

How To Make Your Home More Beautiful,  
Energy Efficient and Safer with  
**Quality Replacement  
Windows & Doors**



**Renewal**  
by Andersen®

WINDOW REPLACEMENT



an Andersen Company

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# 10 SIGNS

## IT'S TIME TO REPLACE YOUR WINDOWS

Trying to determine if your windows need to be replaced? Use the following telltale signs and tests to decide if now is the time to upgrade your windows.

### 1. WINDOWS USE SINGLE-PANE GLASS.

Even a basic, double-paned wood or vinyl window can reduce your home's energy usage by up to 24% during the winter and by up to 18% during the summer, compared to single-pane models. Add energy-saving technologies such as gas fills and Low-E glass, and you could save even more!

### 2. WINDOWS FREEZE OPEN OR SHUT AND FEEL ICY OR COLD TO THE TOUCH.

If your old windows are excessively cold or you feel cool spots near windows, it's time to consider replacing them.

### 3. FROST BUILDS UP INSIDE A WINDOW.

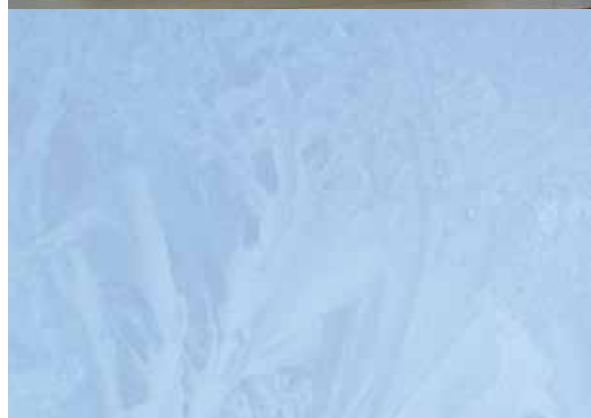
Frost forms on windows when they are exposed to cold air on the outside and moist air on the inside. This moisture can damage paint and wood and promote the growth of mold. Double-pane windows slow the transfer of cold that allows frost to form.

### 4. EXTERIOR NOISE IS BEING TRANSMITTED INTO YOUR HOME.

Quality double-paned windows substantially reduce exterior noise pollution, particularly in busy urban areas.

### 5. INTERIOR FURNITURE, CARPET, WINDOW TREATMENTS AND/OR ARTWORK ARE FADING.

Ultraviolet rays will cause gradual fading of interior furnishings. Such as floors, carpets, upholstery and window treatments. New glass technology, such as SmartSun™ glass from Renewal by Andersen®, blocks nearly all of these harmful rays.





## 6. YOU'RE STILL USING STORM WINDOWS.

The high efficiency of modern windows eliminates the time-consuming hassle of installing and removing unsightly storm windows each year. Storm windows that are difficult to open can be a safety threat.

## 7. WINDOWS LEAK WATER OR LET IN TOO MUCH AIR.

Inefficient windows not only allow air leaks, which result in higher energy costs, but they can also allow water to penetrate inside and outside the wall. This is a leading cause of mold and mildew growth in homes.

## 8. WINDOWS ARE DIFFICULT TO OPERATE.

Windows that do not open and close easily and do not lock properly are not only inconvenient, but they also pose a threat to your safety from fire and intruders.

## 9. WINDOWS ARE DIFFICULT TO CLEAN.

Forget stepping over landscaping and climbing on ladders to clean windows. Tilt-in sashes have made today's windows easy to clean from inside.

## 10. WINDOWS ARE FALLING APART, ROTTING, OR THE PAINT ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE WINDOW IS PEELING.

Rot and deterioration are signs that windows should be replaced immediately. To eliminate the high maintenance associated with wood windows, choose a low-maintenance composite such as Fibrex® by Renewal by Andersen windows. This advanced material never needs to be painted, will not rot, flake, peel, blister or fade.



# ADD VALUE TO YOUR HOME WITH NEW WINDOWS

Numerous industry experts conduct routine surveys of construction and real estate professionals to evaluate the percentage of remodeling costs that are recouped upon sale of a home. **These surveys repeatedly indicate that window replacement offers excellent return on investment.**



Here are some of the reasons quality replacement windows offer such **great returns** for your investment.

**SUPERIOR EFFICIENCY.** Energy-efficient windows not only increase your home's resale value, but they also reduce your utility bills. Depending on where you live, a good replacement window can **cut your monthly energy bills by 25%**, and that doesn't figure in inflation or energy tax credits. If your monthly energy bill is \$150, this calculates to an annual savings of \$450 or \$4,500 over 10 years!

**BEAUTIFUL APPEARANCE.** With a variety of styles, colors and hardware to choose from, beautiful new replacement windows can be used to **add a great deal of aesthetic** appeal to your home. You will also enjoy greater clarity and more natural light with innovative glass options.

**LOW MAINTENANCE.** Cutting-edge frame materials like high-performance Fibrex® composite require little maintenance and are **easy to clean**. Vinyl and composite materials also **eliminate the rotting, deterioration and cracking** that plague wood windows, making them **easy to open and close**.

