

Home winterproofing checklist



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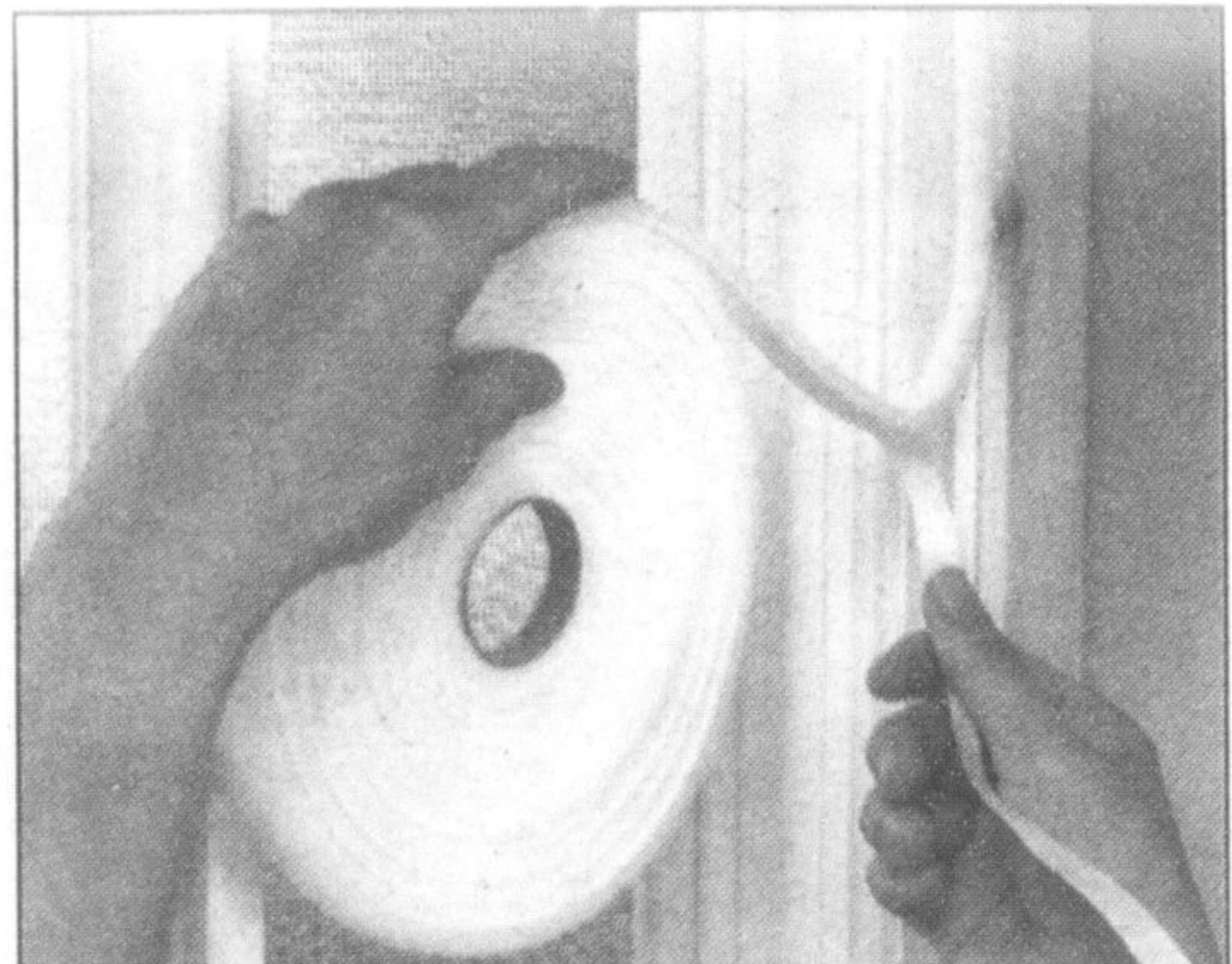
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This winter, make your home a warm haven from snowstorms and the cold by properly preparing for the temperature drop. Winterproofing will boost your home's energy efficiency, save you money and help keep the whole family cozy. The Home Depot Canada has developed the following winterizing checklist to help you prepare your home before the snow falls.

- Draft-proof windows and doors. Sealing cracks with weather stripping or caulking is an easy, cost-efficient way to prevent cold air from coming in. This is especially true in homes more than 20 years old, where air leakage can account for up to 40 per cent of overall heat loss.
- Insulate cold areas. Insulate colder areas of the home such as the attic, porch or basement to reduce heat loss and save

more on energy bills.

