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Reduce Your Energy Costs By Draught Proofing Your Sash Windows

If you are a home owner, you may find an easy way to reduce your energy costs by draught proofing your sash windows. Homes lose a third or more of their heat through preventable leaks and drafts, and sash windows are often a leading culprit. Here are some things to consider when addressing this problem.

Sash windows commonly cause a great deal of a home's heat loss. They are usually older and less technologically advanced than other window designs. There are a number of ways you can try to reduce or eliminate heat loss from sash windows, and they all have advantages and disadvantages.

One quick and easy solution to drafty windows is to use thick curtains, blinds or drapes. Drapery helps reduce heat loss, but it is less effective than other more comprehensive measures. Also, drapery requires cleaning, possible repairs, and replacement, all of which presents costs to off set any savings in energy costs.

You could also opt to completely replace your drafty windows with new, double-glazed, energy efficient windows. Doing so, however, would cost quite a bit. As expensive as this would be, it would be even more expensive to have custom windows made to guarantee matching your home's original design.

Another effective and lasting solution is to have a new glazing applied to your old windows. This approach can modernize the window panes without compromising the original frame and sash design. Re-glazing, along with the removal and overhaul of the window units, including upgrading the worn parts and fixtures, offers the most complete defense against heat loss through the windows.

Upgrading your sash windows may be expensive, but the long term savings in energy costs will far outweigh the one-time repair and upgrade costs. Additionally, resealing the windows will reduce external noise. The upgrade will also add years to the life of your entire window unit through the repair and replacement of worn parts.

There are many ways to reduce heat loss in your home, and most of them are worth pursuing. But attending to your window units is the most significant way to increase your home's energy efficiency. The initial casts may seem high, but in the long run they will be out weighed by the savings you'll receive when you reduce your energy costs by draught proofing your sash windows.

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