



Measuring Tips for Vinyl Replacement Windows

MEASUREMENT IS VITAL FOR A GOOD INSTALLATION

When you order a replacement window, it is made to fit the opening and it is important to correctly measure the opening. There are three critical measurements involved: width, height, and square.



WIDTH

This is the measurement given first when ordering a window. Because the inside stops and parting stops are removed, the width must be measured from jamb to jamb as shown. Measure at the top, middle, and bottom, and use the smallest dimension deduct 1/2" for the order size.

HEIGHT

The height of the window is taken from the sill (from the point against the stool) to the header (at the point against the inside stop). Measure at the left, middle, and right, and use the smallest dimension deduct 1/2" for the order size.



SQUARE

Because some openings lose their squareness over the years, it is important that the squareness of the opening be accurately measured. Measure the diagonals (upper left to lower right, and upper right to lower left) as accurately as possible from the point inside the stool to a point against the inside stop at the header. Record the two dimensions.

If they are roughly equal, the opening can be assumed to be square. If they are not, then it is possible that the opening is out square enough to cause the window to be forced into an out of square condition during installation.

If any window is forced out of square, the window can leak air and possible water. Also, the locks will not operate correctly.



If the diagonals are not equal, it may be necessary to order a window 1/8" to 1/4" smaller than indicated by your measured height. This will allow the new window to be installed square in the opening. Then adequate sealing of the perimeter of the new window will complete the airtight installation.

LEVEL

When installing a vinyl window, it is important that the sill on which the window is resting is level. Sills which are not level can cause a problem in the operation of the window.

This solution is to shim the bottom of the window unit to level, as long as shimming does not raise the sill to a point where water can leak under the sill.