INTRODUCTION
UNDERSTANDING WINDOW BASICS

If you’re like most, this is your first window purchase. And while this is a project that many undertake to make their home more energy-efficient, it’s also the perfect opportunity to transform your most personal space into one that reflects your specific style and taste.

This guide is designed to help you understand the various window styles available – from a traditional double-hung model to sleek casements and room-expanding bay and bow windows.

Starting on page 16 you’ll find FrameWorks®, our assortment of arresting interior and exterior colors including eight woodgrain styles designed to work with your home’s individual décor.

In addition to a variety of window configurations and colors, you have an extensive choice of grid patterns and glass styles to create the perfect finish to your window design project.

For product information specific to each of Alside’s window brands, visit www.alside.com and download individual product literature.

Not all colors and options are available in all window brands and markets. Please consult your window professional for specific availability.

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

The Alside development team designs windows they’d want on their own homes. There are many individuals on the team, each with a unique talent, all with the same vision. The researchers – who discovered how to improve energy efficiency far beyond the average. The visionaries – who demanded the narrow, yet strong frame and sashes and larger glass daylighting. The designers – who championed the rich, deep colors and glass styles they knew you’d love. The experts – who developed advanced manufacturing techniques. These are the people behind Alside Windows.

GO GREEN

Exceptionally energy-smart and weathertight, Alside Windows not only reduce fuel consumption needed to heat and cool homes, they also boast a long service life and achieve optimal material use and minimal waste in production. Virtually all in-plant vinyl scrap is recycled into other useful products, further reducing the environmental impact of waste. And because vinyl never needs to be painted, it helps eliminate paint, stain and other maintenance-related products from entering the waste stream or releasing volatile organic compounds (VOCs) into the atmosphere. Vinyl windows also are eco-friendly because vinyl resin is derived largely from common salt – a sustainable and abundant natural resource!*

CHOOSING REPLACEMENT WINDOWS

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOCUS ON WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW MOST ABOUT REPLACEMENT WINDOWS. FROM FRAME CONSTRUCTION AND GLASS OPTIONS TO ENERGY SAVINGS AND PERFORMANCE FEATURES, THIS GUIDE WILL HELP MAKE THE DECISION CLEAR.

Is there a big difference between custom windows and ready-made windows at a building supply store? For the best fit, you should choose custom-sized windows. Custom windows are precision-engineered to 1/16” increments and manufactured to fit your specific window opening. You will get the exact style and options you desire, ensure utmost energy efficiency, and an overall better appearance and installation. Stock-sized windows are adjusted to fit your existing window openings on site and may require extensive carpentry work both inside and outside your home. The appearance and thermal performance can be diminished by this retrofitting process.

What types of windows are available? The three types of windows most commonly offered are aluminum, wood or vinyl – with wood and vinyl the most popular choices. It’s important to note that aluminum windows have painted surfaces that may scratch easily and the metal construction makes for a poor insulator. Wood windows are adjusted to fit your existing window openings on site and may require extensive carpentry work both inside and outside your home. The appearance and thermal performance can be diminished by this retrofitting process.

In terms of construction, what makes for a better grade, more durable vinyl window? The corners of the window frame and sashes should be fusion-welded (heat-welded) for a weathertight construction. Beware of windows with mitered corners screwed together or chemically welded corners, as they may decline in performance over time. You’ll also want to take a look at the vinyl extrusions in the window frame and sash. At a quick glance all vinyl may look fine, but there can be dramatic differences in the quality of the vinyl used. Some windows, built with lower-quality vinyl that has a dull blue or gray cast, can become brittle over time. Alside Windows are constructed with premium vinyl extrusions to ensure the frame and sashes provide long-lasting beauty and performance.

What other construction features should I be aware of? When you compare one window to the next, you’ll see – and feel – the quality difference. Alside Windows begin with a computer-controlled construction of the mainframe and steel-reinforced sash to produce a solidly built window with superior performance. Most windows come standard with double-strength glass for an exceptionally strong barrier. Interlocking meeting rails and thickset multi-chambered extrusions further add to the structural integrity and insulation, while multi-layer weatherstripping, a compression bulb seal and interglass glazing provide excellent long-term performance. You’ll also want to test the window’s moving parts. Alside Double Hung Windows, for example, feature a full interlock at the meeting rails to seal the window tightly shut and a constant force balance system to ensure smooth and easy operation of the moving sash.

