

Shopping for New Windows?

If you're thinking about replacing the windows in your home, the choices you make about style, materials, and installation could have a big impact on your energy bill. Here are some things to consider.

Energy Savings

How much will new windows save you on your energy bill? It depends on factors like:

- what your existing windows are made of
- how well your home is insulated
- the size of your home and the number of windows it has
- the shade around your home
- the climate you live in



Choosing Your Windows

Cost

Price per window can range from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars. It depends on the materials and features you choose for your new windows, as well as installation costs.

Materials

Wood-framed windows provide good insulation, but are heavy and high-maintenance. Vinyl-frame windows insulate well and don't need painting.

Style

Single-hung, double-hung, and sliding windows leak more air than casement, awning, and hopper windows.

Glazing & Glass Technologies

Certain window glazes and glass may provide better insulation, light quality, and condensation resistance. For example, windows with low-emissivity (low-e) coatings often are more energy efficient than windows without.

Cleaning & Maintenance

Some materials and features make windows easier to care for. Tilt-in sashes, for example, make cleaning easier.

Installation

If your windows aren't installed according to the manufacturer's instructions, you might not get the savings or comfort you expect.




An Energy-Rating Label to Help You Shop

Look for the National Fenestration Rating Council's label when you shop.

U-factor: Rates how much heat escapes through a window. This is most important in cold climates.
Range: 0.2 – 1.2

Visible Transmittance: Rates how much light comes in.
Range: 0 – 1

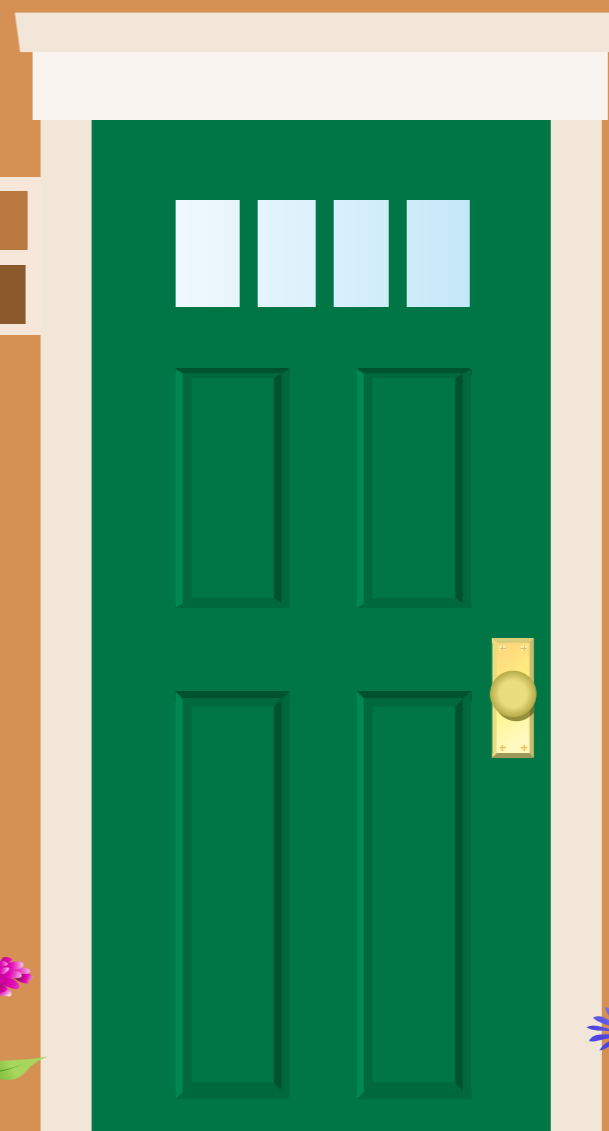
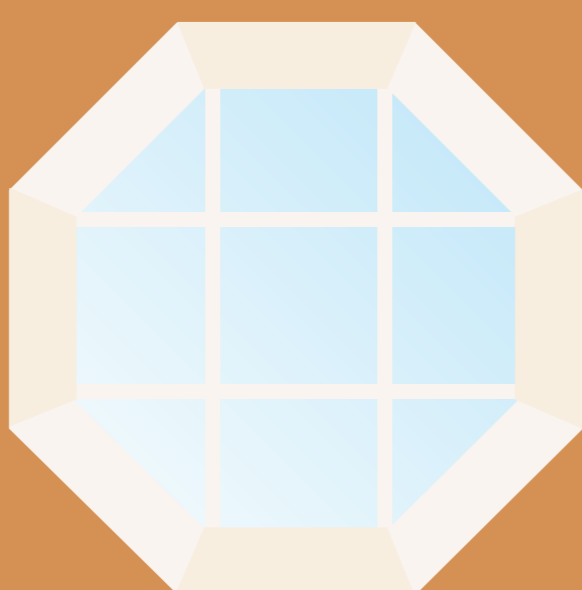
Condensation Resistance: Rates how well a product resists condensation.
Range: 1 – 100

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|---|--|--|
|  National Fenestration Rating Council CERTIFIED | World's Best Window Co. Millennium 2000+ Vinyl-Clad Wood Frame Double Glazing • Argon Fill • Low E Product Type: Vertical Slider | |
| | ENERGY PERFORMANCE RATINGS | |
| U-Factor (U.S./I-P) | Solar Heat Gain Coefficient | |
| 0.30 | 0.30 | |
| ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE RATINGS | | |
| Visible Transmittance | Air Leakage (U.S./I-P) | |
| 0.51 | 0.2 | |
| Condensation Resistance | | |
| 51 | — | |
| <small>Manufacturer stipulates that these ratings conform to applicable NFRC procedures for determining whole product performance. NFRC ratings are determined for a fixed set of environmental conditions and a specific product size. NFRC does not recommend any product and does not warrant the suitability of any product for any specific use. Consult manufacturer's literature for other product performance information. www.nfrc.org</small> | | |

Solar Heat Gain Coefficient: Rates how much heat from the sun is allowed in. This is most important in warm climates.
Range: 0 – 1

Air Leakage: Rates how much outside air comes in.
Range: 0.1 – 0.3

— = ratings may not be on the label, but may be online or from the vendor



For More Information

For more information, visit energysavers.gov or efficientwindows.org.