**PROTECTION.** Quality windows can **protect you and your belongings** against severe weather and insects as well as prevent interior furniture and artwork from fading. They also **reduce transfer of outside noise** into your home and **increase security** against break-ins.



# WINDOW STYLES 101

Once you have determined that your windows need replacing, the next step is to choose the window style – or styles – that will **best enhance** your home. By selecting styles that complement your home's architecture and maximize its strengths, you can get the **biggest bang for your replacement window buck!**

## **DOUBLE-HUNG WINDOWS**

complement traditional architecture.

## **CASEMENTS AND SLIDERS**

are better suited to contemporary designs.

## **BAY AND BOW WINDOWS**

can maximize panoramic views, increase light and add a sense of spaciousness to a room.

## **A LARGE WINDOW WALL COMPOSED OF PICTURE WINDOWS AND GEOMETRIC SHAPES**

will bring in light and warmth and make the most of surrounding views.

## **AN OUTWARD-SWINGING CASEMENT WINDOW OR SLIDER**

can give the illusion of more space in locations where window access is limited, such as over a kitchen sink.

# THE TRUTH ABOUT HIGH-PERFORMANCE GLASS

Windows make up an estimated 10% of the surface area of your home, yet they can be the source of the majority **of heat lost or gained!** With fuel costs on the rise, **keeping energy bills down is crucial.** Here are some ways **high-performance glass windows** can help you save energy and money.



## 1. IMPROVED TEMPERATURE REGULATION

Most windows now feature insulated glass units that regulate temperatures better than the single-pane glass of the past do. **Insulated glass** has many benefits, including **reducing condensation in the panes and keeping your home cozy** throughout the seasons.

## 2. REDUCED ENERGY LOSS

Another way to combat energy loss is to add optional Low-E glass to your windows. Low-E (low emissivity) glass **provides year-round comfort** as well as **energy and cost savings!** The glass selectively filters solar radiation and reflects the heat back to its source, **keeping your home cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter. Superior to double paned windows.**

## 3. PROTECTION OF INTERIOR FURNITURE

Low-E glass can also reduce UV ray transmission by more than 80%, greatly reducing fading of your furniture, floor coverings and window treatments. The coating has almost no effect on the view through the glass, allowing clear visibility to the outside.





# A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO REPLACING YOUR WINDOWS

**The process of replacing the windows on your home and finding a reputable company to replace them can seem overwhelming. To help you out and to make the experience less confusing, we've created this step-by-step guide.**

1. Determine which windows in your home should be replaced. Do you want to replace four or five, or every window?
2. Decide on a budget so you (and the window companies you solicit bids from) understand your price point.
3. Research the various types of windows to determine which styles will best complement your home. Keep in mind that not all windows will be suited for our climate zone.
4. Educate yourself about the products and options available to you. Familiarize yourself with common window terms and features.
5. Make a list of questions you have about windows and the window installation process.
6. Contact at least three local replacement window companies to request a price quote for your project. Quotes should always be exact and not ball park estimates that could change on the day of installation. Be sure to ask any questions you may have and write down the answers for comparison purposes.
7. Visit the companies you are considering to analyze the products available in your price range. Get a feel for the company and its qualifications, reputation, and sales approach.
8. Ask questions about warranty coverage and service after the sale. If you have a future problem with your windows, how will it be handled? Does it cover installation? Is it straight from the factory?
9. Talk to past clients about their experiences with the company.
10. Based upon the information you have gathered and your impressions, select the company you would like to install your windows.



# THE IMPORTANCE OF FACTORY CERTIFIED WINDOW INSTALLATION

Each component of your home, from the roof to the walls to windows and doors – is designed to protect your home from the elements. With proper construction techniques using quality products, you will enjoy a sturdy and secure home that can stand the test of time. Proper installation is particularly important for windows and doors. No matter how well-constructed new windows and doors are, they will not be able to optimally perform or last as long as they should if not installed correctly.

When it comes to door and window replacement, the key to proper installation is keeping each unit level and plumb. An installer must attach a window or door securely to the framing of a home, add insulation, and install a barrier to water infiltration. No home is constructed with perfect measurements and houses do settle over time, leading to crooked openings. This means that adjustments must be made to ensure each window sits uniformly within the opening and that flashing and sealing can be properly installed. The same attention must be paid to home doors.

## DEPARTURES FROM FACTORY INSTALLATION TECHNIQUE CAN LEAD TO THE FOLLOWING PROBLEMS:

- Gaps that result in the loss of hot or cool air
- Sashes that stick
- Joints that crack under pressure
- Exposure to pests and the elements
- Water damage and rot



Ultimately, improper installation leads to serious damage to both windows and doors and the structure of your home.

RbA - Master Certified Installation understands the critical role that installation plays in window and door performance and your overall satisfaction. Our expert window installers will remove your existing windows and doors, carefully measure for proper fit, seal and insulate around each, and install exterior and interior trim to ensure a consistent, thorough installation process. Finally, our 22-point Zero Defect check ensures that each and every product is installed correctly and provides safe, weathertight protection for your family.

