



# Frequently Asked Questions

**DIY Automatic Gate Kits**  
Strong – Safe – Reliable  
**Solar & Low Voltage Specialists**  
[www.gforceautomation.com.au](http://www.gforceautomation.com.au)

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Gates & Environment

## Will a Gate Opener work on my gate?

Swing Gates should be level, well hung & inward-opening, with sufficient clearance on the side for the articulated Arms. A Sliding Gate should be level & easy to roll backwards & forwards

## Do I need Mains Power at my gate?

No. That's the whole point. Our motors operate on Low-Voltage 12VDC. Of course, if you already have Mains power at your gate, simply plug the AC Transformer in - otherwise the Transformer lead can be safely extended up to 50m to an available Power Point (like low-voltage garden lighting)

## Can I use Solar Power?

Of course! As long as you have access to a good unshaded northerly position within 30m of your gate. The Solar Panel charges the Battery, which then operates the gate whenever needed - day or night. Typically, a Solar Panel needs about 2hrs of full sun a day to maintain optimal charge. The backup battery should operate the gate for about a week, even in poor weather

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Cables & Distances

## What cabling is required?

2-core cable (like that used in low-voltage garden wiring) can be used to extend the 12vAC Transformer or 12v Solar Panel leads (not supplied). For double gates, the same type of cable is required across the drive to connect the 2 motors (supplied)

## How do I get the leads across my drive?

With a concrete or bitumen drive, you can simply cut a slot in the pavement using a concrete-cutting disc on an angle grinder. The 12v cable for the (slave) motor will typically fit into a 3-4mm slot, 20mm deep. Remember to also lay cables for any Visitor Push Buttons, keypads or intercoms if required

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Motors & Clearances

## What's the Advantage of a 'Swing Arm'-type Gate Motor?

Unlike Linear (or 'Screw-Drive') Motors that have limited reach, G-Force 'Swing Arm' Motors can reach in off the back of a large pillar, up to 400mm to inset gates

They also apply the greatest 'mechanical advantage' and least strain to the gate, hinging and mechanism as they open a gate just like we would - reaching out from our shoulder to our elbow and wrist

## How much clearance is needed for the articulated arms?

About 500mm 'elbow room' is required to the side of the gate for the standard arms. If clearance is less than this, the arms can be cut down to operate in 200mm. For longer gates (where maximum reach is needed) there's an optional 'low clearance' arm which operates within the width of the motor itself (approx 160mm)

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Controls & Range

## How many Remote Controls are supplied with each Kit?

3x 4-Button Remote Controls (called 'Handsets') are supplied with each Kit, with an operating range of up to 100m. Up to 4x different gates, garage doors or other devices can be triggered from the one Handset (if a matching Receiver is fitted)

## Is there a separate Control Box?

No. The electronic controls and backup battery are conveniently housed under the one motor cover.

## Can I still get out if the battery fails?

Yes. G-Force Motors have a simple Manual Release mechanism. A simple  $\frac{1}{2}$  turn of an Allen Key will release the gearbox allowing the gate to swing freely. Expect the 7aH backup battery to last about 2 years, before it needs replacing.

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Settings & Adjustments

## What adjustments do I need to make?

Small user-adjustable plastic 'cams' are used to set the required open & close positions. By simply rotating the cams to a wider angle, the gate to open through a wider arc. Adjustments are also available to set 'Auto Close' times and motor torque.

## Do I need a centre Ground Stop for Double Gates?

For most double gate installations, you won't. Light to mid-weight gates can be closed across a gravel drive simply by closing 1 gate against the other (typically using a 'tag' at the back of the 'last-closing' gate). However, for heavier or clad gates (such as those clad with timber slats or color-bond) a ground stop is recommended

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Visitor Access

## How will Visitors open my gate?

This important question is often overlooked. If you're installing your Gate Opener primarily for your convenience, then make it convenient for your visitors too. A simple 'Push Button' installed at the gate may be all you need. For family & friends, you can add as many Handsets as you like. If security is more your concern, then install a 4-digit Keypad or Intercom

## Can I install this Kit myself?

G-Force Gate Openers operate on 'Low Voltage' similar to Low Voltage Garden Lighting so are safe for DIY installation. With the right tools and advice, a G-Force Gate Opener can be installed within 2-4hrs.