



A U.S. BLOCK WINDOWS COMPANY

**VF1500**  
**Retro Fit Instructions**  
(For use when original window frame remains)

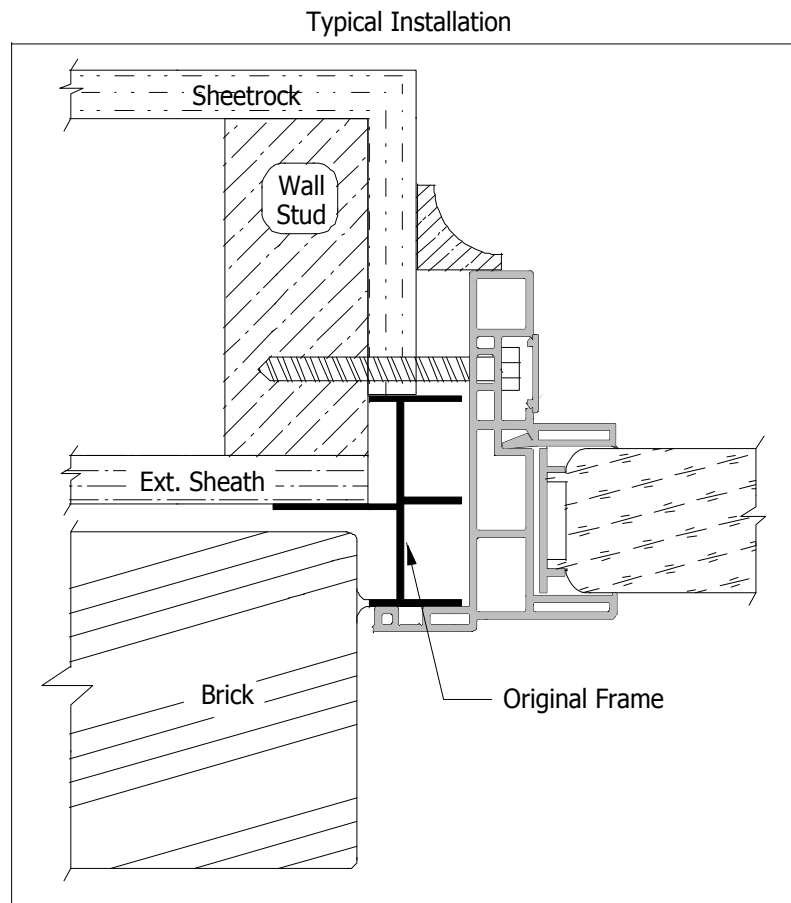
**Tools Required**

Tape Measure  
Utility Knife  
1/4" x 2" Lag Screws  
7/16" Socket Driver  
Silicone and Caulk Gun  
Vinyl or Sheet Metal Snips

Electric Drill  
1/4" Drill Bit  
Sawzall or Hacksaw  
Shim Material  
Small Rubber or Plastic Tip Hammer  
Level

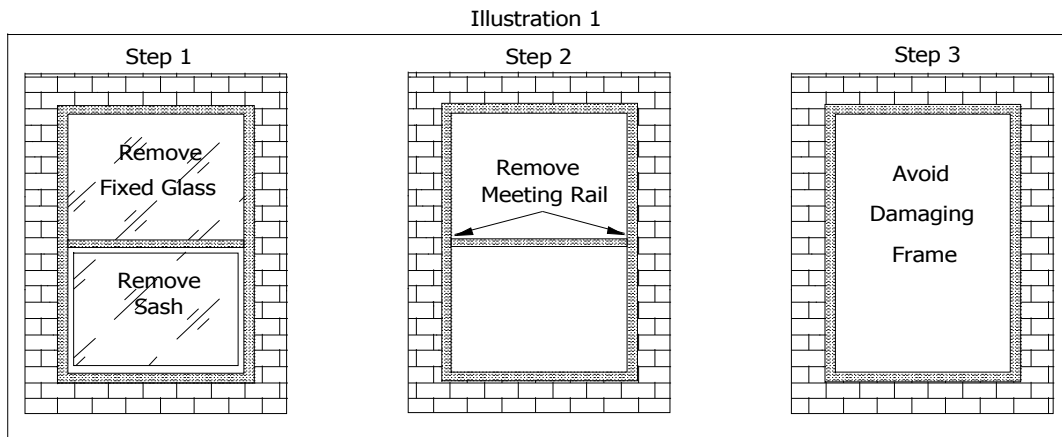
*Note: This type of frame should only be used when the existing window frame is left in place or there is enough wall framing exposed to seat the flange against.*

