

Top three reasons homeowners replace windows

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What are the top three reasons so many homeowners are replacing old windows and doors?

When homeowners visit a window showroom, the conversation almost always revolves around at least one of the following issues:

1. Energy efficiency. Many homeowners are fed up with how poorly their existing windows and doors seal and how high their electric bills are. Many are unaware of the advancements in glass technology over the past

10 years. We have glass products, like insulated low e, that can reduce air-conditioning bills up to 30 percent. Add tighter seals and all vinyl frames and the savings can add up.

2. Hurricane protection and/or insurance issues. Many homeowners are concerned that their home and personal property could be destroyed in the event of a hurricane. History has proven that windows and doors with impact-rated glass and frames will significantly reduce the probability of a building envelope failing and allowing high winds and hours of rain inside a home, to the point that Citizens Insurance is not renewing many policyholders unless they have upgraded their windows and doors to the new standard. Homeowners should only



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choose products that have the proper testing that is readily available online.

3. Security. With the economy still reeling and crime rates at all-time highs, homeowners are legitimately concerned about forced entry. When homeowners see a video of how the impact products are tested, a 2x4 shot out of an air cannon directly into the window three times, they quickly connect the dots on the benefits to home security. In addition, multi-point locks on swing doors have become affordable and very popular to beef up entry doors.

This expert recommends that homeowners visit a window and door provider's showroom. There are lots of options and price points, and the ability to touch and feel full-size displays will make the decision process a better one.

Bob Smith is the owner of Universal Window Solutions.