



ENERGY STAR® Certified Windows

2024 Key Messages

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- Now is the time to replace your old windows. Take advantage of special incentives to save energy, increase comfort and enhance the value of your home.
- Taking action now can help you prepare for a [clean energy future](#), while enjoying energy savings and a more comfortable home today.
- ENERGY STAR certified windows are designed for where you live, with special features for northern and southern climates.

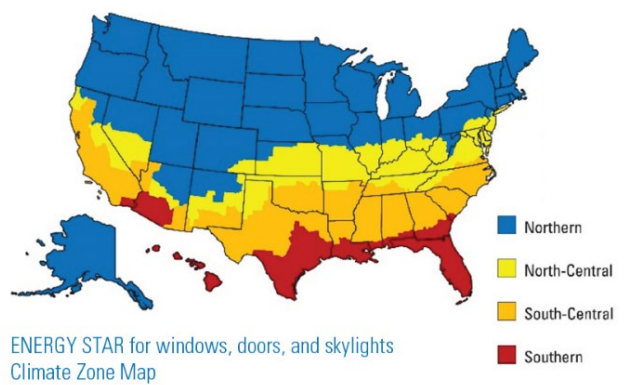
Why You Should Upgrade Your Windows with ENERGY STAR Certified Models

- Through the Inflation Reduction Act, the federal government is offering a [tax credit](#) of 30% of the cost, up to \$600, on the purchase of residential windows that have earned [ENERGY STAR Most Efficient recognition](#). ENERGY STAR certified doors are eligible for a [tax credit](#) up to \$250 on one and \$500 on two doors. ENERGY STAR windows and doors are also eligible for rebates from utilities in some areas. Use the [ENERGY STAR Rebate Finder](#) to learn if you qualify.
- If you have old, inefficient windows, your home has to work much harder to keep you comfortable. Old and inefficient windows are prone to air leaks, and issues with humidity, moisture control, and pests, leaving your home hotter in the summer months and colder in the winter months.
 - If your home has single pane windows (only one layer of glass), double pane clear windows (no heat blocking coatings), or your windows are drafty have obvious air leaks or degraded sills or sashes, you are a good candidate to benefit from window replacement – both in comfort and energy savings.
- Upgrading your old and inefficient windows to ENERGY STAR certified models is not only a [high-impact project](#) that makes your home more efficient, it can also improve the value of your home.
 - It is estimated that the value a window replacement project retains at resale is approximately [65-75% of the project cost](#).
- Improving the performance of your windows is an important part of an [ENERGY STAR Home Upgrade](#), a set of high-impact home projects that are designed to work together to deliver serious energy savings. Upgrading windows is an important project because it reduces the energy waste associated with a leaky home and improves comfort.

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- Windows and storm windows that earn the ENERGY STAR label meet performance criteria that are better than basic building code requirements and vary by climate.
- Windows typically take up about 8% of the surface of your home's exterior, however they account for about 45% of the heat gain or loss. Upgrading your windows to ENERGY STAR certified models that are appropriate for your climate zone can help you better regulate your temperatures and keep your home more comfortable.
- In addition to affecting the efficiency and comfort of your home, old windows can also be a safety issue.
 - Over time, old windows can deteriorate and fail to function properly and safely like when they were first installed. This could result in windows getting stuck or being difficult to open and close in case of an emergency exit (like a fire), as well as potential issues with the locking function.
 - Replacing your old windows that may be stuck or painted shut with new efficient models can improve the functionality of your home allowing you open windows for ventilation on a nice day and to appreciate the outside environment while enjoying peace of mind.
- While upgrading your home's windows is a big investment, it can greatly improve the efficiency and value of your home – helping you recoup your investment through energy savings and a higher selling price. With incentives that are now available from the government and utilities to help lower the project cost, now is the perfect time to combine savings and take action on this upgrade.
- You could save an average of about 12% on your energy costs by replacing poor performing windows with ENERGY STAR certified models, saving between \$200-\$600 annually on average, depending on where you live.
- Savings vary depending on where you live in the U.S. and what type of windows you are upgrading from – with the greatest savings in areas with long, hot summers or cold winters.
- Based on extensive analysis, ENERGY STAR certified windows are designed to optimize energy savings for the climate zone in which you live – **Northern, North-Central, South-Central, or Southern regions** of the U.S.



