

Replacing Your Mahogany Sash Operator

Usually the problem you are experiencing is with the “operator” (the part that the crank attaches to that opens the window) rather than the crank. If the crank is stripped, you will be able to open window using light pressure to turn the stem of the operator (the area that the crank slips over). If the window does not open using this method, the operator shaft has most likely snapped. You should be able to replace the operator yourself if you are able to remove a few pieces of trim and a few screws.

Determining which style operator you need:



Old Style - The older style operator has one arm and does not have a crank cover. *Note: current version has rounded edges and may visually differ from your existing operator.*



New Style - The newer style operator has two arms and has a separate crank cover.

Determining which swing you need:

From the exterior - If the sash's hinge is on the left, then it is a left hand unit.

From the interior - If the sash's lock is on the left, then it is a left hand unit.

How to replace the operator:

1. With a sturdy putty knife, carefully remove the side pieces of screen retainer (the trim that the sash closes into), which are nailed in with finish nails. Remove the short piece on the lock side and the full piece on the hinge side.
2. Remove the bottom wooden screen retainer that covers the operator.
3. Disconnect the operator from the sash.
4. Remove screws from the operator and replace with the new operator.
5. Replace the screen retainer stock. TIP - you can predrill and replace the screen retainer stock with finish screws where the screen will cover. This will help if you ever need to replace the operator again.

We have operators, crank covers and cranks in stock. We will need to know the style and swing when you order.