

Replacement Window BUYING GUIDE

According to a recent survey, more than 40% of homes in Orange County and the greater San Diego area have windows that are more than 15 years old. This means that nearly half of the homes in our area have windows that are inefficient, unattractive, and/or unsafe! Replacing old, tired windows can save you money, increase the value of your home, and give infinite peace of mind.

In this replacement window buying guide we're exploring compelling reasons to consider window replacement, how to choose the right company for your project, the differences between styles and materials, cost and energy savings. We'll also share a few tips for what to expect throughout the process.

TOP REASONS TO CONSIDER REPLACING YOUR WINDOWS

EFFICIENCY

Up to 30% of your home's heating and cooling costs are due to heat gain or loss through old, inefficient windows according to energy.org. Your old windows could be costing you money every month. What starts out as nickels and dimes can add up to dollars in a hurry. Replacement windows don't just save you money. The climate of your house will be much more consistent from room to room with new, efficient windows as well.

FIX A KNOWN OR SUSPECTED ISSUE

From cracks to mold, old windows often have issues. Broken mechanisms can make closing and locking the windows difficult or impossible. Broken glass lets in wind, moisture, and bugs. However, not all issues are known. Old windows can leak moisture, causing mold to grow within your walls. This is rarely noticed until a much larger, more expensive issue is at hand.

SAFETY/SECURITY

From a security standpoint, older windows are an easy target for thieves. Broken or unusable locks can be easy to break into. Considering safety, a child falling into a weak window can lead to disaster. The only way to have peace of mind is to make sure that your windows are replaced with new, properly fitting ones.

INCREASE THE VALUE OF YOUR HOME

Not only will brand new windows increase your curb appeal, they can also increase the value of your home significantly. Potential buyers are much more inclined to pay top dollar for a home that is fixed up over one requiring repairs. Additionally, updated windows can offer noise reduction, privacy, and/or an improved view. One unique benefit from quality windows is noise reduction. Less street noise in, and less family noise out. If you are looking for added privacy, you can buy windows that have privacy features like built in louvers as a part of the window. Finally, brand new windows without scratches, fog, or cracks showcase your view beautifully.



HOW TO CHOOSE A WINDOW REPLACEMENT COMPANY



Choosing the right window replacement company is as important as choosing the right windows for your home. A cut-rate business will often sell substandard windows, or use improperly trained installers. They rarely stand behind their work or offer a warranty. There are 4 specific areas to consider to ensure you will get top-notch service, guaranteed installation, and peace of mind knowing your windows will last for the lifetime of your home.

Years of Service – Start by asking how long they have been in business. Hiring a long-time, locally owned company has many advantages. First, they have relationships with the most trusted manufacturers. Also, they have proven that they will be in business in years to come so if there are ever issues they will be around. The installers are most likely to be well trained and able to tackle any job, no matter how complex, with excellence.

BBB Rating - Check the Better Business Bureau website to see if any company you are considering has a rating. Also, check for reviews on their website. Oftentimes you can get a really good picture of a company's ethics and standards just by reading the reviews.

Excellent Warranty - Research the warranty. Is there one? What do they cover? Or even more telling, what is excluded? How long does the warranty last?

Reviews/Recommendations – Ask on local social media, ask neighbors, family and friends or look at reviews on the company's Facebook page to see what others are saying about your suggested company. One tip: one bad review among several positive ones does not necessarily reflect on the company. It is always good to read the negative reviews to fully understand the issues.

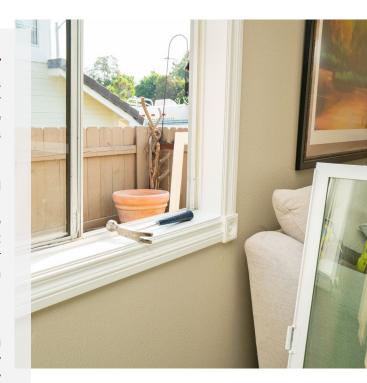
If you do your research, you can confidently hire a window replacement company that is sure to bring you excellent service and peace of mind.

COST VS. VALUE -

You could purchase and install windows yourself, purchase and hire a handyman off the internet, or even hire a contractor who will most likely use a subcontractor for your window installation. This could be problematic as budget windows and installation may appear less expensive but will often end up costing you more in the long run.

