

10 Reasons to Repair Your Old Windows



Replacement windows are called “replacement” for a reason. Manufacturers often offer lifetime warranties for their windows. What they don’t make clear is that 30% of the time, a replacement window will be replaced within 10 years. *Rypkema, 2006*



More heat is typically lost through your roof and un-insulated walls than through your windows. Adding just 3 and 1/2 inches of insulation in your attic can save more energy than replacing your windows and will likely cost less. *Rypkema, 2006*



If your wood windows are 60 years old or older, chances are that the wood they are made of is old growth, dense and durable wood that is now scarce. Even high-quality new wood windows, except for mahogany, won’t last as long as historic wood windows.



Studies have demonstrated that **a historic wood window, properly maintained, weather-stripped and with a storm window, can be just as energy efficient as a new window.** *Sedovic, 2005*



Each year, Americans demolish 200,000 buildings. That is 124 million tons of debris, or enough waste to construct a wall 30 feet high and 30 feet thick around the entire U.S. coastline. Every window that goes into the dump is adding to this problem. *Hadley, 2006*



According to studies, **it can take 240 years to recoup enough money in energy savings to pay back the cost of installing replacement windows.** *Calculations by Keith Heberern available at www.historichomeworks.com/hhw/education/windowshandout/windowenergyanalysis.pdf*



Replacement windows that contain vinyl or PVC are toxic to produce and create toxic by-products. Installing these in your house is not a ‘green’ approach. *Sedovic, 2005*



Historic windows are an important part of what gives your older building its character.



With a little bit of practice, **it can be easy—and inexpensive—to repair and maintain your windows.**



Not a DIY-er? There are people near you who can do it for you. **Hiring a skilled tradesperson to repair your windows fuels the local economy and provides jobs.** *Rypkema, 2006*

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