



# Maintaining Your WeatherGard Vinyl Windows

It's easy to maintain the beauty of your WeatherGard vinyl windows. Vinyl windows and doors are virtually maintenance-free. However, as with any product exposed to atmospheric conditions, they will become dirty and require cleaning. In most cases, exterior dirt and grime will wash away during heavy rainstorms. But sometimes that's not enough and your windows require your help to retain their "just new" look. See our recommended guidelines below and with little effort your windows will look brand new again in no time.

## CAUTION FIRST!

**BE CAREFUL!** Use all common safety methods to minimize the risk of hazard.

**DO NOT lean out the windows to clean exterior glass surface.**

**DO NOT depend on screen for support or retention. Screens will not prevent someone from falling out the window.**

**CAUTION! Most severe window accidents occur on the first floor.**

**IF IN DOUBT of precautions and dangers, hire a licensed and insured professional window cleaning service.**

## HELPFUL TIPS

1. Always wash the frames and sashes with a soft cloth or ordinary long-handled soft bristle brush.
2. For removal of most common dirt and grime, use a solution of mild dish-washing detergent and warm water.
3. Rinse the window with a gentle spray of clean water.
4. Avoid washing windows with high pressure sprays, guns, and hoses.

## CLEANING THE EXTERIOR GLASS SURFACE

Clean both sides of your glass with any popular glass cleaner and soft cloth or paper towel.

### Vertical Sliding Windows

**To tilt-in the bottom sash (Double Hungs/Single Hungs)**

1. Be sure the window locking mechanism is in the unlocked position.
2. Raise the window sash approximately 3 inches.
3. Grasp each side of the sash and use your index finger to disengage tilt latches.
4. Slowly lower the sash to a convenient cleaning level.
5. Clean the exterior surface (using a popular glass cleaner and soft cloth or paper towel) by supporting the sash with one hand and cleaning with the other.
6. Return the sash to original position and be sure both tilt latches click into place.



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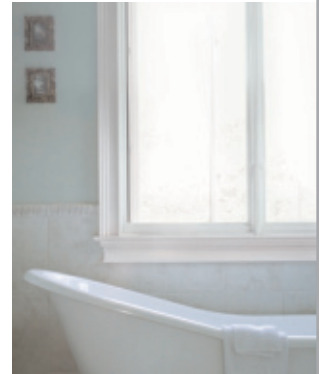
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### To tilt-in the top sash (Double Hungs)

1. Tilt-in lower sash by following previous instructions.
2. Support the lower sash by using a chair, step ladder, or some other stable support. Be sure to pad the support to prevent damage and be sure sash is supported by the sash frame. Do not support sash by resting the glass on the support.
3. Pull upper sash down approximately three inches.
4. Grasp each side of the sash and disengage tilt latches with index fingers.
5. Slowly allow the sash to tilt-in.
6. Clean the exterior surface (using a popular glass cleaner and soft cloth or paper towel) by supporting the sash with one hand and cleaning with the other.
7. Return the upper sash to original position and be sure both tilt latches click into place.
8. Return the lower sash to original position and be sure both tilt latches click into place.

### Sliders

1. Unlock the locking mechanism on the sash.
2. Slide sash to its fully opened position.
3. Grasp sash on either side and lift it into the head of the window until bottom of sash clears the sill.
4. Tilt bottom of sash out and remove the sash from the frame.
5. Place sash on a soft padded surface and clean exterior glass surface.
6. Replace sash into frame by repeating steps 1-4 in reverse order.



### Casements

1. Turn the locking mechanism to its unlocked position.
2. Crank sash open to 90 degrees.
3. Wash exterior glass surface by using a common glass cleaner and a soft cloth or paper towel.
4. Crank window to its closed position.

## STAIN FIGHTING SOLUTIONS

On the following page are some suggested household cleaners to use on cleaning stains that prove to be more difficult. Be sure to closely follow the manufacturer's instructions for each suggested cleaner. This list is based upon a study conducted by the *Vinyl Window and Door Institute* on the efficiency of popular

cleaning agents and their affects on the appearance of vinyl windows and doors. Substitute products made by other manufacturers may or may not be as effective. Cleaning materials are listed in alphabetical order. In some cases you may wish to use a mildly abrasive cleaner such as *Soft Scrub*®, *Ajax*®, *Bon Ami*®, etc. Use of these abrasives may affect the appearance of glass and vinyl surfaces. Be sure to test the effects of these cleaners on a small, unseen portion of the window before proceeding. Do not use cleaners containing aggressive organic solvents because they could affect the surface appearance of the vinyl. Examples of such cleaners are: chlorine bleach, liquid grease remover, strong soaps and detergents containing organic solvents, nail polish remover, and furniture polish and cleaners.



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## PROBLEM STAIN

## POSSIBLE SOLUTION

Bubble Gum	<i>Fantastik®</i> , <i>Murphy's Oil Soap®</i> , Solution of Vinegar (30%) & Water (70%), <i>Windex®</i>
Crayon	<i>Lestoil®</i>
DAP (oil based chalk)	<i>Fantastik®</i>
Felt-tip Pen	<i>Fantastik®</i> , Water-Based Cleaners
Grass	<i>Fantastik®</i> , <i>Lysol®</i> , <i>Murphy's Oil Soap®</i>
Lipstick	<i>Fantastik®</i> , <i>Lysol®</i> , <i>Murphy's Oil Soap®</i>
Lithium Grease	<i>Fantastik®</i> , <i>Lysol®</i> , <i>Murphy's Oil Soap®</i>
Mold & Mildew	<i>Fantastik®</i> , Solution of Vinegar (30%) & Water (70%), <i>Windex®</i>
Motor Oil	<i>Fantastik®</i> , <i>Lysol®</i> , <i>Murphy's Oil Soap®</i> , <i>Windex®</i>
Oil	<i>Soft Scrub®</i>
Paint	Brillo Pad®
Pencil	<i>Soft Scrub®</i>
Rust	<i>Fantastik®</i> , <i>Murphy's Oil Soap®</i> , <i>Windex®</i>
Tar	<i>Soft Scrub®</i>
Top Soil	<i>Fantastik®</i> , <i>Lestoil®</i> , <i>Murphy's Oil Soap®</i>