

WINDOW STYLES

Window Illustrations courtesy of Andersen Windows



CASEMENT: Hinged along the side so opens and closes vertically with a crank or lever. Screens are mounted on the inside. Secured with latch lock. Pros: Easy to open and close. Easy to clean inside and out from inside. Excellent seal against air leakage. 100% air flow. Cons: People can bump into open windows that are placed near active exterior areas such as porches, decks, patios, and sidewalks. Screens must be removed to clean windows.



DOUBLE-HUNG: Two sashes or panes that slide up and down in stiles. Traditional styling. Pros: Rarely warp or sag. Simple to open and close. Little air leakage. Many are easy to clean. Cons: Hard to open and close if window is located behind furniture. Only 50% air flow. Some styles must be cleaned on the outside from the outside.



AWNING: Hinged similar to casement windows, but are hinged along the top so they swing out and up. Screens and storms are installed from the inside. Pros: Nearly 100% air flow — even during rain without letting in water. Can be placed high to provide natural light, ventilation, privacy and more wall space for furniture placement. Excellent seal against air leakage. Cons: People can bump into open window when placed on porches, decks, patios, and sidewalks. Sashes get dirty easier than other types because of their exposure.



SLIDING: Like a double-hung but laid on its side. Pros: Rarely warp or sag. Easy to open and close. Very little air leakage. Easy to wash. Minimum amount of framing so very little obstruction of view. Cons: Only 50% air flow. Lets rain in house easily. Hard to open and close if furniture is placed in front of window.



FIXED: Panes of glass mounted in frames that are installed directly into the wall. Cannot be opened/closed. Pros: Most weathertight available. Less expensive. Cons: Provides no ventilation. Cannot be used as emergency exit.



BAY: Three adjacent windows, two outside windows are angled. Center window is usually a fixed picture window. Pros: Add space and light to room. 180° view. Increased ventilation. Adds charm to home exterior and interior. Cons: Cleaning center unit may have to be done from the outside. Not as energy efficient as other types.



BOW: Similar to the bay window. Windows are gently curved rather than angled. Pros: Adds graceful lines to home's interior and exterior. Offers a 180-degree view. Allows more light into room. Increased ventilation. Cons: Not as energy efficient as other types of windows. Some cleaning will have to be done from the outside.



HOPPER: The reverse of awning windows. Bottom-hinged. Open inward and downward. Screens installed on outside. Pros: Almost 100% air flow. Easy to clean. Cons: Interfere with window treatments. Impossible to darken with shades when opened. Can cause traffic problems inside the house. Difficult to exit through in emergency.



GLASS BLOCK: Installed like concrete blocks, course by course. Blocks are two hollow glass half-blocks fused together. Used in bathroom shower areas and exterior for inflow of light and protection of privacy. Pros: When set in mortar they are airtight. Can add character to a room. Allows light to enter room while providing privacy. Cons: Cannot be opened. Cannot be seen through. Cannot be used to escape in case of an emergency.