

How should I hang my outdoor porch swing?

If you intend to hang your porch swing from the ceiling, make sure the joists will support the weight of both your swing and its occupants. It's a good idea to leave at least three or more feet of space behind your porch swing to allow plenty of comfortable swinging. You should also position the swing chains an inch or two outside the swing length; for example, if you're hanging a 5' swing, place the chain hooks about 5'2" to 5'4" apart.

If you would like to hang our porch swing from a tree limb, the most important first step is to make sure that the limb is sturdy enough to support the weight of both your swing and anyone sitting on it. Once you're sure the branch is strong enough, protect it from abrasion by padding the hanging chains with a rubber hose and fastening the chain around the limb with a heavy, rust-resistant bolt. Never use hooks to attach the chain directly to the branch.

