



GUIDE TO WINDOWS  
CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHOOSING THE  
RIGHT WINDOWS FOR YOUR HOME





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# EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW WHEN CHOOSING WINDOWS

This guide is designed to help streamline your decision-making process when it comes to windows. If you're unsure about operating types, material choices, window styles, or replacement or upgrade options, we've got you covered. Designed for homeowners, this easy-to-follow guide makes choosing the right windows simple.

To learn more about JELD-WEN® windows, [visit us online.](#)



CHAPTER

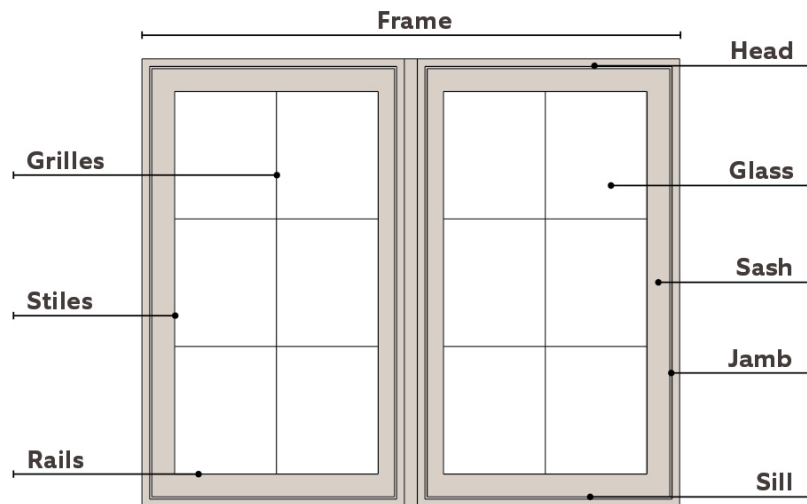
1

THE ANATOMY  
OF A WINDOW

Learn about the basic anatomy of a window  
and important terms that you need to know.

# THE ANATOMY OF A WINDOW

Every window is similar in construction although operating types vary. When shopping for new or replacement windows, understanding these terms will help you find the right ones.



## Frame

Holds all the parts of the window in place; comprised of the head, jambs, and sill.

## Head

The top horizontal area of the window frame.

## Grilles

Optional design choice for the look of classic “multi-lite” windows; placed inside the glass (grilles-between-the-glass or GBG) or on top of the glass (simulated divided lites or SDL).

## Sash

A section of glass framed by stiles and rails; typically, the sash is the moveable part of the window, although some sash can be “stationary” or non-moving. Held in place by the frame.

## Stiles

Vertical components of the sash.

## Rails

Horizontal components of the sash.

## Jamb

The vertical sides of the window frame.

## Sill

The horizontal area along the bottom of the window frame.

CHAPTER

# 2

## WINDOW TYPES

Explore different operating types  
and how they can transform any space.



# WINDOW TYPES

Window types are generally based on operation, the way the window opens and closes — or doesn't move at all. Some window types have more to do with shape and placement. Here are some common window types to know:

## Single-hung and Double-hung

These popular windows give homes a more uniform, traditional look, as well as plenty of fresh air and natural sunlight. Single-hung windows have a fixed (non-moving) upper sash and a lower sash that slides up and down to open and close. Double-hung windows feature two operating sash that slide up and down, for even greater air flow; typically, both sash are also designed to "tilt" inward for easier cleaning.



## Awning

Awning windows are hinged at the top and open outward from the bottom, which means these windows can bring in fresh air even when it's raining outside. Their smaller construction makes them great for bathrooms, allowing light and ventilation without compromising privacy. If you love the look of picture windows but also love a nice breeze, pair a picture window with a smaller awning window in the same color and material, to create that "expansive glass" aesthetic while still enjoying fresh air when you want it.



## Casement

Casement windows are popular for their large glass panes and unobstructed views. These windows are hinged at the sides and open outward, bringing in abundant light and fresh air. Casements that open with a crank handle at the bottom of the frame are great for harder-to-reach areas, such as above the kitchen sink or above the tub in a bathroom.





