

# HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

## Window Coverings: Sunscreen For Your Home

(NAPSA)—A growing number of homeowners are remodeling their homes to let in more natural light. In addition, many of today's new homes feature large expanses of windows and glass doors.

However, sunlight's ultraviolet (UV) rays can be destructive inside the home. UV rays sneak in as sunlight and will eventually fade furniture, floors, upholstery and drapery fabrics—or even worse—a treasured painting.

- **Fabrics.** After prolonged sun exposure, natural, undyed fabrics typically become yellowed and colored fabrics fade. Moreover, UV rays will weaken fibers, eventually causing them to disintegrate, and shortening the lifespan of fabrics.

- **Wood.** The portion of wood furniture exposed to sunlight will eventually fade, resulting in an unevenly colored or stained piece of furniture. Sunlight will also cause the grain of the wood to expand, sometimes to the point where the wood will split open.

- **Art.** The fading effects of UV on artwork and photos are especially troubling, as these treasures are often impossible to replace.

“Light can kill—the light that enters the interior of a home will do damage unless controlled,” says Steve Weintraub of Art Preservation Services in New York City. “That’s why we need window coverings.”

The right window covering can block up to 99 percent of UV rays. Look for a “% UV blockage” rating. The higher a product’s rating, the better a home’s interior is protected from UV rays. Installing a window covering with a high UV-blockage rating can save you thousands of dollars over the years by protecting your furnishings.

Hunter Douglas has many products that offer the highest UV-ray protection as well as the soft look of draperies. Silhouette® window shadings feature soft fabric vanes suspended between sheer fabric panels. The vanes rotate for varying degrees of light control and pri-



**Window coverings that block UV rays may eventually save you thousands of dollars by prolonging the life of your furnishings.**

vacy. When the vanes are open, Silhouette shadings block an impressive 66 percent of UV rays, thanks to the sheer fabric panels. And, because they’re sheer, you have a wonderful softened view of the outside, while still filtering out the bad rays.

When the vanes are closed, this unique product offers 99 percent protection against UV-ray transmission. Luminette Privacy Sheers®, a similar concept to Silhouette shadings that is oriented vertically, provide almost the same level of protection.

Duette® honeycomb shades can block up to 99.9 percent of UV-rays and come in soft, yet durable fabrics in several honeycomb pleat sizes. They also offer a wide range of colors and textures, including both sheer and opaque options. These coverings all provide the soft protection of a cloud, but unlike the weather, you have control.

For more information and a free booklet, “Solutions: Your Guide to Beautiful Windows,” call 1-800-937-STYLE or visit the Web site at [www.hunterdouglas.com](http://www.hunterdouglas.com).