



Extending the Life of Your JELD-WEN® Windows & Doors



Thank you for choosing JELD-WEN! Our windows and doors are known for their reliable quality and you want to keep them looking beautiful and operating smoothly for years to come. Since maintaining the beauty and performance of any windows and doors over time requires a little care and attention, we have provided the following tips on maintaining them. Please follow our recommendations so that you may extend the life of your investment and ensure the validity of your warranty coverage.

Visit www.jeld-wen.ca for a copy of the warranty on your new JELD-WEN windows or doors.

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Care and Maintenance

Vinyl Window & Sliding Door Products

What about cleaning and maintaining my vinyl surfaces?

The vinyl used in JELD-WEN windows and sliding doors is formulated to provide lasting beauty and the durability of a surface that resists cracking, flaking, peeling and blistering under normal use conditions. But even with the low-maintenance features of vinyl windows and doors, they require periodic tasks to maintain long life and smooth operation. If properly maintained, vinyl should remain vibrant and attractive for years to come.

How do I care for vinyl surfaces?

In areas where the vinyl on your windows or doors show light surface dirt or on an annual basis, use a solution of mild dish soap and water to clean vinyl surfaces with a soft cloth or sponge. Then, rinse thoroughly with clean water. You may opt to use a very soft bristled brush on the vinyl if water alone will not get the job done. For environments where your windows or doors are exposed to salt air or other corrosive elements, cleaning is recommended more often (monthly).

NOTE: To avoid damage, do not use metal tools or any abrasive materials or cleaners to clean vinyl surfaces. JELD-WEN does **NOT** recommend cleaning your windows with a garden hose.

To clean the tracks or sill areas of windows or doors, use a small paintbrush to sweep out the dirt. A vacuum cleaner with a soft brush attachment works well too.

DO NOT CLEAN ANY VINYL SURFACE WITH SOLVENTS.

CAUTION: There are a few important things to consider before you get started:

1. Be careful not to over clean or scrub the vinyl material.
2. Avoid using wire brushes, abrasives or cleaning tools that will mechanically abrade the surface.
3. Avoid using citrus-based cleaners, petroleum based products, gasoline, alcohol, bleach, degreaser or nail polish remover that can cause damage to your vinyl surfaces.
4. Always test all cleaning agents in a small, inconspicuous area before applying them to a large area.
5. Do not clean in direct sunlight.

Many JELD-WEN vinyl windows and sliding doors have a wood extension. Wood surfaces need to be primed within one week of delivery and painted as soon as possible.

What are weep holes and do they require maintenance (vinyl)?

Weep holes are the visible part of a water drainage system used to drain water out of a window or door. They allow water that gets in to drain back out to the exterior. On the interior of our vinyl windows or doors, you may see a small gap in the interior corner of the frame or a small slotted hole in the sill area. And on the exterior, you will notice a small circular or rectangular (slotted) hole as well. It is critical that weep holes be kept clear of dirt and debris. When water does not properly drain to the exterior, it may end up draining to the interior of your structure and can cause extensive damage.

To examine your weep holes for blockage, pour a small amount of water (approximately one cup) into the interior sill track so that water drains from the interior gap to the exterior. If water does not drain out to the exterior weep holes, then carefully insert a thin wire into the weep hole to clear any debris. Check both the interior and exterior weep holes of the window or door frame for blockage. In addition, if the water drains out dirty, flush the system by repeating the process of pouring small amounts of water into the sill until the water runs clear to the exterior of the building. If weep holes are blocked and you're unable to clear them, call an independent service provider that you can hire for professional assistance.

CAUTION: Some sashes (see definitions and window parts) have weep holes underneath the bottom rail. Do not insert wire into sash weep holes. This may damage the insulating glass seal and cause seal failure.



Entry & Garden Door Products

Your JELD-WEN entry and garden doors have a wood, vinyl clad or clad wood frame, and a Contours™ steel or Premium Fibreglass door panel that provides the quality and elegance you need in an upscale door. To maintain a vinyl clad door frame, refer to the previous section.

