



# High Performance Windows

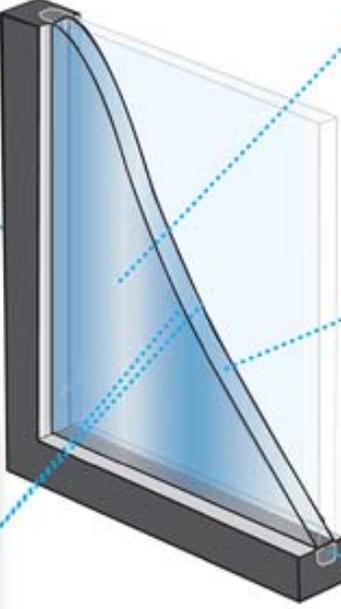
## City of Huntington Beach Green Building Tips

**WHAT MAKES A WINDOW ENERGY EFFICIENT?**  CHANGE FOR THE BETTER WITH ENERGY STAR

Today, manufacturers use an array of **advanced technologies** to make ENERGY STAR-qualified windows.

**IMPROVED FRAME MATERIALS**  
Wood composites, vinyl, and fiberglass frames reduce heat transfer and help insulate better.

**LOW-E GLASS**  
Special coatings reflect infrared light, keeping heat inside in winter and outside in summer. They also reflect damaging ultraviolet light, which helps protect interior furnishings from fading.



**MULTIPLE PANES**  
Two panes of glass, with an air or gas-filled space in the middle, insulate much better than a single pane of glass. Some ENERGY STAR-qualified windows include three or more panes for even greater energy efficiency, increased impact resistance, and sound insulation.

**GAS FILLS**  
Some energy-efficient windows have argon, krypton, or other gases between the panes. These odorless, colorless, non-toxic gases insulate better than regular air.

**WARM EDGE SPACERS**  
A spacer keeps a window's glass panes the correct distance apart. Today's warm edge spacers—made of steel, foam, fiberglass, or vinyl—reduce heat flow and prevent condensation.

**Energy-efficient windows are built to keep heat in during the winter and out during the summer, thus regulating the internal temperature of your home and lowering your heating and cooling costs. High performance windows are specialized for specific environments, so it is important to be aware of which window properties are desirable given the climate of your area. Characteristics such as U-factor, Solar Heat Gain Coefficient, Visible Transmittance, and Light-to-Solar Gain all play important roles in determining the effectiveness of a window. Look for the Energy Star™ logo when purchasing materials to remodel an existing home or build a new one.**

Information derived from US Department of Energy  
<http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/>  
<http://www.energystar.gov>



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Products bearing the Energy Star logo have been certified as meeting stringent energy efficiency guidelines established by the US Department of Energy, EPA, and National Fenestration Rating Council.