



Ben Biker inspecting the quality of a Georgian Bay Window

# Choosing the correct style

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A well established Yorkshire firm is forging a strong reputation for providing property owners with a bespoke joinery service that not only enhances, but is also in perfect keeping with Heritage properties. The combination of traditionally trained craftsmen and contemporary machinery allows Biker Contracts Bespoke Joinery division to replicate faithfully any historic joinery designs. Their work is of such a high standard that architects are actively seeking them out to help with the refurbishment of period properties. Amongst other projects of this nature, Biker Contracts construction and bespoke joinery divisions have recently refurbished a Georgian property in the historic market place of Richmond. Here Biker Contracts worked closely with Architects Maddison James and English Heritage to ensure that the design of the shop front complimented the Georgian age of the Grade II listed building facade.

However Biker Contracts Bespoke Joinery are not confined to commercial projects. Many discerning property owners are using the multi-faceted family

run company to provide architectural features that are in total keeping with the particular age and design of their own house. Whether the property is a charming country cottage or an elegant town house, there will be a design and style of joinery particular to your individual property.

'We are finding that in such a rich area of period properties, owners are becoming far more discerning about choosing the correct style of windows,' commented Ben Biker, who runs the company's joinery division. 'As well as replacing windows and doors, our customers are having a long look at their properties and are undoing some of the mistakes that have been made by previous owners or in different eras. We are finding that not only are people replacing upvc windows with durable hardwood windows, but also ensuring that the windows correctly match the period of their house. For instance, Georgian windows tended to be separated into a multiple paned arrangement by timber glazing bars to support the relatively fragile glass of that period, but by Victorian times glass manufacturing techniques had improved and glazing bars were less necessary so 4

pane sash windows were common.' Interestingly, window design was also a class statement; Bay windows were designed to enhance properties and the internal living space but also to distinguish a property as being superior in comparison to recessed windows of others. The specialism achieved by Biker Contracts has given them a reputation of being one of the leading bespoke joiners in the country and their work varies from providing joinery services to historic estates in the North, to fitting windows to period properties in Mayfair, London.

'People often mistakenly dismiss the idea of fitting bespoke windows due to cost, but we have found that customers are often pleasantly surprised at the service that we can provide. Also by fitting well made sympathetically designed joinery items, our customers are also preserving and enhancing the value of their properties, which in this age of uncertainty, is proving to be increasingly important to them.'

**Ben Biker can be contacted and a brochure obtained on 01969 623020**  
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