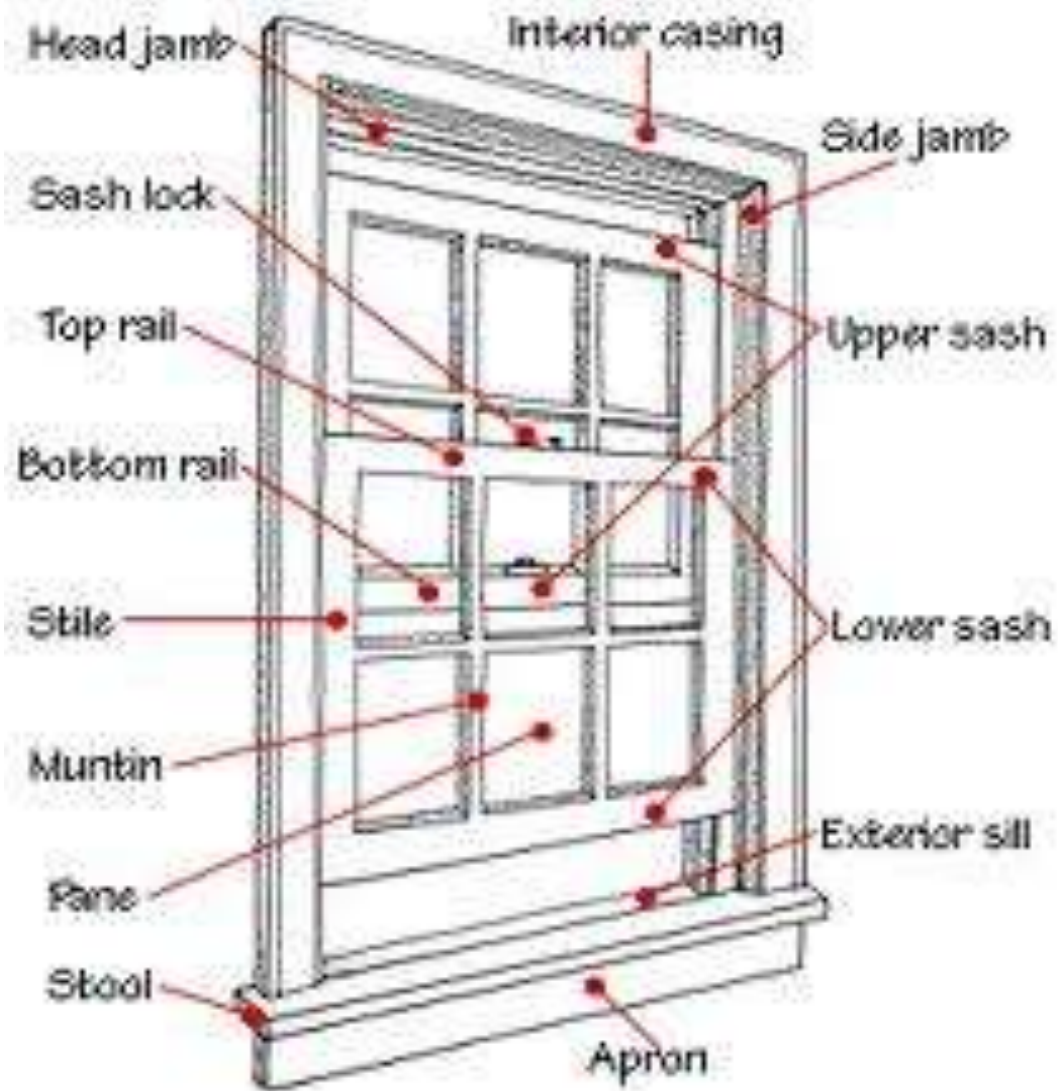


Weatherizing Techniques for Old Wood Windows

**OnBalance Solutions
Ithaca, New York**

The Window



Before weatherizing, look for problems.

Take time to assess working conditions of windows.

- Are the windows drafty?
- Do the sashes neatly glide up and down?

Are your windows drafty?

Weather-stripping the sashes:

- When upgrading historic or vintage windows choose spring bronze or EP DM rubber.
- Use copper brads.
- Measure the bronze 1 inch longer than the sash measurements.
- Ensure bronze is 1 / 16 inch away from parting bead.
- Brads are spaced 1½ inch apart.

Are your windows drafty?

Weather-stripping the sashes:

- Once installed, bend bronze back to help form seal.
- Use hook-style metal weather-stripping on the meeting rails.

Spring Bronze and Sash Stop Adjuster



Do the sashes glide up and down?

The sash stop serves two functions:

- 1. To hold the sash in place.*
- 2. Adjusts to secure against wind infiltration.*

The Sash Stop Adjusters:



Do the sashes glide up and down?

Adjust the sash stops.

- Use screws and a stop adjuster.
- When installed correctly, they allow stops to be loosened for “throwing up the sash” in warm weather, and tightened to seal out drafts in cold weather.
- Additionally, a simple fix is to install cam locks, sometimes called banjo fasteners.

Installing Storm Windows

Energy studies conducted by federal and state governments indicate the combination and use of a weatherized and adjusted sash and good storm sash is *as efficient as most replacements windows*.

James, B., Shapiro, A., Flanders, S., Hemenway, D. (1997). Testing the Energy Performance of Wood Windows in Cold Climates. State of Vermont Division for Historic Preservation.

Smith, B. (1998). Preservation Briefs: 3, Conserving Energy in Historic Buildings. US Department of the Interior, National Parks Service, PAD.

The Storm Window Latch:



Installing Storm Windows

- The best storms thermally and aesthetically are wood.
- Reproduction wood storms are best when made with mahogany, western cedar, or Spanish cedar.
- Interior storms can be used on the inside of the sash.

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