How do I care for my Contours steel or Premium Fibreglass door panels?

Contours steel or Premium Fibreglass door panels require finishing. It is likely your contractor has finished the door for you, but periodic refinishing will be necessary. Finishes on doors may deteriorate due to exposure to the environment. In order to protect the door, we recommend the condition of your door finish be inspected at least once a year and refinished as needed. Avoid using dark finishes on exterior surfaces as the heat build-up could cause the door to warp. It is typical to expect to refinish the panel(s) every three to five years. More frequent refinishing may be necessary if the product has been exposed to harsher environmental conditions.

To ensure warranty coverage, it is necessary to verify that all door surfaces (exterior, interior and the four edges of the door panel) be painted. For staining information on fibreglass doors, visit resources at www.jeld-wen.ca.

To clean your door panel, use a mild soap and water solution, then rinse and dry thoroughly. For wood care of the wood frame material, refer to the following section.

Wood & Clad Wood Windows & Doors

Caring for your wood and clad wood windows and doors will save time and money. Proper maintenance requires periodic tasks to maintain long life, smooth operation, and warranty coverage. Regular inspections are the best way to keep your windows and doors in good condition.

EXTERIOR FINISH

How do I care for my exterior finish?

Exterior care includes proper finishing and maintenance of wood and cleaning and caring for clad wood surfaces. Annual inspections are sufficient for most areas; however, coastal areas require monthly inspections because of moisture and salt in the air.

WOOD

Wood is vulnerable to attack by fungus, ultraviolet light deterioration, expansion (from moisture), and shrinkage (from drying). Careful maintenance reduces wood splitting, warping, poor operation, fungal infestation, wood deterioration, and glass seal failure. For wood finishing instructions and other information, visit the Resources section on our website at www.jeld-wen.ca, or call us for your free copies of our documents “Fungal Infestation”, “Seal Failure” and “Finishing and Refinishing Wood Windows and Patio Doors”.

Protection

1. Paint unfinished wood surfaces immediately after installation as per our wood finishing guidelines.
2. Perform regular inspections, and repair when needed.

Repair

Wood shrinkage and expansion cause stress to finishes and may cause paint film to crack. Paint film cracks occur mostly at wood-to-wood joints, horizontal surfaces, and exposed end wood grain.

1. Clean and lightly sand crack or void, then apply paint.

NOTE: Make sure area is completely dry before applying paint.

Cleaning

1. Wash lightly with mild soap and water.
2. Rinse with water mist from spray bottle; dry thoroughly.
3. For stubborn residue, consider lightly sanding and refinishing, or contact a paint professional for recommendations.
4. For mildew cleaning, consult a paint professional.

ALUMINUM CLADDING

Aluminum cladding is a protective “shell” applied to the exterior surfaces of a wood window or door, and provides beauty in a variety of colours. The aluminum cladding finish offers durability and excellent resistance against scratches, cracking, blistering, and flaking under normal use conditions. When properly maintained, aluminum clad windows and doors will remain attractive for many years.

Colour Maintenance

Clad surfaces exposed to sunlight are subject to colour-fading due to ultraviolet radiation. If your cladding has faded, apply a coat of high quality, non-abrasive car wax to the entire surface. If this doesn't help, contact us or your local dealer for further options. Aluminum cladding does not require painting or finishing. However, we offer special paints with matching colours for touching up scratches. For more information, call us or your dealer.

General Cleaning

1. Rinse with water from bottom to top to bottom to prevent dirty run-down and streaking; if needed, use a very soft bristle brush while rinsing.
2. Air or wipe dry with a soft, lint-free, dry cloth.
3. Apply high quality, non-abrasive car wax to clad surface for a protective finish (follow wax manufacturer's instructions).

COPPER CLADDING

Copper cladding is a protective copper “shell” applied to the exterior surfaces of a wood window or door. Over time, the copper naturally oxidizes and acquires a rustic, aged look for which copper cladding is popular. Wear cotton gloves during installation or servicing to avoid fingerprints on copper surface.

