

New storm door resists weathering



CONSTRUCTED OF structural foam polystyrene with inner metal reinforcements, the new Woodstead™ summer/winter storm door resists constant wear and tear in all types of weather. Weighing only 38 lbs., the door by building materials manufacturer, Bird & Son, inc., East Walpole, Mass., can be easily installed by one person. An attractive wood grain texture and raised panels make the Woodstead™ storm door a distinctive addition to any home.

Energy conservation...

Plan ahead to reduce home fuel bills

Homes built before the energy crisis often were designed with little or no regard for energy conservation. With the price of fuel today, such homes may be prohibitively expensive to heat and cool. However, homeowners can usually cut fuel costs and increase the energy efficiency of their homes.

According to the National Home Improvement Council, heating and cooling account for more than 50 percent of most home energy bills. Unusually high fuel bills can be greatly reduced by taking the following energy-saving steps.

Prevent heat loss

Caulking and weatherstripping doors and windows can cut home fuel costs by as much as 13 percent. Weatherstripping creates a nearly weathertight seal between the frame and the window or door. Caulking fills in

the small gaps and cracks through which additional energy can escape.

Storm windows and doors cut down on heat loss and heat gain by creating a dead-air space between two panes of glass. Plastic sheets are the cheapest type of storm windows, although glass is less susceptible to weather damage.

Insulation saves

Some experts estimate that as many as eight out of ten American homes are wasting energy because of inadequate insulation. NHIC suggests these ways to find out if your home needs insulation:

- Determine the R value—the resistance to heat flow—of the insulation you already have. If it has a value of less than R-13, you probably need more insulation.

- Look for insulation between floor joists and rafters, and over unheated crawl

Fiber glass shingles setting trend in residential roofing

If your roof has suffered in the cold winter months, it is time to think of a new one. If you live in a warm climate unaffected by snow, sleet and ice, it still is a good idea to check your roof out for certain danger signals.

In terms of asphalt roofing, you should first look to see if any shingles have blown away or been torn up at the corners... a sure route for moisture to get in. Also check for cracks, and look at the roof and in your gutters to see if the surface granules have washed off to any great degree.

These granules are embedded in the asphalt surface of the shingles to offset the damaging effects of the sun or other harsh elements.

If you are suffering appreciable granule loss, or damage of the sort described, it is time for you to talk with a roofing contractor.

"There is a definite swing to asphalt shingles throughout the country," says S.G. Lym, merchandising manager of the Residential Roofing Department at Johns-Manville.

"More than that, however, there is a major move toward fiber glass shingles. They may look like conventional asphalt shingles," he continues, "but they have a fiber glass mat (or middle



THERE IS A MAJOR MOVE toward fiber glass shingles which may look like conventional asphalt shingles but which have a fiber glass mat, or middle layer, that makes the shingles superior in many ways.

layer) that is superior in many ways to an organic wastepaper felt mat.

"In the first place," says Lym, "fiber glass is fire retardant. Fiber glass shingles have a Class A fire-resistance rating—the highest available. Conventional asphalt shingles have only a Class C rating."

"In the second place, the fiber glass mat is a porous mesh that absorbs approximately 75 percent more of the protective weatherproofing asphalt layer than shingles with a wastepaper felt mat base, and the whole unit

bonds together in a far superior way."

Remodeling help for homeowners

Helpful remodeling suggestions for homeowners are available in a new booklet from the Aluminum Siding Information Bureau.

Tips on how to choose the right siding, information on colors and textures, trim and accessories and installation hints are given in this 16-page booklet, which also discus-

ses warranties and offers advice on choosing a contractor.

For a free copy of "A Homeowner's Guide to Choosing Siding," write to the Aluminum Siding Information Bureau, 250 West 57th Street, New York, N.Y. 10019.

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