

## How to Build

# An Insect or Solar Screen using a Screen Kit

[www.AffordableWindowScreens.com](http://www.AffordableWindowScreens.com)

### Step 1: Measuring the Window Screen "Height"

First, check for a TOP TRACK under the meeting rail of the window, where the two parts of the window come together. The TRACK will be a U-shaped channel that the screen will slide up into. (fig. 1). This is where the top of the screen with Leaf Springs will slip up into.



Fig. 1

Next, find the LIP at the bottom of the window straight below the top TRACK. This is what the

bottom of the screen will go behind to keep it in place. (fig. 2).



Fig. 2

The aluminum window shown in the picture above has an inside lip and outside lip (inside for insect screen; outside for solar screen). If yours is similar to the picture make sure and find the one closest to the window glass, the "inside lip".

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** For measuring **insect screens**, generally you want to measure the lip closest to the window. For measuring **solar screens**, generally you want to measure the 2<sup>nd</sup> lip, farthest from the window.

Now that you've located the tracks, let's start measuring!!

Put the end of a metal tape measure all the way into the TOP TRACK you found earlier and hold it downward as straight as possible (the end of the tape measure needs to be small enough to fit all the way up into the TRACK). shown in Fig. 3



Fig. 3

Make sure the measuring tape is as far up into the TRACK as possible, shown below in Fig. 4.



Fig. 4

Next, when measuring the bottom lip, make sure that you measure about 1/16"-1/8" ABOVE the top of the LIP, and provide the measurements to the nearest 1/16". (Fig. 5).



Fig. 5

NOTE: The reason you subtract 1/16"-1/8" is because the Leaf Spring will push the screen down into the slot and you don't want the screen to be too big for your window.

This measurement is your window screen **'Height'**.

## **Step 2: Measuring the Window Screen "Width"**

Put the end of a metal measuring tape from left to right and hold it as straight as possible. (Fig. 6).



Fig. 6

Place measuring tape on top left side of window screen opening, as shown in Fig. 7. Then, measure to the right side and subtract about 1/16" as shown in Fig. 8. Provide measurements to the nearest 1/16".



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

Remember, do not measure the screen too tight so that it will allow easy insertion and removal. Make sure to subtract about 1/16" from your measurement.

This measurement is your window screen **'Width'**.

## **Step 3: Making the Cuts**

Using the measurements taken from step 1 – HEIGHT and step 2 - WIDTH, cut the frame using a hack saw. Before cutting, be sure to subtract 1 1/2" from the width to account for each corner (each external corner adds 3/4" to the frame length, so subtract 1 1/2" to allow for that).

## **Step 4: Building the Frame**

Lay out the pieces as shown below in Fig. 9 and 10. Remember to layout the pieces with the groove side up for both the frame and the corners.

The top (or "side") layout:



Fig. 9

The bottom (or “other side”) layout:



Fig. 10

Next, on the **bottom** of the frame, measure in on each side 3 inches and press the lift tabs in (Fig. 11 and 12).



Fig. 11



Fig. 12

Then, push in the corner pieces on each end (Fig. 13).



Fig. 13

The final look of our bottom (or “side”) frame should look something like this (Fig. 14):



Fig. 14

At the top of the frame, insert the corner leaf springs into the frame, one on each end of the top of the frame as shown in Fig. 15;



Fig. 15

and then push in corner pieces, on each end (Fig. 16).



Fig. 16

The final look of our top (or “other side”) frame should look something like this (Fig. 17):



Fig. 17

Finally, insert the corners of the top and the bottom into their respective sides of the frame. The Frame of screen should now be assembled as shown in Fig. 18.



Fig. 18

If, you have ordered an optional crossbar, follow the below instructions to insert, otherwise, skip to Step 5.

First, measure the distance between the two sides in the location that you would like the crossbar (Fig. 19).



Fig. 19

Cut the provided crossbar frame to the correct size with a hack saw.

Next, layout the crossbar and the crossbar clips on the right and left as show below in Fig. 20 and 21.



Fig. 20



Fig. 21

Then, PRESS the crossbar clips into the crossbar until the square area is flush with the frame end, see Fig. 22.



Fig. 22

Finally, set the crossbar and clip into the groove of the sides of the frame, Fig. 23.



Fig. 23



Fig. 25

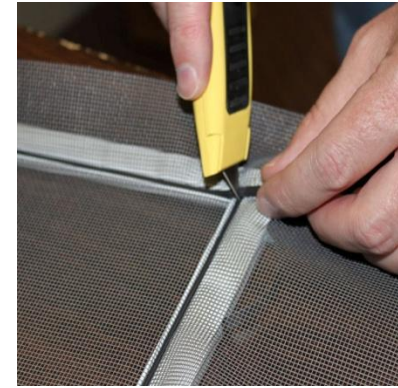


Fig. 27

### **Step 5: Rolling in the Screen**

First, unroll the provided screen material and lay it across the frame so a little bit hangs over on each side as in Fig. 24.



Fig. 24

Then lay the spline into groove, and using the concave end of the spline tool, gradually work the spline around the frame until it's well seated (Fig. 26). As the spline is pushed into the groove, the screen will become taught.



Fig. 26

Using a utility knife with a brand new sharp blade, carefully trim off excess **screen** (Fig. 28).

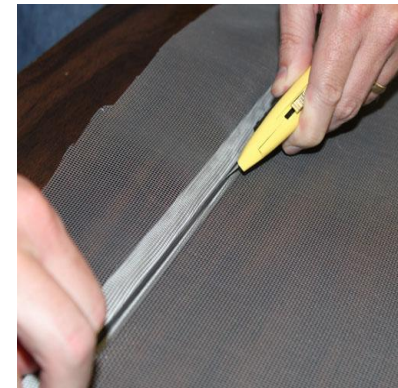


Fig. 28

Next, using the roller end (not the concave end) of the spline roller, push the screen material into the groove all the way around the frame as shown in Fig. 25.

Using a utility knife with a brand new sharp blade, carefully trim off excess **spline** (Fig. 27).

### **Step 6: Enjoy your NEW SCREEN!!!!**