

# How to Replace a Sash Cord



Why put up with the nuisance of one that's broken? It's not too hard to install a new one—and at same time you can lubricate the sash to prevent binding.

By **Bertram Brownold**



**1** Pry off stop bead that retains lower sash. It may split, but you can replace it inexpensively. If one cord is still good, mark it so you can replace in same position. Loop end to keep it from dropping inside weight box.



**2** Lift out the lower sash after bead and remaining cord have been removed. If there's a metal weather strip, take this out too. Small nails hold it down.

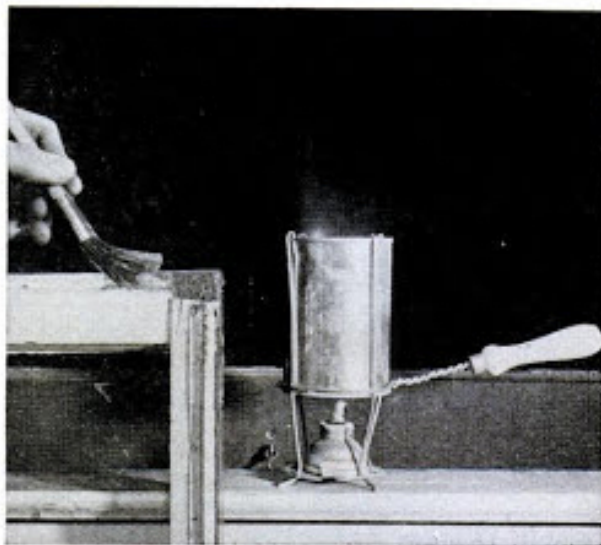


**3** Pry out the parting strip next. This is a narrow molding that serves as a spacer between the upper and lower sashes.



**4** Upper sash then comes free. As first step in curing binding, or preventing it, sand the vertical edges of both sashes and the frame channels in which they run. Give extra attention to rubbed spots, a sign of binding.

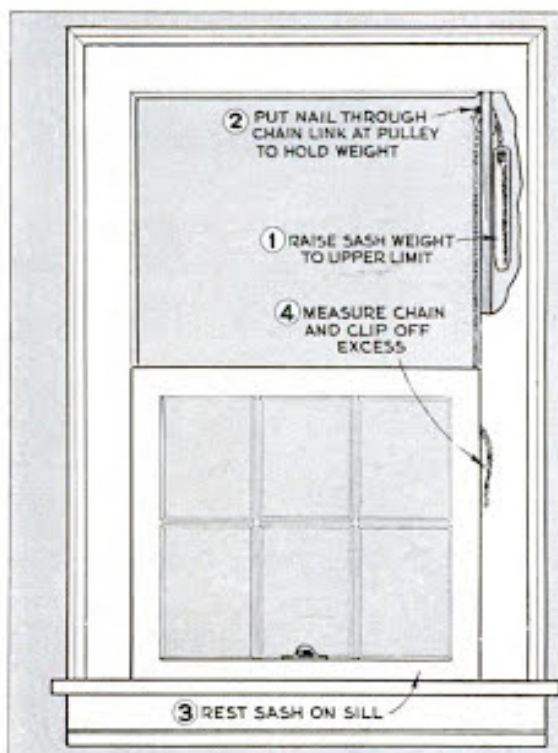
**5** Lubricate friction surfaces as next step. You can buy special lubricants, but melted paraffin brushed on works well. Melt it in a can heated by an alcohol burner. Burner shown is an oil can with a rag wick in cutoff spout.





**6** Lift counterweight from its box as the first step in replacement of cord. To reach weight, you must pry out box lid, shown at left. Screws sometimes hold in the lid.

**7** Chain is better than cord in any replacement job, because it lasts longer. Wire it to weight as at right after running it over the pulley and down into counterweight box.



**8** Chain can be cut to correct length by pulling weight to top of its travel, fastening, and measuring with sash resting on sill.

**9** Fasten chain in recess on sash edge, using a screw. At right, the chains have been fastened on both sides. Upper sash is finished.



**10** Repeat process for the bottom sash after tacking back the parting strips. Be sure to fasten the chain with a screw, for driving in a nail might crack the glass.

**11** Replace stop bead, locating it so the sash can move freely. Touch up the paint—and you'll have a window that'll move up and down at a touch, without squeaks or jamming.