Maintenance & Cleaning

To maintain this aged look, no maintenance is required except for occasional cleaning of surface debris with mild soap and water. For heavier cleaning, follow the same cleaning instructions for aluminum cladding. **Do not use any solvents or cleaners that contain salts or oxides.**

Oxidation Removal

If you prefer a shiny, non-oxidized copper appearance, try removing the oxidation with a baking soda/water solution depending on the severity of the oxidation. A non-abrasive paste cleaner may also work. Always test in an inconspicuous area first, and read the manufacturer’s label for instructions.

INTERIOR FINISH

How do I care for my interior finish?

With new energy-efficient modern homes, much of the interior moisture does not escape to the outdoors. Therefore, it is especially important to properly finish and maintain interior wood surfaces. For wood finishing instructions, visit the Resources section on our website at www.jeld-wen.ca, or call us for your free copy of “Finishing and Refinishing Wood Windows and Patio Doors”.



Protection

1. Paint or finish wood surfaces immediately after installation as per our wood finishing guidelines.
2. Regularly inspect and repair when needed.

Repair

Wood shrinkage and expansion can cause stress to paint or finish and may cause film to crack. Cracks occur mostly at wood-to-wood joints, horizontal surfaces, and exposed end wood grain.

1. Clean and lightly sand crack or void, then apply paint or finish.

NOTE: Make sure area is completely dry before applying paint or finish.

Cleaning

1. Wash lightly with mild soap and water.
2. Rinse and dry thoroughly.
3. To clean stubborn residue, consider lightly sanding away residue and refinishing, or contact a paint professional for advice on a cleaner that will work on painted or finished surfaces without causing damage.

WINDOW SASH & DOOR PANELS

How do I care for my window sash and door panels?

Maintain your window sash or door panel with annual (monthly for coastal areas) inspections. It is helpful to remove a removable sash for inspection, but it is not necessary to remove a door panel.

1. Inspect stiles and rails for damage (cracks or splits in painted or finished wood surfaces, dents or scratches to aluminum cladding, etc.).
2. Immediately repair scratches or cracks in painted or finished surfaces (if necessary, contact a paint professional for assistance).

NOTE: For scratches on aluminum clad surfaces, call us or your dealer for a paint touch-up kit. For damage other than scratches, call a service technician for assistance.

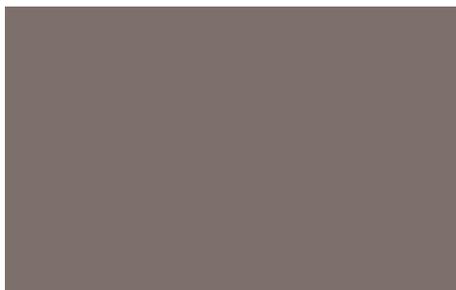
Check glass for cracks; if cracked, call your local glass dealer for replacement.

For insulating glass units,

1. Look for moisture or fogging between glass panes (most likely to occur on cold mornings).

NOTE: Moisture between the panes of glass is an indication of seal failure. Call us for recommendations if this is the case.

General Maintenance



Painting & Finishing

What does JELD-WEN recommend to paint or finish my wood or steel surfaces?

We recommend that you contact a paint professional in your area for finishing instructions. Finishing materials and application instructions can vary based upon geographical and other environmental factors. A paint professional is best educated to answer any questions you might have.

Glass Care

How do I care for the glass in my window or door?

The glass in your window or door should require no maintenance other than the periodic cleaning of the interior and exterior surfaces. Take care to avoid scratching the glass during cleaning. Also, avoid contact between the glass cleaning agent and all other parts of the window. JELD-WEN recommends a simple glass cleaning solution of 5ml baby shampoo to 4 litres of water, or 375ml vinegar to 4 litres of water, applied with a soft cloth or sponge and then rinsed thoroughly. Wipe dry with a separate soft, clean towel.