What should I look for in terms of glass performance? For starters, many windows are built with single-strength glass. Alside Windows are built with double-strength glass, which means that each pane is 3 mm thick instead of the industry standard of 2 mm. The glass is stronger, more protective and won’t crack or break as easily. Windows are about 80% glass, so it’s important to select a glass package that will help shield your home from absorbing outside heat in the summer and losing indoor heat in the winter. For optimum energy savings consider Alside Windows with the ClimaTech® insulated glass package. ClimaTech combines low-E glass with argon gas* and the Intercept® Warm-Edge Spacer System to achieve exceptional energy savings. Because Alside offers a variety of ClimaTech glass packages, your window professional can help you choose the best one for your home and area of the country.

Are replacement windows a good investment? From day one, Alside Windows begin making a return on your investment. You can expect a decrease in your annual fuel consumption for heating and cooling your home. Vinyl windows are virtually maintenance-free, which can save substantial dollars spent on painting, sealing and maintenance. New windows will enhance the curb appeal of your home, which can help increase its resale value. In most cases, you can expect to recover more than half of the cost of your replacement windows when it’s time to sell. The national average of the cost recovered for vinyl replacement windows is 71.6% for midrange projects and 72.6% for upscale projects, according to Remodeling magazine’s “2010-11 Cost vs. Value Report.”

Will my replacement windows require a lot of maintenance? Alside vinyl replacement windows are a pleasure to maintain. You can say goodbye to scraping, painting and caulking. The heavy-duty vinyl construction is virtually maintenance-free and there are no storm windows to struggle with. Most Alside Vinyl Windows can be cleaned from inside the comfort of your home. Just wipe the vinyl surface with a damp cloth to keep your windows looking like new.

Do I need to keep each window the same type as my original window, or can I change the styles and configurations? New windows can transform the appearance of your home, and with so many additional design options to choose from. Whether your tastes are contemporary, traditional or transitional, we can custom build to your specifications. Alside also offers a host of glazing and options and elegant frame finishes to suit your design needs.

Do I need a professional? Hiring a professional is a smart decision on many levels. A trained professional will clearly show you the beautiful installation, indoor comfort and thermal efficiency of your home. A professional will also assist you in selecting design suggestions to help in the decision process. You’ll want to make sure the contractor you hire is licensed, bonded and experienced. While you may be tempted to install the windows yourself, you may not be prepared for the difficult installation challenges or structural damage to your home that could occur, along with the risk of voiding the window warranty. A professional installer will also be up to date on codes relating to lead, energy, and more.

Should I be concerned with where the windows are manufactured? Absolutely. A replacement window is only as good as the company that stands behind it. Alside has more than 60 years of manufacturing experience and success. We proudly own and operate six window plants in North America that expertly produce windows of superior beauty, quality and durability. Utilizing performance standards beyond AAMA, ASTM and NFRC requirements, our windows are rigorously tested for air, water, structural load, thermal performance, and forced entry resistance. Companywide, we are committed to ensuring that each window will provide years of excellent service and energy saving.

We also stand behind our products long after the installation is complete with a knowledgeable customer service team that’s ready to serve you. Should any questions or concerns arise, just call the number on the sticker located on your window. This label also includes a factory order number for easy reference.

What about warranty coverage? Alside Windows are backed by a Lifetime Limited Warranty with transferability provisions – further assurance that you have made an excellent selection for your home from a respected manufacturer. See warranty for complete details.

S I M P L E A N S W E R S
**Insulated Glass** – a combination of two or more panes of glass with hermetically sealed air space between.

**Argon Gas** – a safe, colorless, odorless, nonflammable, nontoxic inert gas that is heavier than air. This insulating gas between the panes of glass counteracts heat/cold conduction. It also helps reduce noise infiltration – so your home will be more energy-efficient and quieter.

**Krypton Gas** – this super-insulating gas is denser than argon and therefore, provides better performance properties.

**Low-E Glass** – a special type of glass with microscopically thin, undetectable metallic coatings applied to its surface that act as a thermal barrier. In winter months, Low-E helps reduce heating costs by reflecting indoor heat back into the room. During the summer, Low-E lets in visible sunlight while minimizing infrared and ultraviolet solar energy that can increase cooling costs and cause curtains, carpets and furniture to fade.

**PPG Intercept Warm-Edge Spacer System** – a sealed, one-piece alloy in a U-channel design that creates an effective thermal barrier to reduce conducted heat loss through the window.

**High R-Value** – R-value is the resistance to heat flow, so the higher the R-value the better the insulating performance.

**Low U-Factor** – U-factor (also referred to as U-value) represents the rate of heat flow through a glazing system. The lower the U-factor, the greater the resistance to heat flow and the better the insulating power.

**SHGC** – Solar Heat Gain Coefficient represents the fraction of solar radiation admitted through a window. The lower the SHGC, the less solar heat the window transmits into the home, which can help reduce air-conditioning costs during summer months.

**Energy Glass Upgrades** – for even greater energy savings, ask about Alside’s ClimaTech high-performance glass packages with additional energy-efficient features.