- Lay down rugs. Insulate cold flooring such as tile or hardwood, by laying down a stylish area rug. Your feet and pets will thank you.
- Install a programmable thermostat: A programmable thermostat means you never need to remember to adjust your home's temperatures at night or when you're away. Used properly, it can reduce heating bills by up to 10 per cent per year.
- Check the furnace. Clean or replace your furnace's air filter each month to increase heat circulation and reduce fuel costs. Do regular maintenance checks, clear away any flammables and call in a Home Depot expert installer if there are any significant problems.
- Prep the fireplace. Test the damper and clean the chimney to make sure the



fireplace is ready for use. Remember to use a safety grate and all the necessary tools for worry-free fires.

More tips on winterizing your home can be found online at www.homedepot.ca.
- News Canada

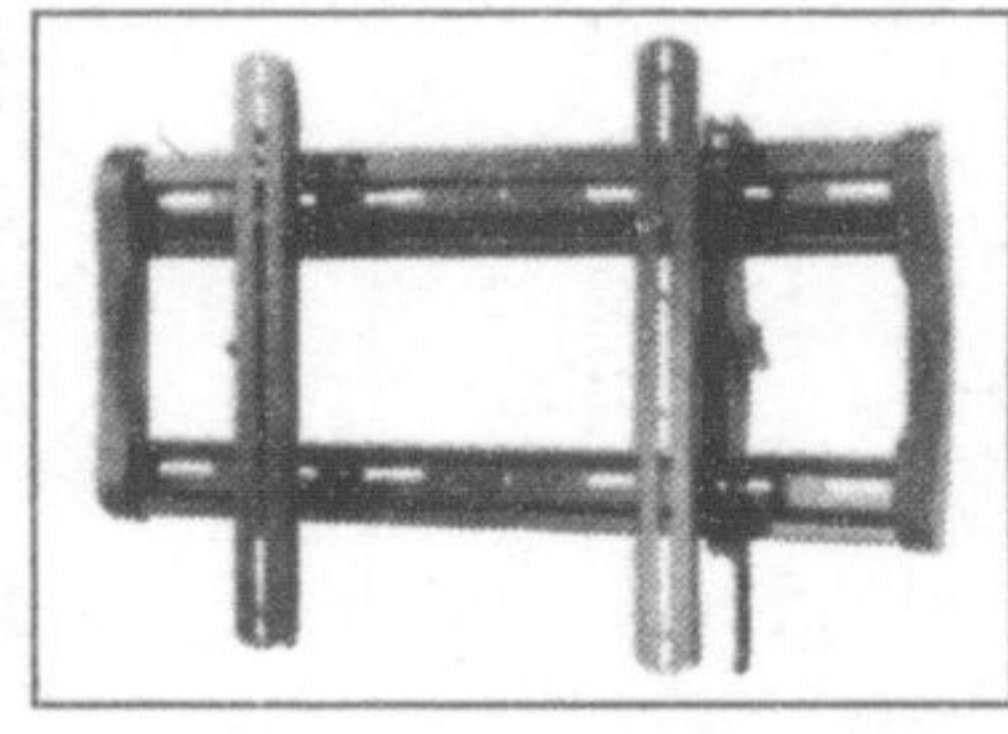
New technology makes installing TV wall mounts easy

By Keith Prindl
TV wall mounts are traditionally made with steel wall plates but mount manufacturer Sanus Systems (www.sanus.com) has developed a new wall-plate design that revolutionizes the flat-panel TV industry and makes installation easier for the do-it-yourselfer.

mounts are made with 6061-T6 extruded aluminum alloy, the same alloy class used in the construction of high-performance aircraft, yachts and automobiles because of the many advantages it offers over steel," says Dominic Grey, product development manager for Sanus.

aluminum has a tensile strength of 18,000 psi, but Sanus added another step to the manufacturing process of its new wall plates, adding a T6 heat treatment to further fortify the product. With this additional temper treatment, 6061-T6 aluminum offers a tensile strength of 42,000 psi, making the product incredibly durable.

Aluminum is also much lighter and therefore easier to handle. Sanus' next generation wall plate weighs only 3.5 lbs, 68 percent less than comparable models, so an installer can easily hold the wall plate with one hand and mark drilling hole locations with the other. The lighter frame also makes installation safer, especially when on a ladder.



"The wall plates on our new Vision Mount LT25 and LL22

One of aluminum's greatest qualities is that it offers a strength-to-weight ratio and corrosion resistance much greater than steel. 6061

Aluminum is also much lighter and therefore easier to handle. Sanus' next generation

The new wall plate also enables Sanus' Click Fit accessories to easily snap onto the wall plate without the use of tools. So not only is the mount lighter, making it easier and safer to install, surge suppressors and electrical boxes can be attached right on the mount without having to drill extra holes in the wall, and the accessories remain hidden behind the TV.

The wall plates are also more environmentally friendly. Due to the highly efficient manufacturing process of extruding aluminum, there is virtually no material waste, whereas making the same product out of stamped steel may result in up to 50 percent wasted material. And because the product weighs less than steel, less material is required for packaging the final product and less fuel is burned while transporting the goods. Aluminum is also recyclable, an added bonus for the earth-conscious consumer.

- News Canada

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