Tip: To remove oil and grease from glass, try baking soda or washing soda mixed with water. To remove labels, slowly peel from one corner. If the label tears or sticks, moisten with soapy water and try again. If needed, moisten label with water and cover with a plastic wrap over night. For paint removal from glass, soak dried paint drips with warm water and mild soap, then wipe with a damp cloth or sponge.

For stubborn stains on glass, commercial cleaning products may be necessary. Use small amounts and avoid spilling or dripping down the glass. Pay special attention to cleaning solution safety instructions, cautions, and disposal. Some persistent stains may warrant the use of higher strength cleaning solutions. Special care must be taken when using these types of cleaners. Carefully read the cleaning solution manufacturers label before using.

NOTE: Wipe away any water or cleaning solution from the window or door gaskets, sealants, or frames to avoid danger of deterioration in these areas. Avoid cleaning in direct sunlight or if the glass is hot.

The following should be avoided to stop excessive glass heat build up and non-warrantable, premature glass seal failures:

1. Solid objects placed immediately adjacent to the glass.
2. Modified glass surfaces due to paint, signs, etc.
3. Drape/Blinds or shutter placement/arrangement that does not allow sufficient air movement.
4. Heating ducts or other forms of heating in very close proximity to the insulating glass.

NOTE: Excessive levels of relative humidity and/or closed drapes/blinds or shutters may result in excessive formation of condensation/frost.

Hardware Parts

How do I care for the plastic hardware parts of my windows or doors?

Plastic parts are used for their high resistance to the elements. They do however require inspections because they can deteriorate over time from ultraviolet light, heat, cold, and chemical exposure. Inspect your plastic parts annually for cracks, discolouring, and to see if there are any loose screws. Damaged parts should be replaced and any loose screws should be tightened (not too tight). For cleaning, use a mild soap and water solution applied with a soft cloth. Then, rinse thoroughly and wipe dry.

How do I care for the metal parts of my windows or doors?

The metal parts used in production of your windows and doors were selected for both their aesthetic appeal and resistance to corrosion. Note, however, that the metal parts are corrosion resistant, not corrosion proof. The finish on metal parts can be affected if exposed to industrial chemicals, smog, coastal environments or standing water. Metal parts should be cleaned using the mildest cleaning method possible, such as a soft cloth with mild soap and water. All exposed hardware screws should be kept tightened. Lubricate metal parts at intervals relative to the amount of exposure to which they are subjected. In highly corrosive environments, it is recommended that you consult professionals in your area about the protective coatings that are available.

NOTE: A qualified technician should replace all damaged hardware. Failure to maintain the metal parts on windows and doors can cause the premature failure of the metal part, loss of finish to the metal, and poor operation of the product.

CAUTION: Avoid cleaning any hardware parts with the following: vinegar-based cleaners, citrus-based cleaners, paint removers, window cleaners, brick/siding washes, or any other industrial or abrasive cleaner. These substances damage protective hardware finishes. **Do not paint hardware.**

Weatherstrip

How do I maintain my weatherstrip?

Damaged weatherstrip can allow air and water leakage, as well as loss of energy. There are different types of weatherstrip used on our products, but all types should be inspected for tears or ripping, cracking or brittleness, discolouration, gumminess, or looseness. Loose weatherstrip should be pushed back into the kerf (a kerf is the groove that holds the weatherstrip) and damaged weatherstrip should be replaced.

For removing paint on weatherstrip, clean it off by wiping the weatherstrip with denatured alcohol. If this doesn't work, try lacquer thinner (test first in an inconspicuous area). Other types of solvents may dissolve the weatherstrip. Always heed warnings and instructions on the manufacturer's label for products used to remove the paint. If this doesn't work, replace the weatherstrip.

NOTE: Do not paint weatherstrip.

Exterior Siding Joint

How do I maintain the exterior seal of my window or door?

