CASE STUDY

Contractor	Project Name	Type	Contact Details
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The painter and decorator does not just apply paint, but also carries out other tasks such as window repairs. One of the most, if not the most, important jobs of the decorator is to ensure the substrate, whether it be plasterboard, masonry or wood, is sound enough to apply the appropriate coatings. Repairing these substrates requires not just the skill and knowledge of the materials involved, but also when and how to use the correct repair technique. This article looks at repairing a rotten window cill and frame using timber and a resin based repair system.

Remove all rotten timber

As you can see in the photos, there was extensive rot to this window and part of the cill and frame needed to be cut away. The wood was cut back until all visible signs of rotten timber had been removed, and sound dry timber was left. It is important to remove any damp timber to ensure no moisture is trapped within the repair, and this can be checked with a moisture meter

Using carpentry skills

Some painters and decorators possess additional skills to the usual armoury and can carry out carpentry and joinery tasks including window repairs. Your local decorator can advise on you on this and should be able to recommend a suitable tradesperson for your specific requirements. In this repair a piece of timber in the above photo will be shaped into a cill, and another into glazing beading.

The photo clearly shows the timber has been planed into the shape of the original cill and the “drip” has been cut into underside of the cill. The drip ensures rainwater will be shed away from where the cill meets the exterior wall, which could otherwise cause potential problems.

Once the timber has been cut to size and planed to the correct shape, a resin filler is used to both bond the new timber to the existing, and to finish off the repair as a filler. By using the resin to bond the old and new together, this ensures the timber will expand and contract as one, and the join will not fail as often does with other fillers. This window repair used the Timbabuild system. The resin is a two part permanent filler designed for professional use, and it is important to seek advice from the manufacturers prior to using.

Window repairs are permanent

After the resin has cured it can be sanded using a virtually dust free sanding system, appropriately primed, undercoated and top coated to the clients requirements. The client can be assured of a quality permanent cost effective repair with no subsequent rot issues with these window repairs.

The final window with paint system in a white satin finish.

Kind thanks to Alan for allowing the use of his images and text.

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