**Typical Installation Cross Section**



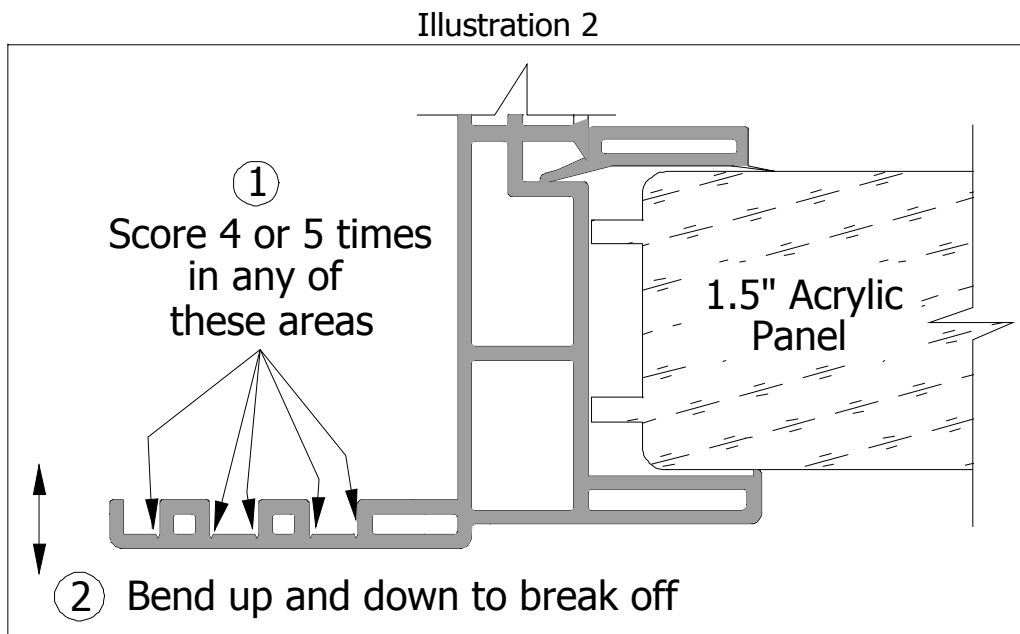
## Preparation of the Opening

1. Begin by removing the glass and sash(s). Also remove any hardware, balances and trim.
2. Using a Sawzall or hacksaw, cut the fasteners at each end of the meeting rail. Discard the meeting rail and remove any other obstructions. Avoid twisting or damaging the original frame as it may affect the existing seal between the window frame and the wall.
3. Clean all dirt and debris from the outside face of the existing frame. (Illustration 1)

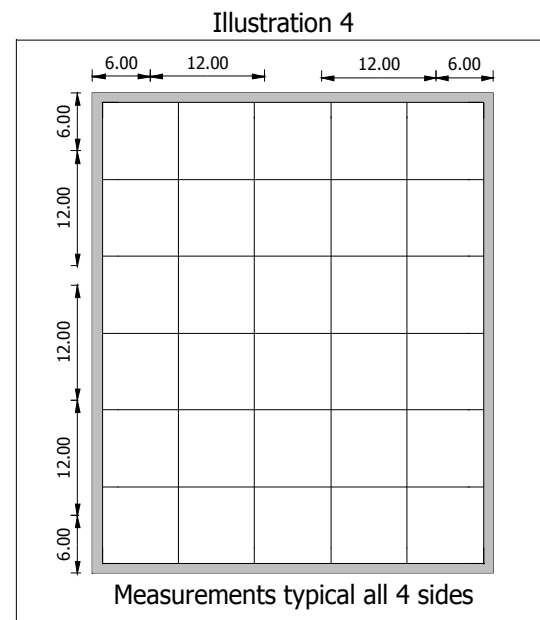
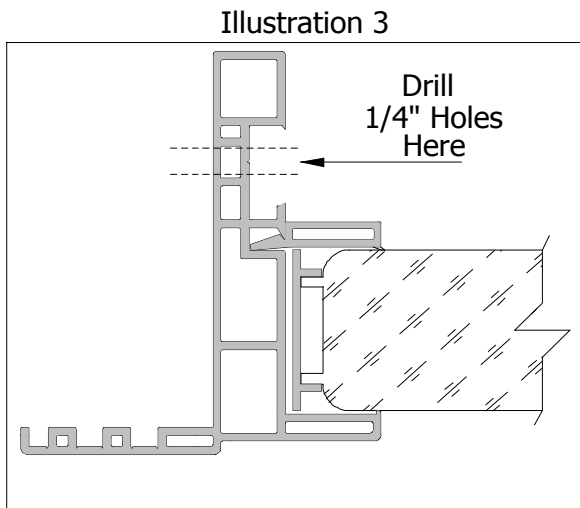