All seals between the windows and doors and the exterior siding of the structure should be checked at least once a year. Wood-to-wood joints should also be checked. Voids, cracks, or deteriorated areas should be repaired immediately using an appropriate "best" quality sealant. Please don't apply sealant to wet surfaces. Follow the sealant manufacturer's instructions for preparation, compatibility and application. Do not add sealant in areas where an installer or contractor did not originally seal. We recommend you seek professional advice from an installer or contractor if unsure.

NOTE: Failure to maintain the exterior seal between the window or door unit and exterior siding of the structure, or wood-to-wood joints, can cause deterioration of the window or door and/or water infiltration into the home.

Lubrication

How do I maintain smooth operation of my windows and doors?

After the hardware is cleaned, it must be lubricated to restore smooth operation and to ensure corrosion resistance. There are a number of commercially available products from which you can choose and we recommend you lubricate your products at least annually.

White or lithium grease: This type of lubricant is used for metal-to-metal applications and protects against corrosion, reduces friction and wear on moving parts, and is an excellent multi-purpose lubricant. We recommend using this lubricant for the gears on your casement or awning operators.

Spray silicone: Protects metal surfaces with corrosion-resistant ingredients to shield against moisture and other corrosive elements. It also holds firmly to most moving parts and is an excellent lubricant for weatherstrip that comes in contact with a moving surface. We recommend you use this lubricant on your single-hung weatherstrip and for the slide tracks of sliding windows or doors. First, spray the lubricant onto a soft cloth. For single-hung windows, open and tilt in your single-hung sash and wipe the cloth over the weatherstrip. For sliding window or door slide tracks, after cleaning the track, wipe the cloth over the bottom and top track rail.

CAUTION: Use caution with silicone. Apply only in small amounts; do not overspray; silicone may cause some hard plastic parts to become brittle. Misapplication to wood surfaces can cause problems with painting or refinishing.

Light oil (such as 3-in-1): Protects sliding or rotating joints. This is an excellent lubricant for hinge pivot points and jointed operator arms used on our casement and awning windows. We also recommend using this type of oil for "butt" hinges used on our swing-type doors.

Graphite spray: Used to lubricate door lock key ways.

CAUTION: Care must be used when applying any lubricant to avoid staining and/or damage to other window parts. Be sure to wipe off any excess lubricant.

Screen Care

How do I care for my screens?

Insect screens are intended to allow air and light in and keep insects out. Screens should be kept free of holes and be completely intact. Periodically inspect screens for cuts, scratches, or holes. Repair or replace damaged screens.

To lightly clean your screens, use a vacuum cleaner with a soft brush attachment. For a more thorough cleaning, remove the screen from the window or door (if possible). Place into a tub or shower if indoors, or on a lawn or other hard surface if outdoors (avoid exposure to dirt). Gently spray with water and brush lightly with a soft bristle brush until clean, and then replace when dry. For stubborn dirt, use a mixture of mild soap and water with the soft bristle brush, but be sure to rinse clean.

If you plan to hang window shades, we recommend you allow enough clearance between the screen and the blinds to remove the screen.

WARNING: Insect screens are not intended to stop children, other persons, or pets from falling out an open window. For safety screens and other security devices, contact your contractor or local building supply retailer.

Condensation

Why does condensation happen?

You are relaxing in your home on a cold winter evening, reading a new book or watching a favorite movie. Or you are in your kitchen on a summer morning, making a pot of coffee. You glance at your window and notice small beads of moisture forming on the glass. We know this phenomenon as condensation, and we want to tell you how it occurs, how it can be minimized, and what it means to you and your window or door.

Condensation, on the interior or exterior of a window or glass door, is a natural phenomenon. In almost all cases, condensation is caused by factors that have nothing to do with a defect in your window or door unit. The information that follows will give you a better understanding of condensation, how it affects your windows, and how you can potentially reduce its occurrences in your home.

What is the key to condensation?