**What makes one glass system better than another? What you need to know about high-performance glass . . .**

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**Window labels contain important energy performance ratings that can help you compare one window to the next. Look for the National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) and ENERGY STAR® labels for important information regarding energy efficiency.**

**U-Factor**

- A U-factor rating represents the window’s resistance to heat flow and typically falls between 0.20 and 1.20. The lower the U-factor the better the insulating performance.

**Solar Heat Gain Coefficient**

- Generally a number between 0 and 1, a lower SHGC means that less solar radiation is being admitted through your windows, helping to ease your air conditioner’s job in the summer.

**Visible Transmittance**

- Most often displayed as a number between 0 and 1, Visible Transmittance measures the amount of light that is transmitted through a Window. The higher the “VT” number, the more daylight is transmitted through your window.

**SO MUCH OF WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WINDOWS IS WHAT YOU DON’T SEE.**

**ENERGY PERFORMANCE RATINGS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>U-Factor</th>
<th>Solar Heat Gain Coefficient</th>
<th>Visible Transmittance</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>0.37</td>
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**ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE RATINGS**

- The Intercept Warm-Edge Spacer keeps the edges of the window glass warmer and reduces condensation problems around the window perimeter. Although both windows pictured above are built with Low-E glass and filled with argon gas, the window with the Intercept Warm-Edge Spacer maintains superior thermal performance despite fluctuations in temperature.

- The Intercept Warm-Edge Spacer is a one-piece, U-shaped alloy in a U-channel design that creates an effective thermal barrier to reduce conducted heat loss through the window.

- The Intercept Warm-Edge Spacer is stronger and better at retaining insulating gas than many conventional designs.

- The Intercept Warm-Edge Spacer is a positive choice for energy efficiency, fuel savings and the environment. ENERGY STAR® is a government-backed voluntary partnership program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy to help consumers recognize energy-efficient products. It’s good for you and good for the environment!
The exquisite detail of our double-hung window does more than just convey classic beauty—it delivers outstanding strength and protection as well as superior energy efficiency.

Tilt-in top and bottom sashes give our double-hung window the cornerstone on easy upkeep. Just simply tilt the sash in to clean both sides of the glass from the comfort of your home. Our single-hung windows feature tilt-in bottom sashes.

You’ll also appreciate the high-performance features and weathertight fit of this masterfully crafted window. Its timeless style and aesthetic appeal will lend a touch of refinement to any home design.
Deceptively strong and weathertight, our elegant sliding windows pair the beauty of a crisp, clean-line design with a heavy-duty construction built for everyday wear and tear. Bring a stroke of carefree living to your home with the simplicity and ease of sliding windows. Sleek sashes glide horizontally for effortless opening and closing, and lift out for easy cleaning.

A generous glass area makes the sliding window a longtime favorite for enjoying an unobstructed view of the beautiful outdoors. Fusion-welded mainframe and sashes ensure neat, clean corners while also contributing to the window’s notable strength and durability.
There are no limits to what you can do when you imagine your perfect window design. From grand and dramatic to sublime and quaint, customization is yours with our full selection of specialty shapes and picture windows.

And thanks to our superb insulated glass technology and frame construction, even large glass areas covering a greater span will deliver thermal protection and energy efficiency for your home, helping to maintain a comfortable and balanced indoor climate.
This timeless window takes on a modern-day feel with its impeccably styled frame and low-profile nesting handle. The effect in any room is both charming and refined. 

Opening up and out, awning windows invite fresh air and ventilation into your home with just the touch of the handle. Pairing awning windows with fixed-lites also offers a variety of options to customize the overall look and functionality of your windows.

Our awning windows feature a beveled exterior sash for added style and dimension, while also creating the appearance of a larger glass area. A dual-point locking system further enhances its tight seal and energy efficiency.

When you think of windows as a style element in your home, you’ll see why casements deserve strong consideration. The handsome construction, ample glass exposure and gentle outward opening of the sash impart refreshing ventilation and appeal.

Performance-engineered for excellent weatherability, our casements also boast fusion-welded mainframe and sashes and energy insulating components for year-round comfort. A multi-point locking system ensures a tight fit and added thermal protection.
The sweeping curve of a beautifully crafted bow window will lend a tasteful focal point to any room. Oak or birch 1 1/4" furniture-grade veneer is standard in the construction of our head and seatboard and ready for painting or staining** to complement your décor. A custom-crafted look can further be achieved with one of our many window color options, including a wide variety of rich hues and warm woodgrains. For added comfort, choose our 3” pre-insulated seatboard for increased warmth and thermal protection.  

