

DO-IT-YOURSELF

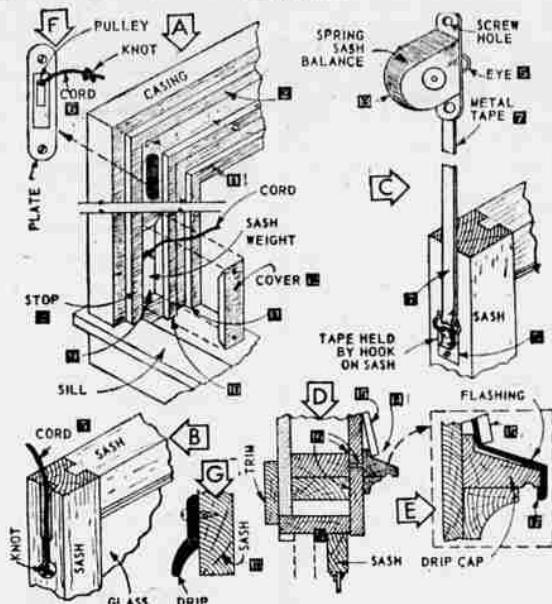
Replacement Of Sash Cords Is An Easy Job For Handymen

By J. RALPH DALZELL

Buyers of older houses have frequently asked how to repair broken sash cords so that windows will stay open. Double-hung windows are balanced with weights and cords, and when one or both cords break it is a relatively easy job to renew them.

Picture A shows a part of a typical double-hung window. The upper half of the sash (the part

sash balance used in place of cords and weights. The spring housing (13) replaces the pulleys shown in picture F. The metal tape (7) is attached to the eyes and hooks (5 in picture C) as indicated. The hooks are screwed to the sash where the knotted ends of the cords (see picture B) were. To install most types of spring balances the sash must be removed as explained.



containing the glass) slides between stops 10 and 11. The lower sash slides between stops 2 and 10. Sash cords are attached to the sash as shown in picture B, and run through pulleys as shown at F. The cords extend to the sash weights from the pulleys as shown at 9 in picture A. The weights travel up and down in pickets behind the stops.

To repair broken cords, remove stop 2 from one vertical side of the window casing. This can be done easily with a flatbladed, stiff putty knife using a prying action. Swing the sash out from the window opening. Remove the old cords (5 in picture B) from the sash and allow them to slip through the pulleys, as in picture F. Remove the covers (12) from the casings (see picture A). If the cords (6 in picture F) are broken they can be pulled out. Make the new cords equal in length to the old ones, but be sure to leave enough for knot tying, as in pictures B and F. Use No. 7 braided sash cord. Push one end of the new cord through the pulleys and down where the ends can be fished out of opening (9 in picture A). Then tie the cords to the weights. Tie knots in the other ends of the cords and install them in the sash as shown in picture B. Then replace the sash and stop.

Picture C shows a newer type

Sometimes windows leak at the point where the siding (15) and drip caps (14) meet above windows, as illustrated in picture D. The leaks cause water to enter the cracks shown at 16, and cause the window to deteriorate. To make repairs, pry up the bottom piece of siding or shingles (15) and insert metal flashing as shown in picture E. Note that the ends of the flashing (17) should extend below the nose of the drip cap. Either galvanized or copper flashing can be used.

When casement windows open inward they sometimes leak under the bottom part (18) of the sash, as shown in picture G. To stop the leak install the type of drip shown, priming it with calking compound before screwing it to the sash.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. — Can printed cloths be used instead of wallpaper over cracked plaster?

A. — Yes, wall cloth can be pasted over plaster the same as wallpaper. The cloth covers cracks and is not likely to break if cracks open and close.

Q. — How can I polish dull marble?

A. — Apply putty powder (available at monument shops) to a damp cloth and rub the marble.

Install Your Storm Windows Before Cold Weather Sets In

If you want to be ready for the first cold snap, it's time to start needing yourself about storm windows. In about two weeks time, when you're disgusted with yourself for putting it off for so long, you'll be ready to tackle the problem.

