Repairing Leveler Support in a Hollow-Core Bifold Door

POH recently received a service request from a client who complained that her bifold door was dragging on the floor. Since we had installed that door a year previously, I looked forward to correcting that problem. Turned out to be more than simply adjusting the leveler screw. Picture below shows the problem: support for the door's leveler screw had collapsed. Replacement cost of the entire bifold door was over \$62 (Oct 2018) so, a more economical solution was in order.

These hollow-core bifold doors use composite MDF strips to separate the textured front and back panels; spacing between them was 30mm. We needed to replace the defective material with wood.

Lacking the capability to make precise cuts in wood, I headed for Home Depot with caliper in hand to look for pre-cut wood with the desired dimensions.

Persistence paid off and found this solid pine miterless outside corner block for \$1.33! Width and depth measured 29mm and the height, after removing the sculpted top, was still 3 ¼" – perfect for our use.

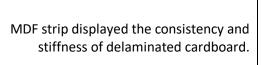


DecraMold >
DM 458 - 1-1/8 in. x 1-1/8 in. x 4-1/2 in.
Solid Pine Miterless Outside Corner Block for Base Moulding
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\$133





Marked the cut-line with the "decapitated" base moulding and used a multitool with ¾" wide blade to remove the defective MDF strip. Slid a thin putty knife between the outside panel and the multitool cutting blade to prevent accidental damage to the panel.





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Hole in bottom of opposite panel was used to transfer location of leveler hole to our block of wood.

Notice the difference between old and new support structures. Thickness of the MDF strip was 15mm while the wooden block is almost twice as thick at 29mm.

Liberally covered inside of door panel and block with wood glue and allowed assembly to dry for 24 hours under pressure.