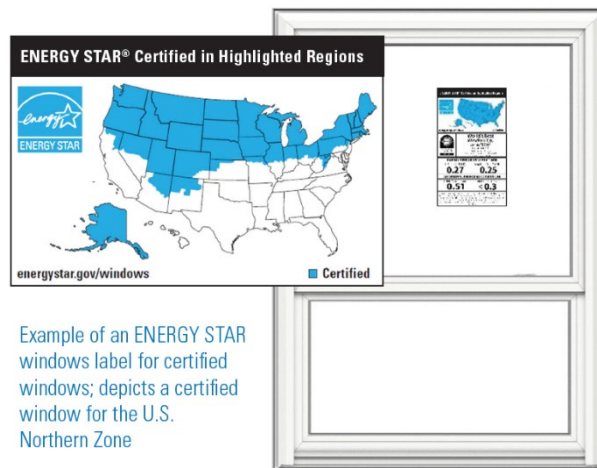
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- Find your ENERGY STAR climate zone using the Climate Zone Finder Tool here: www.energystar.gov/windows
- For colder Northern climates, performance features include better insulation to save on heating costs.
- For hotter Southern climates, performance features focus on blocking solar heat coming through the glass to save on air conditioning costs.
- Every window, door and skylight that earns the ENERGY STAR label is independently certified and verified to perform at levels that meet or exceed energy efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Buying Guidance:

- Ask for ENERGY STAR certified windows for your climate zone when ordering from a dealer, remodeler, or contractor to make sure you select the best option for comfort and energy savings. ENERGY STAR windows come in a wide variety of styles, colors, frame types, and operator types (ways of opening) to suit your needs. Ask for trained professionals that are trained and/or certified to install the window product(s) you have chosen. Some manufacturer warranties require that you use a trained installer or a installer certified by the manufacturer.



- To purchase the best ENERGY STAR Certified windows for your home, follow these steps:
 - Determine your ENERGY STAR Climate Zone. ENERGY STAR has a [Climate Zone Finder tool](#) to help find the zone where you live.
 - Find a retailer or dealer of ENERGY STAR certified windows, doors, or skylights and ask what products (brands and lines) they carry. You can research product options using the [ENERGY STAR Windows Product Finder](#).
- When hiring a contractor, keep in mind that project estimates can vary widely for products that seem the same or similar. Here are some suggestions:

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- Get several estimates for the project with clear details (brand, model name, U-factor, and SHGC) on the products being installed. Installers/contractors often leave out these details making it difficult to compare estimates.
 - To get the best price, order at least 8-10 windows. Contractors charge a higher price (or may ignore your job altogether) if they cannot come to your home and spend the whole day there. Set-up and take-down of equipment is a significant cost to them.
 - Have a clear understanding of the 3 warranties associated with any window project: product warranty (for product defects), glass warranty (for breakage or seal failure), and installation warranty (for proper installation).
 - Request ENERGY STAR certified window products for your location and be sure the request is in writing in the estimate, contract, or agreement. If the request is not specifically in the agreement, you may not get the products you want.
- On the day the products are installed, check the ENERGY STAR window label to make sure the product you received is certified to meet the performance requirements for your area. The ENERGY STAR label appears on the product next to the National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) label on the glass of each product.
 - Save the ENERGY STAR and NFRC labels (typically combined) from the glass of newly installed windows to take advantage of financial incentives such as tax credits and/or rebates to lower your initial investment costs.
 - In colder climates, the ideal window for a South-facing wall has a higher solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC) and a low U-factor to reduce heat loss. To reduce extra heat gain from the sun in hot climates, windows that are low SHGC on the South, East, and West facing sides of the house can improve comfort and lower air conditioning costs.