## Installation

1. Measure the opening in the brick, stucco or other exterior façade to determine where to trim the flange on the new window. Make sure to leave at least  $\frac{1}{4}$ " clearance around the perimeter of the flange for movement during installation.
2. Cut the flange to size by using a utility knife to score the back of the flange 4 or 5 times, then bend down and up and the flange should snap off cleanly. *A fine tooth saw may be used, but you must be careful not to chip the vinyl flange.* (Illustration 2)



- Once the flanges have been satisfactorily trimmed, test fit the window to insure that all obstructions have been removed. The flange of the new window should rest flat against the face of the existing frame.
- If the fit is acceptable, remove the window and drill the installation holes. The 1/4" holes should be drilled in the screw track starting 6" from each end then every 12 inches. (Illustration 3 and 4)

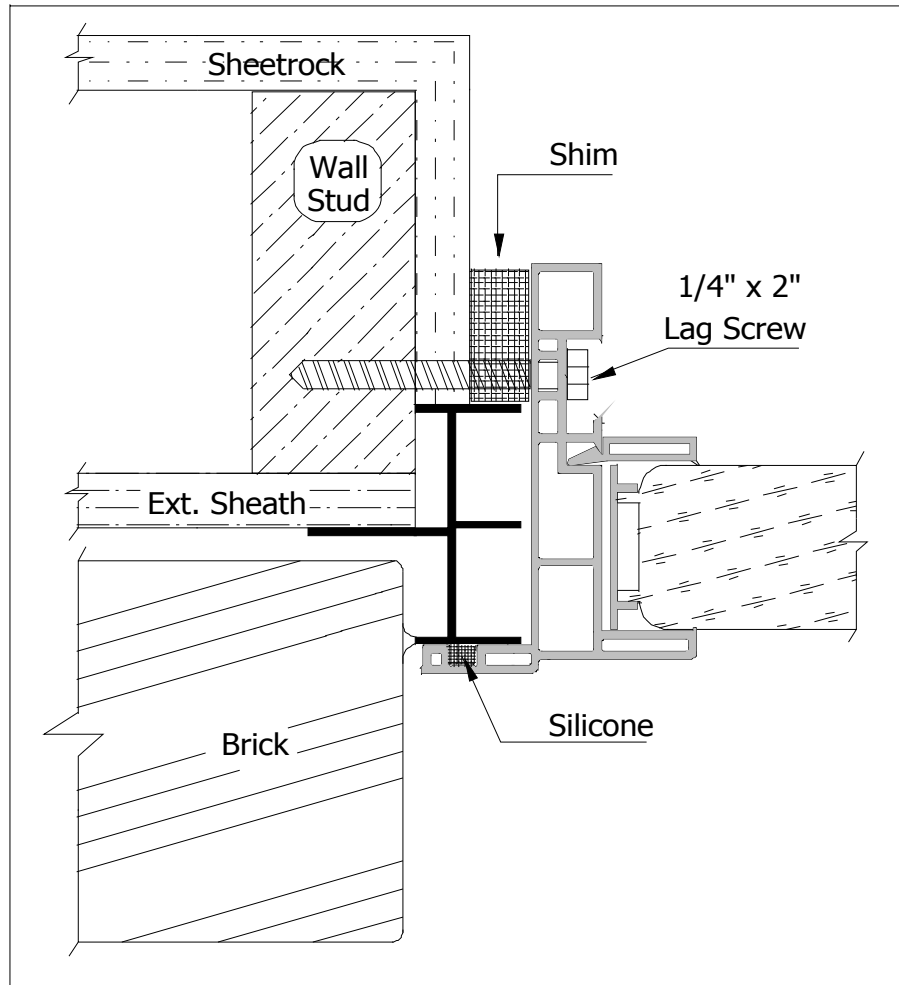


- After all holes are drilled, the window is ready to install. Begin by applying a generous bead of silicone to the back of the flange. Make sure that the bead is continuous around the entire window and that it will meet the face of the original frame, as this is the primary seal for the window.
- Insert the window into the opening, center it as much as possible and press it firmly against the face of the original frame.
- Once the window is positioned, install the 1/4" lag screws in the top and bottom of the jambs. *Shims should be used behind each screw to prevent movement of the frame and provide strength.* (If the existing frame is not clear of the installation holes it may be necessary to drill through it as well.) It is recommended that the screws be long enough to penetrate at least 3/4" into the wall framing, so longer screws may be required. (Illustration 5)

**DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN THE SCREWS!**

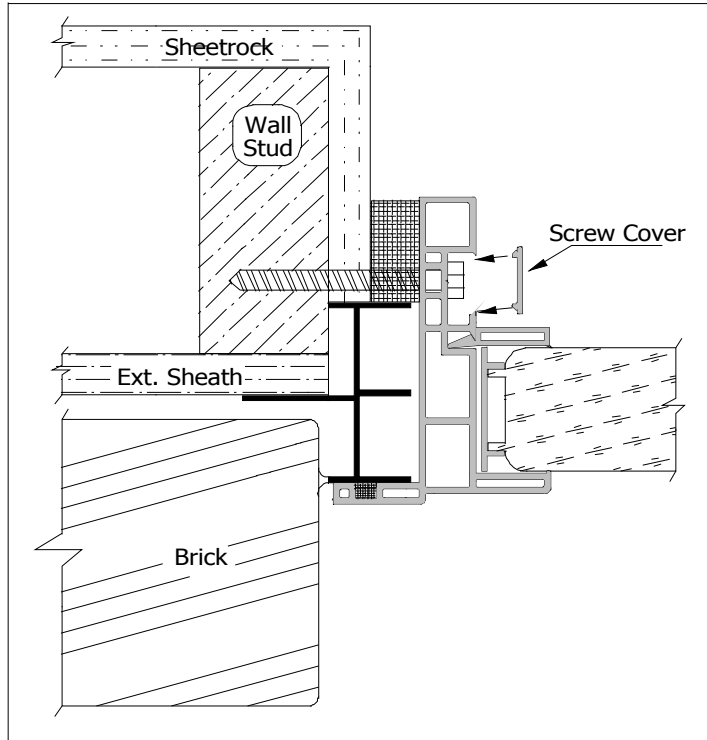
*The lag screws should be tightened until they are snug against the frame. Over tightening can cause bowing of the frame, seal failure and can make it difficult to install the screw cover strip.*

Illustration 5



8. Once all 8 screws are installed in the corners, recheck to make sure that the unit is positioned correctly, then install the remaining screws repeating step 7.
9. After all screws and shims are installed, if desired, foam insulation may be used to fill the remaining spaces between the new and old frames. ***If so, the foam must be the non-expanding type.*** You may also elect to apply a small amount of silicone over and around the screw heads in the sill to prevent any errant build up of water from leaking into the wall.
10. Now it is time to install the screw track cover. This cover is generally shipped long and will need to be trimmed approximately 1/16" longer than the track opening. This can be done with the snips. Once trimmed, set the cover in the track and tap lightly with a soft hammer. The cover will snap into place. If necessary, it can be removed by prying carefully along the edge. (Illustration 6)

Illustration 6



11. Once the cover is installed, a bead of silicone should be applied to the space between the brick or stucco and the edge of the flange on the outside of the window.
12. If the interior gap between the new window frame and the wall is too large to simply caulk, decorative trim can be applied to cover the gap. (Illustration 7)

Illustration 7