With the character and charm of a casual reading nook, our elegant bay window will dress up any room. This three-window system adds dimension and creates the appearance of a larger room while allowing natural light to shine through. Our bay window construction includes 1 1/4” furniture-grade veneer in head, seatboard and jambs, with the head and seatboard in oak or birch veneer ready for painting or staining**. Classic colors and woodgrain finishes offer a variety of design options to let you achieve the ideal look.  

Irresistible perhaps best describes our garden window, because who can resist taking a closer look at what’s growing in this lovely indoor space? Whether used for a flourishing herb garden or array of your favorite plants, you’ll enjoy the simple pleasure of gardening year-round from the comfort of your home. With meticulous attention to detail, this weathertight window features a fully welded mainframe for beauty and strength, while twin-sealing, fully screened end casements offer convenient ventilation.  

** Additional charges apply
When you step into a room infused with beautiful sunlight you immediately feel the relaxing warmth. There’s nothing like a patio door to give your home this airy and welcoming ambiance. You’ll also appreciate the exceptional style and functionality of our patio doors. The precision-built slimline profile allows ample glass exposure for a generous viewing area, yet provides outstanding protection from inclement weather. Position a transom window above your patio door to create a dramatic effect with added height and visual appeal. A variety of door styles and options lets you further customize the door to suit your décor.
Elevate your home to a higher level of style and sophistication with our FrameWorks window and patio door finishes. This impressive palette features the distinctive beauty of rich hues and natural-looking woodgrains without the time-consuming maintenance of wood windows.

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Luxurious warm woodgrains and rich colors, superb quality with custom-crafted appeal. Enduring strength and easy upkeep, your windows are about to become even more exceptional – both inside and out.

Our Forest Green exterior finish will enhance a variety of home designs, from casual to contemporary.

This eye-catching window in English Red offers a dramatic touch of color with a depth of visual appeal.

For understated elegance, consider a neutral tone such as Architectural Bronze, shown here.

Expertly crafted with state-of-the-art technology, FrameWorks’ highly weatherable and fade-resistant finish is exceptionally durable and easy to clean. It also allows you to enjoy rich hues and woodgrain beauty that previously were available only with painted or stained wood windows.

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*Not available in all areas.

• Luxurious colors and natural appeal
• Matte texture imparts subtle elegance
• UV-resistant for superior color retention
• Highly weatherable, durable and robust
• Stands up strong to extreme heat and cold
• Excellent resistance to dirt, chemicals and environmental pollutants
• Ideal for seaside climates – resists damage from salt air

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Our exterior color palette offers a wide variety of exciting design possibilities. Whether you prefer windows that command attention or beautifully blend in, Frameworks lets you customize the appearance of your windows and patio doors while lending a distinctive touch of style and refinement to your home. And better yet, the premium-quality finish will maintain its attractive appearance with minimal upkeep.
Our frameworks interior palette will change the way you think about windows. Not only must they have superior functionality – but a style that enhances your décor. With elegant woodgrain finishes and classic hues, our versatile collection will inspire refreshing design options to beautifully complement your home.

Alsie Design Showcase
An interactive, online visualization tool that gives homeowners the ability to virtually design and explore countless window and patio door options.
Our decorative glass options present old-world charm with a modern attitude. All leaded glass is handcrafted using hand-cut glass, crystal bevel clusters and hand-soldered camings. V-grooved cut or polished glass also is available for a subtle touch of elegance.

Interior grids add the ideal measure of beauty and dimension to the appearance of your windows. All grids are enclosed within the insulated glass unit for easy cleaning. Choose from classic, contoured, narrow brass and gold tone brass grids in a variety of patterns to design the ideal window for your home.

**Glass Distinctive Options**

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St. Joseph  
Jackson  
Hanna  
Vicksburg

Brass Caming  
Pewter Caming  
Lead Caming

Colonial  
Diamond  
Prairie  
Double Prairie

StarCrest  
StarCrest II  
StarCrest III

Colonial  
Diamond  
Craftman*  
Prairie  
Double Prairie

Classic  
Beige  
Contoured  
Soft Maple  
Rich Maple

Contoured Light Oak  
Contoured Dark Oak  
Contoured Foxwood  
Contoured Cherry  
Narrow Brass  
Gold Tone Brass

*Available in operating and fixed-lite casements only.
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†Insulated Glass (IG) units that require capillary tubes may experience some argon gas depletion. **It is imperative that your new bay or bow Window is sealed and finished properly within the first 30 days after installation. Failure to properly finish and seal all of the wood components may cause the wood to fade, swell, warp, or develop other defects that would not be covered under your normal product warranty. A written copy of the warranty is available by writing to: Warranty Department, PO Box 2010, Akron, Ohio 44309. Colors are reproduced by lithographic process and may vary slightly from colors of actual product. All specifications and designs subject to change without notice. Printed in USA 2-12/20M/OP 75-2406-01