

DO-IT-YOURSELF

How To Restore Putty Seal In A Wooden Window Sash

By J. RALPH DALZELL

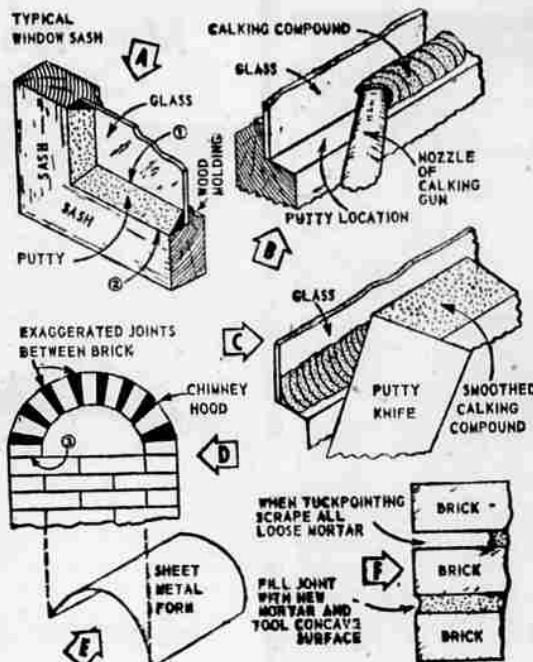
Early spring is the time to examine the putty on all wood window sash. After a winter of rain, snow and cold weather some of the putty may be loose or cracked.

Picture A shows part of a typical wood sash. Individual sash may vary in the molding around the glass, but the triangular-shaped run of putty will be as shown in the picture. If the putty is loose or cracked along the lines marked 1 and 2, the chances are that water will start rot in the sash wood, which could become dangerous.

Use an old chisel or knife to scrape off all loose putty. Make sure that the glazier's points hold the glass tightly. If any of the points are loose they should be driven into the wood far enough to make them tight, or new points may be added. Apply a coat of ordinary oil paint to the wood that will be covered with putty.

New putty, as it comes from the can, may be applied using a putty knife. However, most amateurs will find that calking compound, as it comes from the gun or tube, is easier to handle. Picture B shows how a quarter-inch bead of calking compound can be applied around the sash. An even distribution of the compound is possible by moving the gun or tube slowly along the sash and continuing the pressure. Picture C shows how a putty knife can be used to transform the bead into a triangular run as shown in picture A.

Excessive moisture in a chimney, especially an old one, can be harmful. The moisture could rot the mortar in the joints between brick, run out through thimble holes and create bad odors in fireplaces. In sections of the country where heavy rains occur, some



sort of a chimney pot or hood is recommended.

Various kinds of pots and hoods are available where masonry materials are sold. However, you can make your own using only a few bricks, a little mortar and a piece of sheet metal. See pictures D and E. Cut the sheet metal so that its length is equal to the overall thickness of the chimney. Then bend enough of it to form a half circle that is equal in diameter to the width of the flue. Brick can

then be mortared in place as shown in picture D. Use a mortar composed of one part cement, three parts sand and a little lime. This mortar is ready mixed in bags.

Place the sheet metal form on the chimney and then lay brick over it without mortar. This procedure will indicate how many

brick will be needed. Remove the loose brick and spread mortar at point 3. With a little effort one can lay all the brick around the sheet metal form and smooth the joints. Make sure all joints are filled with mortar. Remove the form after three days.

Poor mortar joints in chimneys should be scraped out and refilled. See picture F. Moisten the interior of the joints and apply the mortar mix mentioned. A heavy wire can be used to concave the joints.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q.—Are all varnishes alike?
A.—No. Spar varnishes for exterior use contains a large proportion of oil and produces a flexible film which resists weather. The less flexible floor varnishes contain less oil, dry faster, get hard and tough, but have less resistance to weather.

Q.—Are luminous paints now available?

A.—Yes. The fluorescent type glows only during the time it is being activated by artificial illumination and is generally used under ultraviolet. The phosphorescent type continues to glow for several hours after artificial light has gone.

It would be well worth your time to check the ready-made items in your local lumber yard. The mouldings, valances, legs and many other pieces may be used separately or combined for unusual decorating effects or for furniture. Just add a little imagination.



BOTTLED UP are many of the answers to make that Spring Housecleaning chore easier. For best results, read the directions carefully, follow them as carefully as you would a recipe.

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Pointers For Painters

Springtime is refurbishing time in most homes. One way the man of the house can keep the little woman happy is to agree that a room needs a new coat of paint or that the furniture should be moved into new positions. It's a toss of the coin then to see who gets the job.

Women like to paint. The roller has made it less of a chore, and gayer colors have added inspiration.

But sometimes they buy the paint. And not having mastered their chemistry, they may be overwhelmed by such high-sounding lingo as butadiene-styrene, oleoresins, alkyds, and polyvinyl acetates. Here are pointers from experts to make it easy to select the paint that will do the job you want:

Consider paint on the basis of



LOOK, NO PROBLEM. She can remove Junior's crayon-capers easily. The enamel paint is unharmed by scrubbing.

shininess or gloss and you have three types of paint: gloss, semi-gloss and flat.

Gloss paints, generally referred to as enamels, are most often used on woodwork likely to come into contact with hands and on kitchen and bathroom walls. They resist

abrasion, are less likely to collect dirt and fingerprints, and keep moisture from entering the walls. Glosses are easiest to clean.

Flat paints are applied to walls and ceilings and are chosen where decoration is the number one consideration. These paints have greater covering power than glosses, do not glare and conceal surface irregularities, brush marks and scratches. They do mark and show fingerprints.

Semi-gloss paints have some advantages of the other two types. Gloss and semi-gloss paints are thinned with turpentine or mineral spirits. Newer paints have an odorless solvent.

Flat paints are solvent-thinned or water-thinned. Water-thinned paints such as calcimine and casein paints are familiar, but newer ones were developed within the past 10 years. They are described as latex paints. Some manufacturers call latex paints rubberized, plastic, butadiene-styrene, vinyl or polyvinyl-acetate or acrylic.

Latex paints dry quickly, are odorless and the brush or roller may be cleaned in warm water. Drippings must be cleaned off immediately. These paints are good where damp walls or new plaster must be painted and where fast drying is desired. Most latex paints are meant for interior use only. Check the label.

Solvent-thinned flat paints are superior to latexes in covering power, washability, water spotting and resistance to scrubbing, the experts advise.

The newest developments are gelled paints, self-spraying paints, multi-color paints, and rubber-based paints. Gels are made with a vehicle which stays solid in can or tube and is of the consistency of aspic on the brush. They liquify under pressure of brush or roller against the surface being painted. The chief advantages are that gels won't drip and won't spill if the can is overturned. They give a smooth, lap free coating. They're splendid for use on ceilings.

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