

# BUILDERS REPAIR SOLUTION

## Vinyl Window Bottom Sash Overlay - Installation Guide

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### Tools Needed

- Measuring tape
- Razor knife
- Scissors
- Caulk gun
- White silicone
- Metal straightedge
- Nitrile gloves

### Installation Steps

#### 1. Measure the Opening

Measure from **jamb to jamb** to determine the finished length of the overlay.

#### 2. Cut the Overlay to Length

- Mark the measurement on the overlay.
- Cut the vinyl using **scissors**.
  - The material cuts easily and cleanly.

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#### 3. Measure the Height of the Rail

Measure from the **top of the finished window sill** to the **bottom of the sash rail**.

**Tip:** Use a **paint stir stick** or **popsicle stick** as a height gauge.

- Place the stir stick against the sash rail and rest it on the finished sill, then mark the height of the rail on the back of the stick.
  - Transfer this mark to the overlay by placing the stick under the lip of the overlay. Make several small marks along the back.
  - Use a **metal straightedge** to connect the marks into a clean cut line.
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### 4. Score the Overlay

Using a **razor knife**:

- Score along the straightedge **3–4 times**.
  - Use a steady hand and make multiple light passes rather than one deep cut.
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### 5. Snap the Vinyl

Place the overlay on a **flat, firm surface** and snap it cleanly along the scored line.

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### 6. Create Shoulder Cuts for a Seamless Fit

Place the overlay along the damaged rail and:

- Mark where the overlay meets the **side frames** of the window.
- Use a **razor knife** to cut out these small shoulder sections.

This allows the overlay to fit **jamb to jamb** with a factory-clean appearance.

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### 7. Test Fit

Slide the overlay into place and confirm:

- The shoulder cuts clear the side frames
- The overlay sits flat and tight
- The fit is seamless across the entire width

Adjust as necessary.

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### 8. Clean the Surfaces

Put on **nitrile gloves**. Clean both:

- The **damaged sash rail**, and
- The **back side of the overlay**

Remove dust, dirt, oils, and contaminants to ensure a strong silicone bond.

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### 9. Apply Silicone

Run a **continuous bead of white silicone** along the back side of the overlay.

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### 10. Install the Overlay

Press the overlay firmly into place along the sash rail.

Clean up any silicone that oozed out.

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### 11. Seal the Edges

Before applying silicone, make a final check to make sure the finished side is clean of silicone or pencil marks. Clean as needed with Denatured alcohol.

Apply silicone along:

- Both sides and at the shoulder cuts
  - The bottom edge
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### 12. Secure the Window for Curing

- Close and **lock the window**.
  - Place tape across the sash to prevent opening for **24 hours** while the silicone cures.
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