The mixture of gases that constitutes air also affects condensation in our homes. All air, except completely dry air, holds water vapor. Water vapor in the air is referred to as humidity. For any given temperature and atmospheric pressure level, there is a maximum amount of water vapor the air can hold. At its extreme, when the air is holding the maximum amount of water vapor possible, the relative humidity is said to be 100%. Relative humidity is actually a ratio between how much water vapor is actually present and the maximum water vapor the current temperature and pressure can allow. It is expressed as a percentage. When the relative humidity is 100%, the air is considered saturated.

Warm air can hold more water vapor than cold air. If the air is 100% saturated and the temperature drops, the cold air releases the water vapor in the form of water droplets and moisture will form on the coolest surface at hand. This is known as condensation. The temperature at which condensation occurs is called the dew point.

Interior Condensation

How does interior condensation happen?

Those telltale drops that you see forming on the inside of your window are the result of interior condensation. Interior condensation occurs when the indoor humidity level is high and there is a cool enough surface present. As the outside temperature drops, the window/door glass or frame can become cool enough to begin cooling the indoor air. Since cooler air cannot hold as much water vapor as warmer air, the warm saturated air inside your home will reach the cold surface of your window or door and will release its excess water vapor in the form of condensation. The lower the outdoor temperature, the lower your indoor humidity level needs to be to reduce the potential for saturated air. Dry heat and proper ventilation in your home is the best safeguard against interior condensation.

Today's newer, energy efficient homes are generally more susceptible to interior window condensation than older homes. Part of the reason for this is that energy-efficient homes are very well sealed, with less ventilation than older homes with different designs. Since there is very little ventilation in the structure of these homes, it is important that exhaust fans be installed and put to proper use in these homes. Occasionally, people who are experiencing condensation problems will use dehumidifiers in their homes to lower the amount of relative humidity. Excess humidity in the air will condense in cooler areas of your home (i.e. your windows and doors). Maintaining a semi-constant, low relative humidity level in your home is an important factor in avoiding the occurrence of condensation.

What is causing condensation in my home?

Most cases of condensation are caused by factors that have nothing to do with a defect in your window or door unit.

Check your home for any of the following conditions and situations that may lead to interior condensation:

- Improperly vented dryers.
- Misplaced air vents.
- Evaporated moisture from recently installed building components (lumber, paint, drywall compound, concrete, etc).
- Moisture collected through walls, ceilings, or floors.
- Under-exhausted bathrooms or kitchens.
- Window coverings that may provide insulation between the interior and the window/door glass allowing the window to cool even more.
- Non-insulated glass use (although insulating glass can also be susceptible to condensation, it also offers improved protection).

What can I do to reduce interior condensation?

The most important step in reducing interior condensation is reducing the humidity inside your home.

Here are some steps to help reduce interior condensation:

- Make sure your dryer vents are clear and that they exhaust to the exterior of your home.
- Use bathroom vent fans to exhaust the moisture from showering and bathing. Be sure that bathroom vents exhaust to the exterior and not just into the attic or crawl space.
- If you have a hood for your kitchen range which exhausts to the outside, make sure to use it whenever you are producing steam while cooking. If the hood on your kitchen range does not exhaust to the exterior, open windows while cooking to allow excess moisture to escape.

- Open window coverings slightly.
- Assure that all windows and doors are properly sealed (caulked) around the outside.
- Slightly open your fireplace damper.
- If your heating system is adaptable, install a fresh air duct into the cold air return, or use an exhaust fan.
- Consider installing insulating glass window units if the windows are single-pane.
- Monitor your inside humidity level by measuring with a hygrometer. (Hygrometers can be purchased at most hardware or home center stores often as a part of a barometer, thermometer, hygrometer combination.)

Condensation can be temporary: Other causes

Condensation on your windows may be a temporary condition that will correct itself.

We have outlined three common situations that can cause temporary window condensation:

- **New Construction or Remodeling**
Building materials such as wood, plaster, concrete, and paint produce a great deal of moisture. As these materials “stabilize”, they release less moisture into the air.
- **Changing Seasons**
Your house absorbs moisture throughout each humid summer. The first few weeks of heating your home at the beginning of a cold season may cause temporary window condensation. This moisture will dry out after a few weeks, and you should have less condensation.
- **Quick Changes in Temperature**
Sharp drops in temperature can create temporary condensation during the heating season.

