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# **Knowing Who Invented The Sash Window Is Truly Not Practicable**

We may never know who invented the sash window. Originally the belief was that they were invented in Holland in the late 1600's. However, more recently it was determined that they were first built in England before the 17th century. Still another idea was that Britain created them during the mid 17th century.

With all these theories we may never uncover the truth about the invention of the sash windows. W. Horman wrote a book in 1519 where he described a window with 'levys going up and down'. That definitely sounds like a sash window. In 1676 at Chatsworth they were use conspicuously. The Banqueting House at Whitehall had its original casements replaced with these windows in 1685.

Improved designs began to arrive in England from France during the French Revolution. Frame in French is 'chassis' the word 'sash' is derived for it. So it might be safe to think that France was the original creator.

The first weighted and balanced windows were thought to have been invented in England. These windows definitely fit in England with the wet, mild weather there. They will not rot as easily as other windows and the fact that you can open them slightly works in those moist conditions.

These windows soon became very popular with the upper class throughout Britain. Windows that were originally installed in the 18th century are still in working condition. During the Georgian period the upper and lower frames were designed to both be movable. This was also the time that the 'six over six' pane formation became popular and the norm in most houses.

During the Victorian period these windows were part of the design of homes and buildings. The makers of these windows put a lot of quality work into their products. These windows have been around for 250 years from what we can tell. However, more recently the cost of manufacturing the windows has them on a decline in England. Plastic windows are becoming more popular because they are cheaper. But they will need to be replaced sooner than the wooden ones ever were.

We probably will never know who invented the sash window originally or when. But we do know that they add a lot of class to your home. It was known during different periods in time that they would be a reliable window to outlast any weather conditions. Hopefully people will want the original style to be resurrected and the wooden sash windows will become more popular then the plastic ones.

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