Situation: An approximately 15-year-old name-brand chain type garage door opener. The drive train was replaced by myself a couple of years ago, which is unrelated to the problem at hand.

It suddenly started working (from the remote) only to OPEN the door, and not to close it. The wall pushbutton switch always worked. I noticed that if the door was left open for some minutes, it would "recover" and would work again from the remote.

Anyone here can figure this out? Hint: I (much) later recalled replacing the lights in it (one had burned out).

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Best regards,
Spehro Pefhany

I will hijack this thread to thank the group for helping me solve a little electrical problem yesterday!

Had just finished putting up the tree, and plugged in the vacuum to clean up the little stuff that escapes from boxes and the old tree (artificial!) when it went Zo.....m dead. All the lights on the tree, the stereo and tv went quiet. Went out and checked the breakers, none tripped, but reset the living room breaker anyway. No help. Also, undercounter lights in kitchen were out, but rest of house was fine.

Opened outlet, and pulled out my VOM. between ground and both hot and neutral there was voltage – neutral problem!

Ate lunch, and then went back out to breaker panel. Opened it up, located breaker, located neutral (goes to two different circuits) and pulled. Out comes neutral! Pulled a breaker so I could get to the neutral buss, and tied down the neutral. Living room now back up!

Of course, all the undercounter fluorescents are still out. I am afraid the fault may have done something wonderful like take out all the ballasts, or something...

Charlie

Years ago I had a mains neutral go resistive on me (underground feed). Noticed it when furnace blower would come on, half the lights in the house would dim, other half would brighten... plus one of the daughters complained that the shower would "sting" her... 15VAC between shower head and the drain :-(

Called APS... broad lipped me, that I didn't know what I was talking about. After I taught her a few new curse words, she connected me to

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a technician, and they came out within 15 minutes and installed an above-ground temporary neutral until they could come with a digger.

...Jim Thompson

Ouch!

No, fortunately, this one was in the breaker box. But I still don't know for sure what the problem with the lights is. Haven't had a chance to troubleshoot yet.

Maybe over-voltage due to the nearly floating neutral? You're fortunate you only lost some lights :-)

And then, there is my living room ceiling fan. Got a noise that sounded like big sparks from in it when I tested it, but it worked fine... :-)

Charlie

My ceiling fans periodically make "clicking" noises... means tighten the blade screws ;-)

Now that the Obama "Green Team" is in place I guess it's time to do an electric power review. Since we drive so little the only big hit we can take is for electricity :-)

I rarely swim in the winter... just the occasional spa. Maybe I can convert my solar pool heater to house water heating.

...Jim Thompson

—
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I love to cook with wine Sometimes I even put it in the food

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