After you have gone through this thorough check of your home, if condensation persists, we strongly suggest you contact a qualified heating and air conditioning professional with the proper equipment to determine what action will minimize your humidity levels.

Exterior Condensation

What about exterior condensation?

The same basic situations that cause condensation on the interior portion of a window can also cause condensation on the exterior portion of a window or door unit.

The following conditions are usually the reason for exterior condensation on your window:

- High relative humidity in outside air.
- Still air.
- Clear night sky.
- Well insulated glazings.
- Outdoor shrubbery next to windows.

When exposed to the above-mentioned conditions, the exterior surface of the glass will cool, causing the glass temperature to fall below the dew point of the ambient air. When this occurs, moisture from the air will condense on the glass surface. Only when the glass temperature rises above the dew point will the condensation evaporate back into the air.

Can I do anything to stop exterior condensation?

Little to nothing can be done to guard against exterior condensation. Consider leaving draperies open to allow as much heat transfer as possible (or closed in the case of heat loss caused by air conditioning). Shrubby immediately adjacent to the glass can increase the local humidity and may need to be trimmed back or moved.

What if I have condensation between two panes of glass?

Condensation between two panes of insulating glass can indicate a problem with the insulating seal. Seal failure can be caused by many factors, but ultimately, the glass or sash should be replaced to correct the problem. To verify condensation is between the two panes, clean the interior and exterior of the glass and then re-examine the unit.

NOTE: Take caution to reduce condensation. If left unchecked, it can cause damage to window and door areas in the home that can be costly to repair.

Miscellaneous Care & Maintenance

Are gutters and building overhangs a good idea?

Gutters and overhangs protect windows and doors from excess water exposure. We recommend that you clean gutters of debris at least once a year.

Is it all right to put air conditioning units in a window frame?

We don't recommend this practice. Our window units are not designed to carry additional loads such as air conditioners, exhaust fans, people regularly crawling in and out of a window, or other scenarios of this sort.

Glossary of Commonly Used Terms

For your reference, we have provided window/door types and definitions of common window terminology. This section will be helpful if you ever want to contact us with questions or simply want to sound like an expert to your friends.

ARGON

A colorless inert gas that is injected in the airspace of an insulating glass unit to improve energy efficiency.

AWNING WINDOW

A window hinged at the top, which opens out in an upward swing.

BAY WINDOW

A bay window is made up of three or more windows. The side or flanker units project out from the building in 30 or 45 degree angles. The center is parallel with the building wall and is made up of one or more windows.

BOW WINDOW

A series of four or more adjoining window units, commonly five in number, installed on a radius from the wall of the building.

BRICKMOULD

A form of exterior casing for windows and doors. It serves as a locator point for installation for the unit and provides a boundary for brick or other siding material on the face of the buildings.

CASEMENT WINDOW

A window unit in which the sash is hinged on the left or right side and usually opens with a crank-type handle. These windows allow maximum ventilation.

CASING

Trim around door and window openings. Interior casing covers the inside edges of the jambs and the rough opening between the window unit and the wall. Exterior casing is an alternative to brickmould.

CLADDING

A protective aluminum or vinyl shell on the exterior surfaces of wood windows and patio doors.

DEW POINT

The temperature at which condensation occurs.

DOUBLE HUNG WINDOW

A window unit featuring an upper and a lower sash that slide vertically past each other in a single frame. Many double hung windows feature sash that tilt in for convenient cleaning.

ENTRY DOOR

A door that serves as the main entrance of a structure; may be single or paired.

FIXED

Refers to a window or door that is non-venting or inoperable.

FRAME

The outer components of a window or door unit; side jambs, head jamb and sill (bottom jamb).

