

# The Fix Is In

If It's Broke Get Someone Else To

**Fix It**

A Go-To Guide for the Repair-Impaired

*Who ya gonna call and where ya gonna go to fix, repair, restore, refinish, refurbish, resuscitate, revive, service, or otherwise bring back to life the broken, banged-up, non-working, filthy, falling-apart, tired, or tattered items in your money pit (ahem, home sweet home)? The following, of course*

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## Yes, He Does Do Windows

Are your home's big, beautiful, vintage windows in desperate need of repair? If the windows are the eyes of a building and yours look a little bloodshot and sleep-deprived, you might want to be aware of John Seekircher of Seekircher Steel Window Repair (2 Weaver St., Scarsdale; 914-725-1904), a.k.a. the "King of Casements."

"I fix about 6,000 windows a year, and we never have to replace them," Seekircher says. His specialty? Repairing steel casement windows from houses built in the '20s and '30s, especially English Tudors. He repairs them using the stash of vintage windows he's accumulated. "People have become more interested in preserving buildings and architecture," he says Seekircher has been approved by the National Park Service to work on any historic building in the country. Among his most noteworthy projects are the Vista house, an Oregon house featured on Hillary Clinton's American Treasures list, and Frank Lloyd Wright's internationally renowned Fallingwater in Mill Run, PA. "Not too many people do what we do, because most people who work with windows would rather just replace them because it's more profitable," he says. "Our typical homeowner would rather live with the problem until he can find a way to fix it than do the quick rip-and-replace." Though it's hard to put a price on such historic preservation, Seekircher estimates that the cost of fixing steel windows is approximately 10 percent less than the replacement cost (A steel window costs \$2,000 to \$3,000). As for the timeline of his projects: "It's up to the windows," he says. "Some need more attention than others."