Low cost windows are often made of subpar materials, and are not rated for your specific climate therefore costing you money each month heating or cooling your home. Unlicensed and uninsured contractors typically do not offer a warranty, putting your new project, and your peace of mind at risk. They also may lack the experience and wisdom to install your replacement windows properly, leading to windows that don't function properly or that leak which can cause a whole slew of unwanted problems. It's a costly and time consuming mistake you want to avoid.

Ultimately, you will usually save money and a whole lot of hassle if you purchase windows from a reputable company and have them installed by a licensed professional. A lifetime warranty almost always saves money and is a sure bet for peace of mind.





LIFETIME WARRANTY = PEACE OF MIND

Replacing your windows is not an investment to take lightly. Extensive time and effort goes into choosing and installing windows that are beautiful and functional.

First, choose a window brand that stands behind their products. At Newman Windows and Doors, we only sell millwork from companies that meet our standards. If they can't offer a warranty, we don't do business with them. Second, choose a company that offers installation with a lifetime warranty on labor. No red tape, no hidden lingo, just a good, old-fashioned guarantee.

Also remember, if a company offers a warranty but does not have the longevity to stand behind their promise in 5 or 10 years, the warranty is completely worthless. Choose a company that will back their warranty for years to come.

HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT REPLACEMENT WINDOWS FOR YOUR HOME



MATERIALS

The most popular materials for new windows are vinyl, wood, fiberglass and aluminum. Each has its own advantages and disadvantages, and what you choose is ultimately reliant on your preferences and the climate that you live in.

Vinyl is a popular choice because it is lightweight, comes in many different colors, is cheaper than most other options, and won't fade or rot. However, it's not very durable, and many people don't like the artificial look and feel.

Wood is the traditional option. It looks and feels good, has a unique

appearance that can't be matched by other options and is very durable. However, it does need to be painted on occasion. It's also susceptible to rot and mold.

Aluminum is strong and durable, has a unique look of its own, and fares well in many climates. However, it may not fit well in terms of appearance in older and more traditional style homes and it conducts a lot of heat.

Fiberglass has the look of wood without the worry because it will not rot or decay. It is also paintable so you can easily customize your look to suit your home.

STYLE

This aspect is ultimately up to the preferences of the homeowner. Some styles look better with certain houses, but if the style doesn't appeal to you there's no point in getting it. There are many different kinds of window styles including awning, bay, bow, sliding, tilt and turn, garden, and more. Do research on the various window styles and try to imagine what they would look like on your home. And, if all else fails, discuss your options with a window and door expert. They may have insights into options you may never have even considered!





ENERGY EFFICIENCY

When it comes to energy costs, windows are a common spot where money just drains away. On hot days, the glass and metal heat up to make the interior of the house very hot and uncomfortable. On cold days, the windows may allow heat to escape and make the room colder with the cold temperatures of the glass and metal.

Select windows with an Energy Star seal of approval. Try to select dual pane windows as they provide more insulation than single pane windows.

Finally, you can buy windows with Low-E coatings, which help reflect light and heat. This allows the warmth to stay inside and the cold air outside during winter while the cool air stays in and the warmth is repelled during summer.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU REPLACE YOUR WINDOWS

Replacing the windows in your home can be a very pleasant experience. From quote to completion, you should expect to work with staff that is professional and knowledgeable.

At Newman Windows and Doors, all installers are Installation Master certified and pass a check for your safety. As part of the Newman Signature Experience, we will provide excellent service from start to finish to after your windows are flawlessly installed. We make sure to always arrive on time, in a company branded vehicle, and ready to get started. All our employees wear an ID badge and a company uniform. We will also wear protective shoe coverings or use protective floor coverings to ensure we never damage your floors.

Our installers will remove your old windows and make sure your new windows are installed beautifully and to your complete satisfaction. We believe that a job should be done right the first time and we welcome you to hold us to that standard.



The bottom line is this: Replacing your worn-out windows can save you money, increase your home's value, and give you peace of mind. At Newman Windows and Doors, we have been replacing windows in Orange County and the greater San Diego area for over 2 decades. We know what we are doing and we love serving our customers. Give us a call to schedule your free home visit.