### Picture or Fixed

If your home includes a scenic view, consider a picture window, a fixed (non-operational) window designed for framing the expansive views outside. Fixed windows include traditional rectangular or square styles as well as unique shapes such as trapezoids or ovals. Small, high-placed fixed windows (called clerestory windows) can bring welcome light to spaces with tall walls and high ceilings.



### Bay

A bay window is really three windows: one large, fixed window in the center, with a smaller window on either side. These flanking windows can be single- or double-hung, casement, or fixed. Because they extend past the wall of the home, bay windows offer a broader view of the outdoors, and they bring in natural light from multiple directions.



### Bow

Bow windows are a set of joined windows (typically four or five) that are angled slightly to give the illusion of a curved wall. Bow windows offer more panoramic views and can let in more light than bay windows. However, bow windows are typically fixed (non-operational), so if ventilation is a priority, a bay window might be a better choice.



### Sliding

Sliding windows open horizontally. One sash slides left or right to open; the other sash may operate as well or may be fixed, depending on the model you choose. You can typically unlock and open a sliding window with one hand. They are offered in a range of sizes, making it easy to find one that fits the available space you have.



When choosing your window operating type, consider if you'd like your windows to slide or swing open. To get a closer look at all available window types,

[find more information on jeld-wen.com](https://www.jeld-wen.com).



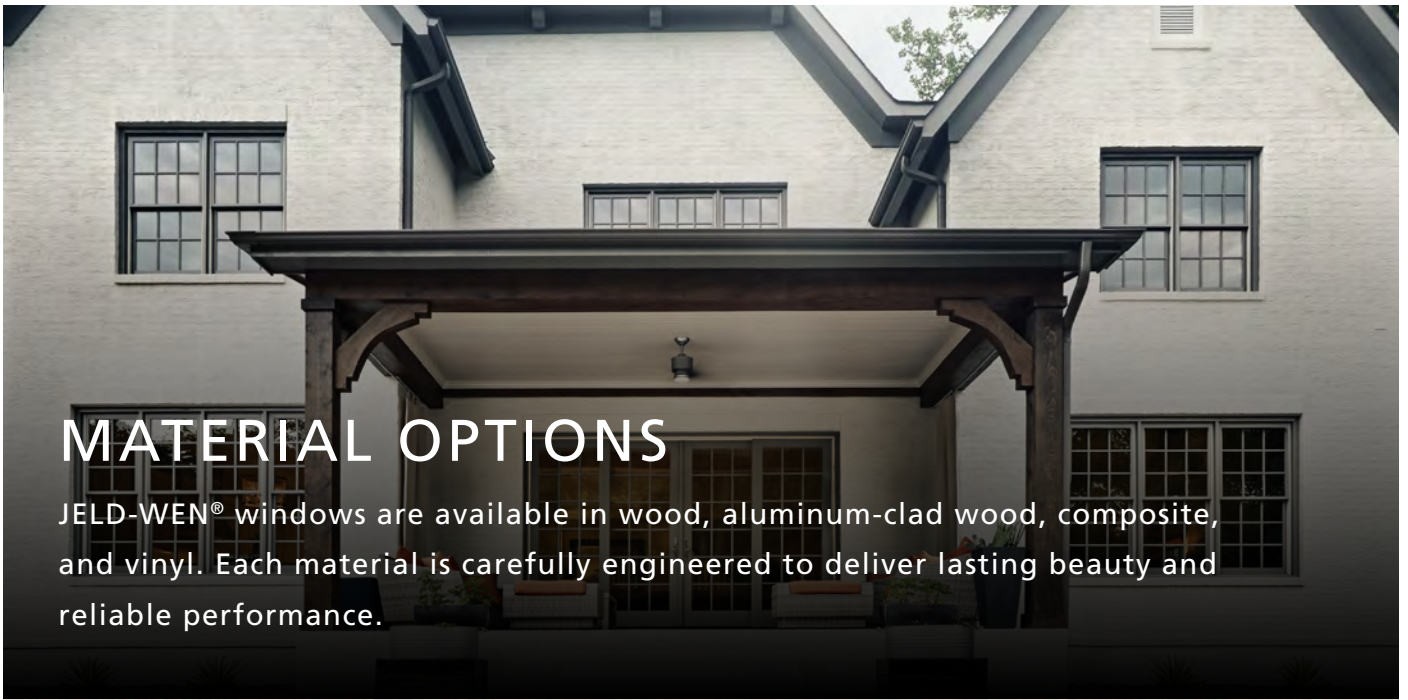


CHAPTER

# 3

## MATERIAL OPTIONS

Window materials matter. Choose the right materials for both aesthetics and performance, to achieve long-term beauty and durability.