FRENCH DOOR

Exterior or interior, hinged from side jambs, enabling both to swing open or one to remain fixed.

GARDEN DOOR

Featuring two slabs mounted in a single frame, with one operable and one fixed door.

GEOMETRIC WINDOW

Specialty windows of various shapes including: rectangles, triangles, trapezoids, octagons, pentagons, half-rounds, full rounds and ellipses.

GLAZING

The insertion of glass into a window sash or door panel. The purpose of glazing is to provide effective weather sealing, prevent glass-to-metal contact and minimize glass breakage from mechanical or thermal stress.

HANDING

The direction in which a door or casement window opens. To check the handing of a door or window, determine which side the unit is hinged on when viewed from the outside.

HEAD

The main horizontal member forming the top of a window or door frame.

IGU GRILLES

Insulating Glass Unit (IGU) Grilles are an aesthetic feature that provide a luxury appearance through various design patterns placed within the glass.

INSULATING GLASS

Glazing with an enclosed air space between two or more panes of glass.

JAMB

The top and two sides of a door panel or window frame that contacts the door or sash.

JAMB EXTENSION

A component that extends the depth of a window or door frame to adapt to a thicker wall.

KERF

The groove that holds the weatherstrip.

KICKPLATE

This is a protective plate applied to the lower rail of a door or patio door to prevent damage from daily wear.

LEVEL

A condition that exists when a surface is exactly horizontal.

LITES (LIGHTS)

A window; a pane of glass within a window, often simulated by adding grilles or simulated divided lites.

LOW E GLASS

This type of insulating glass significantly blocks harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays and the sun's infrared heat, so homes stay cooler in the summer and interior furnishings fade less. In the winter, it helps keep homes warmer and reduces condensation.

MOULDING

Decorative trim placed around the perimeter of a door or window frame.

MULLION

A wood or metal part used to structurally join two window or door units.

NAILING FLANGE

A metal or plastic fin used to secure windows or doors to an opening.

PANEL

An assembly comprised of stiles (vertical pieces), rails (horizontal pieces), and the door's glass or other wood or metal surface. A panel may be operable (the movable assembly), or fixed (fixed into the frame and does not move).

PICTURE WINDOW

A non-operating window unit. The term "picture window" usually implies a large fixed or stationary unit.

PLUMB

A condition that exists when a surface is exactly vertical.

RAILS

The cross or horizontal members of the framework of a sash, door or other panel assembly.

ROUGH OPENING

The opening in the wall frame that the window or door fits into. Usually the rough opening must be sized 1/2" larger than the frame in both width and height.

SASH

A single assembly of stiles and rails in a frame for holding glass.

SIDELITE

A fixed, often narrow glass window next to a door opening.

SILL

The horizontal frame member at the bottom of a window or door assembly.

SIMULATED DIVIDED LITES (SDL'S)

Permanently adhered dividers that are placed on the interior and exterior of the insulating glass unit to replicate traditional window grilles (muntins).

SINGLE HUNG WINDOW

A window unit composed of two sashes, one stationary upper sash, and one operable lower sash which moves vertically up or down in the frame.

SLAB

The functioning portion of the door system. A slab may be flat or embossed and may contain an insert.

SLIDER WINDOW

A window unit in which one sash moves (glides) horizontally past a stationary sash on a groove or track.

SLIDING PATIO DOOR

A door that opens by one panel gliding horizontally past a stationary panel along a track.

SQUARE

A condition that exists when two surfaces are perpendicular (90° angle).

STILES

The upright or vertical outside pieces of the framework of a sash, door or other panel assembly.

SWEEP

This is the weatherstrip attached to the bottom of a door.

TRANSOM

A stationary window above a window or door.

TERRACE DOOR

Exterior doors that feature one stationary panel, one centre hinged in-swing door and a sliding exterior screen.

WEATHERSTRIP

Material or device for sealing openings, gaps or cracks of venting, window and door units.

WEEP HOLE

The visible part of a water drainage system used to drain water out of a window or door product.



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