A few tips for those who haven't yet bought their windows:

Face the fact that storm windows are a worthwhile investment and don't try to save money by buying cheap windows and a cheap installation job. There are no good windows at less than \$2 each, and if they are advertised for less, the salesman will undoubtedly tell you that "we're out of stock in that line, but I'd like to show you something else for just a little more."

Miniatures are valuable guides for the prospective buyer. Examine them carefully for design, method of operation and installation, and material (wood, steel or aluminum, wood being cheaper and the metals lighter and easier to handle).

Read the manufacturer's literature and the dealer's guarantee so that you know not only what they are promising but also what you can do about it if the windows are unsatisfactory in any way.

Have your windows installed by a firm permanently located in your city. Windows sold by salesmen who move from place to place, and installed by a group who follows them, may be good, but have no recourse if there is any flaw in



DECORATIVE DANGER: This picket fence is pretty, but it is a hazard. One slip in the operation above and a boy might be seriously hurt. Such fences can be made safer by sawing off the pointed tips.

Check Your Home For Safety To Protect The Whole Family

It may not take more than a little elbow grease and a second thought to prevent a serious accident in the home. But many parents neglect doing the small things here and there that will make their homes safer.

Many a youngster has been burned by tampering with electric outlets that lie right in the path of crawler and toddler. Yet, there are plastic caps that cost but a few cents that may be inserted into these outlets in a jiffy, and removed when the outlet is put into use.

Windows are another potential danger in the home, especially when they do not lock properly or when the screens offer little protection to curious small fry. It takes only a few minutes to anchor screens firmly with proper hardware so that they will act as barriers.

Rustic fences are lovely to look at, but those with pointed tops may serve as a real danger to a child who is at the climbing age. One slip from his perch on an unsteady wagon or tricycle as he leans over a fence could cause serious injury, perhaps the loss of an eye. Arms and legs may be filled with splinters too, unless a coat of shellac or varnish is put over rough wood to seal it and prevent weathering.

The popular home workshop is another potential danger being stressed these days with the argument that emergencies don't wait. Power tool experts suggest building a five-foot wall of beaver-

the installation. Check the installation job on such points as careful calking between frames and house, so that there will be no air leakage.

For those who face the problem of bringing the windows up from the cellar where they've been collecting dust all spring and summer:

Dust them first; if the "fur" is very thick, wash it off with a hose.

Use a spray cleaner which is not only easy to apply (spray and wipe off, with no wet rags necessary), but cleans both the glass and the frame, whether of wood or metal. It also leaves a dirt-repelling film. Unusually dirty windows will require two applications. Use it for window sills, too, where dirt has accumulated behind screens.

Finally, for those who hesitate to do anything — either buy new storm windows or clean old ones — a reminder that in October last year a professor of meteorology at an eastern university predicted 10 years of severe cold and a "return to the snows that grandpa recalls."

board around the home workshop. They suggest installing a gate that locks to keep children away from saws, chisels, and especially power tools.

A rickety high-chair may get better support by enlarging the base of it so the child can't overturn it by rocking.

Falls may be prevented by installing hand rails on stairways by putting a rubber pad under scatter rugs, by putting grab rails

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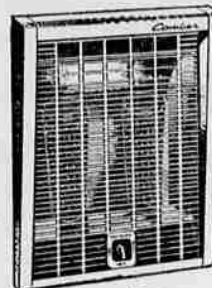
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next to the bathtub and installing light switches at stairways and at the entrances to rooms. Sand chests near outdoor steps and walks will come in handy when ice forms and the area requires sanding.

Fire may be avoided by keeping chimneys clean. A burlap bag filled with straw and weighted with a brick may be lowered and raised inside the chimney from the roof until sooty residue is removed. A dry Christmas tree thrown into a fireplace is a frequent cause of chimney fires.

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