# CHOOSING THE RIGHT INSTALLATION COMPANY

Window replacement requires a master installer because improper techniques can lead to problems including air leakage and a reduction in energy efficiency. Leading window brands, including **Renewal by Andersen®** windows, include **warranty coverage which may be voided if windows are not installed by a certified contractor**. To get the most from your investment, you must hire a certified window replacement company that will install your windows correctly and provide you with a valid warranty. Follow these steps to select the right window installation company for your needs.

## 1. DO SOME RESEARCH.

Finding the right contractor can be tricky, especially if you haven't worked with one in the past. To avoid headaches, first **determine the brands of windows you want to install**. Many contractors specialize in the installation of one window brand in order to provide the most expert service. Decide if you are interested in composite, vinyl or wood windows, and how important energy efficiency is to you. Windows offer various levels of efficiency depending on their glass options and construction.

## 2. SOLICIT BIDS.

Next, contact a company that specializes in window replacement to request a bid for the products you are considering. This should be more than a flat number; **a complete bid should specify the materials included, the cost of labor, start and completion dates, and payment terms**. This will prevent future misunderstandings about what is and isn't included.

## 3. CHECK THE FINE PRINT.

Understand the coverage included with the window installation. The best companies offer a factory warranty on both the window and installation. Workmanship coverage is important because windows often fail due to poor installation, not problems with the windows themselves.

## 4. VERIFY REFERENCES.

Research the background of each window installer as well as the manufacturer you are considering. Choose an installer that specializes in windows, has a business history of at least five years, and is willing to show you pictures of projects they have done similar to yours. The company should be able to demonstrate up-to-date licensing and insurance, along with references from satisfied customers.



# TOP 10 REASONS TO REPLACE YOUR DOOR

Adding a new front door is a wonderful way to instantly **improve your home's appearance and greatly increase its resale value.** A recent report by a door manufacturer found that upgrading the front door of a \$190,000 home increased its perceived value by **nearly \$8,000!** Replacing your entry door can also solve the following **common problems.**

1. Warping that makes it **difficult to open and close** the door or promotes air flow and the entry of pests into your home from outside
2. **Leaking or gaps** in the door
3. **Sticking, binding, creaking** and/or the door is **not latching**, even after adjustments have been made
4. **Loose joints** on the door
5. Ineffective weatherstripping and threshold or other **failed sealing methods**
6. Light coming through the door and **letting air outside or inside**
7. **Poor insulation of the door**
8. **Air drafts** entering your home
9. Frames showing **signs of rot, decay, or mold**
10. **A finish that won't stay** on the exterior of the door



## HOW A NEW DOOR CAN HELP YOU **SAVE ENERGY & MONEY**

After years of abuse from the elements, the entry door of your home will eventually reach the end of its lifespan. You may have already noticed that a wood door has warped over time, or that your door no longer blocks cold drafts and warm air like it once did. While you can attempt to repair these problems, it can be nearly impossible to fix a door that has changed shape or a door frame that has shifted due to years of expansion and contraction. The best long-term solution for energy savings is door replacement.

Like energy-efficient windows, a well-constructed doorway creates a secure, sealed entry to your home that will save money on heating and cooling bills. Using the latest materials, insulation and weatherstripping technology, quality steel and fiberglass doors eliminate the exchange of cold and warm air, so you can enjoy up to five times more efficiency than wood doors! Steel doors are strong and resistant to warping, while fiberglass doors combine the strength of steel with the look of wood. Here are additional benefits of a quality replacement door.

- **Insulation and improved thermal performance**
- **No moisture, air and/or dust infiltration**
- **No warping, rotting or cracking when exposed to the elements**
- **Protection from intruders**
- **Increased home value**



In addition to the savings you'll see on your energy bills, Remodeling Magazine reports that **nearly all the cost of an entry door can be recovered** upon resale!





# WHAT YOUR DOOR COLOR SAYS ABOUT YOU

Like your clothes, car and handbag, the color you choose for your front entry door says a lot about who you are “on the inside.” Entry door colors have held significance since ancient times, when the Chinese considered red the best feng shui color for the main door because it attracted positive energy. Read on to find out what your door color says about your personality.

**RED.** In colonial America, a red front door signified a home that was a safe haven for weary travelers. Today, a red front door is widely regarded as welcoming. If you have chosen a red front door, you are **energetic, outgoing and hospitable.**

**WHITE.** White traditionally represents neutrality and purity, which means you are likely a **calm peacemaker who gravitates toward a clean, orderly environment.**

**BLACK.** Buttoned-down black is traditionally linked to authority and strength. If you choose black, you are **strong-willed, sophisticated and reliable.** Your friends turn to you for advice on style and finances.

**GRAY.** Gray symbolizes knowledge and dignity, yet also bears sophistication. You are a **dependable, conservative personality** who doesn't mind taking chances occasionally.

**PINK.** Often associated with youth and lightheartedness, the homeowner who chooses a pink door is likely a romantic with a **fun, cheerful personality.**

**MULTICOLOR.** If you have chosen a multi-colored door, you are **eclectic, creative and happy.**

**CLEAR GLASS.** You are a forward-thinking modernist with nothing to hide. Your personality is **friendly and fun.**