



Why Should I Repair or Restore my Old Wood Windows?

- **Because you value a quality product!** Old wood windows were constructed of durable, old-growth lumber and will outlast replacement windows by decades.
- **Because you think a warranty should be more than 20 years!** Most replacement models only come with a 15 to 20 year warranty. By the time the warranty expires, your replacement model will likely need to be replaced again (hence the term “replacement window”). Your old wood windows will last up to 10 times longer!
- **Because it makes economic sense!** Although a complete restoration may cost more than a cheap replacement model, consider the life cycles involved: The cheap replacement model will likely have to be replaced again in 15 years while your restored wood window will last up to 10 times longer. Which makes more economic sense? Simply adding a storm window will have a payback period of less than 10 years; the payback period for replacement windows can be up to 200 years!
- **Because you believe in being “green!”** An old wood window is an extremely sustainable product; the same can’t be said for a replacement window. The technologies marketed by replacement manufacturers – insulating glass, tilting mechanisms, spring balance systems – often fail or break within the lifetime of their warranty. Don’t forget the toxic and hazardous production of vinyl and landfill waste created by window replacement. Your old wood windows are easily repaired and will last a long, long time.
- **Because you really can save on energy costs!** Numerous studies have revealed that a properly restored, weatherstripped wood window coupled with a quality storm window will be just as energy efficient as a double-glazed replacement window.
- **Because your windows fit your house!** Care was taken to match the size and style of window to your house. With proper weatherstripping they can be made to fit and seal even better.
- **Because you can get tax credits!** Tax credits *are* available for storm windows; more information is available from Energy Star: http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=tax_credits.tx_index. Remember, storm windows have been around for over 100 years and are meant to protect your windows from the elements in addition to reducing air infiltration.
- **Because window restoration is doable!** If your existing windows have been neglected and will not function properly, they can be repaired. With a complete restoration, you will be amazed how well your windows will operate. All that’s needed is a good carpenter or window restoration specialist, careful planning, and some patience.

For more information on the benefits of window restoration, including energy studies and research articles, please visit our website at www.uga.edu/napc, or email us at napc@uga.edu.

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