

Windows (glass, not computer)

I wrote this originally in 2005 but have received quite a few questions recently so I thought I would resubmit it as I am running out of fresh ideas.

Well, we all have them. They may be half round, crank outs (casements) or sliding doors but the most abundant are the infamous Silverline single hung windows. I never heard of a single hung window until the day I moved in. I was told to be careful, that they were great but had to be “handled” with care because the vinyl could bend. And they were right. Just pushing or pulling any old place may detach the vinyl from the glass. It could also loosen the seal between the glass and panes or distort the frame so it doesn’t seal correctly.

So... when opening, lift at the outside edges of the lip at the bottom. When closing, pull or push down by placing your fingers on the top of the window (lock rail) near the tilt latches, not in the middle near the lock. This way, the pressure is transferred to the vertical side frames (stiles) and will not distort the window frame (sash).

If there are windows you never or very seldom open, remove the screens to prevent the windows getting so dirty from the rain hitting the screen that they seem to be etched. This makes them almost impossible to get truly clean.

One of the good points of these windows is being able to pull the lower sash in to clean them. The tilt latches on each side are pulled towards the middle of the lock rail after opening the window about 2 inches. If you can't move the slides, check to make sure that the little screws on the inside of the slide are not in the lock position. There is a little raised arrow on the screw and if it is lined up pointing to the middle of the window it is locked. You can also see (reading glasses required) the word LOCK in raised letters on the tilt latch. Once you pull the



latches in, pull the window sash in towards you and you will be able to clean the glass that had been facing to the outside. When you put the window back up, make sure the latch clips are all the way in so the window will seal correctly. Push until you hear them click and see the latch extrude.

The fixed or upper window glass has to be cleaned from the outside but it has no screen so it isn't too bad. If you live in a slab house and are as tall as or taller than Dave Garfield you can usually reach them from the ground. If you have a basement or are shorter than Dave, you need a stepladder or a window cleaning guy. The ground around the periphery of the house is not usually flat or even and may be soft, so... if you use a ladder, be very, very careful.

Clean the vinyl framing with mild soap and water only. There is no need to lubricate unless the window is sticking and then use only a very small amount of silicone spray or bar soap. Usually just washing the frame will make the window operate smoothly.

Silver Line Windows warranties the windows for the lifetime of the original homeowner. We recently had a top section lose its seal between the two panes and they replaced it for a service charge of \$80 (installation). They will also replace a window if the interior plastic decorative spacers become loose or shift. If you have a problem with any of your windows and you think it is covered under the warranty, contact;

Silver Line Windows, Attn: Warranty/Registration Department

P.O. Box 6029, North Brunswick, New Jersey 08902-6029

800-234-4228 <http://www.silverlinewindow.com> Have your building sequence number handy.

Bob Mattsson