## MATERIAL OPTIONS

JELD-WEN® windows are available in wood, aluminum-clad wood, composite, and vinyl. Each material is carefully engineered to deliver lasting beauty and reliable performance.



## WOOD WINDOWS

The classic choice, wood windows offer the widest range of options. For many homeowners, nothing beats the warm character and substantial heft of real wood. Benefits include:

- **Color versatility:** May be painted or stained; add exterior aluminum cladding for lasting color and easier maintenance
- **Size:** Can be used to craft larger contemporary windows or recreate historic windows
- **Meets historic building requirements:** Replacements maintain the authentic look and feel of a historic home while improving energy efficiency (typically through use of Low-E glass)
- **Customization options:** Capabilities include one-of-a-kind design specs, color finishes, glass patterns, decorative details, and more

To find the right wood window for your project, view [Wood Window Options](#).





# CLAD-WOOD WINDOWS

Clad-wood windows feature beautiful wood finishes inside the home and protective, low-maintenance aluminum cladding on the exterior.

- **Color versatility:** Warm neutral paint or stain finishes for the window's interior, with bold, on-trend colors for the clad exterior
- **Performance:** The clad exterior protects the life of your wood window, promoting longevity, and decreasing maintenance







## COMPOSITE WINDOWS

True Composite windows and patio doors blend the beauty of wood with strength and durability that surpasses vinyl, so homeowners can enjoy the luxury look for less. A true composite blends a structural fiber, such as reclaimed wood fiber, with synthetic polymers and co-extruded color, to create a highly durable material that looks like wood but requires no painting, and little maintenance. Twice as rigid as vinyl, true composite installs cleanly and prevents warping and sagging over time. Other benefits include:

- **2X as rigid as vinyl:** True composite feels solid and secure and maintains its shape
- **Co-extruded, fully bonded color:** Low maintenance, scratch-resistant and won't flake or peel with no painting required
- **Design options:** Choose from a variety of operating types and colors to create the right look for any home



## VINYL WINDOWS

Vinyl is a great alternative if you are looking for quality style at a lower price. Vinyl windows are prized for their low maintenance. For example, you can clean them with soap and water. Other benefits include:

- **Energy efficiency:** Thermally-efficient frames and standard Low-E glass make our vinyl windows excellent insulators
- **Budget-Friendly:** Vinyl is a great alternative to wood if you're looking for high-quality windows with a lower price point
- **Lasting color:** Select colors come integrated throughout the vinyl material, so there's no need for touchups as there would be with traditional paint applications
- **Durability:** Vinyl will not chip, peel, or crack

CHAPTER

# 4

## WINDOW STYLES

Find the right window to complement any style and design need  
with the convenient, curated JELD-WEN Style Collections.



# WHICH WINDOW STYLE IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Browse the [JELD-WEN Style Collections](#) to find Farmhouse, Coastal, Updated Traditional, and Simply Modern window styles that elevate the look of any home. Style collections may be blended to create a unique aesthetic for your home.



 [FARMHOUSE](#)



 [COASTAL](#)



 [UPDATED TRADITIONAL](#)



 [SIMPLY MODERN](#)

## TAKE THE QUIZ TO DEFINE YOUR STYLE

Identify your preferences with our [Style Quiz](#) or browse the [JELD-WEN Style Collections](#) to get inspired.



[Builders™ Vinyl](#)



[Flat Casing Vinyl](#)

## FARMHOUSE STYLE COLLECTION

[Modern Farmhouse](#) is a blend of old and new. Wood elements, fresh neutral colors, a mix of textures, and vintage-inspired pieces create a space that's refined, yet comfortable and welcoming. Both JELD-WEN® [Builders™ Vinyl](#) and [Flat Casing Vinyl](#) collections feature numerous windows that exude the Farmhouse style.

