



WINTER-PROOF YOUR HOME

FALL WINDOWS MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

WARNING SIGNS & SOLUTIONS

BY **STEPHANIE VANDERBILT** | OWNER



1. Your Window Frames Are Worn or Rotting

Soft, cracked, or peeling frames let in moisture and air, leading to mold and structural damage. Upgrade to fusion-welded vinyl frames with insulated chambers for long-term durability and moisture resistance—no rot, no maintenance.

2. Windows Won't Open or Close Properly

Sticky sashes or misaligned movement often point to warped frames or failed hardware. Choose windows with a stainless steel constant force balance system and reinforced frame design for smooth, reliable operation that lasts.

3. Locks Are Loose or Not Working

Broken or loose locks compromise security and let in drafts, reducing comfort and efficiency. Opt for windows with an interlocking sash system and reinforced meeting rails for a tight, secure seal and built-in protection.

4. You Feel Drafts Around the Window

Air leaks from weathered seals or poor installation drive up your energy bills and make rooms uncomfortable. Get windows with triple weatherstripping, foam-insulated frames, and precision installation to eliminate drafts and keep energy costs down.

5. Your Windows Are Foggy or Clouded

Condensation between the panes means the seal has failed—your window is no longer insulating. Replace with insulated glass units featuring warm-edge spacer systems, built to prevent seal failure and keep your windows crystal clear.

6. Wood Windows Require Too Much Upkeep-Tired Of Painting

Peeling paint, rot, and constant repainting are signs it's time to move on from wood. Upgrade to maintenance-free vinyl windows with color-stable frames that never peel, chip, or need repainting—just rinse and go.

7. There Are Signs of Termite Damage

Holes, warped frames, and crumbling wood are all signs insects are feasting on your windows. Replace with insect-resistant composite or vinyl window frames that can't be chewed, cracked, or hollowed out.

8. Your Energy Bills Keep Going Up

Outdated windows allow heat and AC to escape—costing you every month. Install windows with foam-insulated frames, low-E glass, and reinforced air seals that exceed ENERGY STAR® 7.0 standards and cut energy use on average 12%.

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