When looking for Farmhouse style windows, look for details such as:

- Tall, symmetrical shapes
- Large glass panels
- Contrasting frames

Browse the [Farmhouse](#) Style Collection for more inspiration.

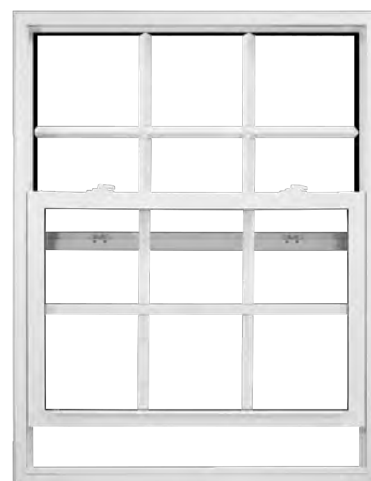




## COASTAL STYLE COLLECTION

[Coastal](#) Style evokes the sense of easy living. Bright, beachy colors, an abundance of natural light, and added warmth with natural wood accents help create a retreat from the everyday. To find Coastal-inspired windows, browse JELD-WEN's line of windows in the Premium Atlantic™ Vinyl and Sitrine® Clad Wood collections. Look for details such as:

- Large glass panels
- Ocean-inspired color palette
- Durable materials



[Premium Atlantic™ Vinyl](#)

Browse the [Coastal](#) Style Collection for more inspiration.





[Brickmould Vinyl](#)



[Siteline® Clad-Wood](#)



[Custom™ Wood](#)

## UPDATED TRADITIONAL STYLE COLLECTION

[Updated Traditional](#) style mixes classic design elements with spacious floor plans for a more open, relaxed feel. You can take this style in different directions by choosing lighter colors and classic details for a softly refined look or combining saturated colors with ornate details to add visual drama. JELD-WEN offers window collections with a myriad of options that complement traditional design. Browse through our [Brickmould Vinyl](#), [Siteline® Clad-Wood](#), and [Custom™ Wood](#) collections to elevate your interior and exterior style.

- Timeless design details
- Classic curved styles
- Architecturally correct craftsmanship

Browse the [Updated Traditional](#) Style Collection for more inspiration.



# SIMPLY MODERN STYLE COLLECTION

Clean lines, open spaces, and a touch of nature define [Simply Modern](#) style. By combining elements of minimalism and modernism, these spaces are bright, uncluttered, and welcoming. Often times, they are designed with sustainability and energy efficiency in mind. For windows that will help you achieve your ideal modern design, browse our [DF™ Hybrid Vinyl](#) and [EpicVue® Clad-Wood](#) window collections.

- Minimalist frames
- Expansive glass
- Clean, contemporary style

Browse the [Simply Modern](#) Style Collection for more inspiration.



[EpicVue® Clad-Wood](#)



[DF™ Hybrid Vinyl](#)

CHAPTER

# 5

## REPLACEMENT AND UPGRADE OPTIONS

Replacing outdated and inefficient windows  
to elevate the appearance and comfort of any home.





## REPLACEMENTS AND UPGRADES

JELD-WEN can help with window repair and replacement needs, offering a variety of options for every style and budget. We can also support architecturally correct designs in custom windows to make matching existing windows a breeze.

In addition to offering windows for remodeling projects, we have products designed specifically for [replacement](#) projects, such as [pocket-frame double-hungs](#), [pocket-frame casements](#), and [double-hung sash packs](#).

If you prefer wood, [Siteline® wood and clad-wood windows](#) offer elegant design, thoughtful engineering, and lasting performance. They're available with [AuraLast® pine](#), which resists termites, wood rot, and water damage.

Prefer vinyl? Check out [Premium™ Vinyl](#), with thermally-efficient frames and Low-E insulating glass, plus a wider frame and sash profile for an exceptional appearance.

View the full suite of JELD-WEN® products and get help with your project at [jeld-wen.com](http://jeld-wen.com).

FOR WINDOW INFORMATION AND  
INSPIRATION, VISIT [JELD-WEN.COM](http://JELD-WEN.COM)



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