# Windows





Thanks to increased insulation values and high-performance features, energyefficient windows can offer a wide range of benefits to New York homeowners.

# • Cooling and Heating Season Savings

Low-E coatings, gas-fills, and insulating spacers and frames can significantly reduce winter heat loss and summer heat gain.

#### • **Improved Daylight and View** New glazings with low-solar-gain low-E coatings can reduce solar heat gain significantly with a minimal loss of visible light (compared to older tints and films).

Improved Comfort

In summer and winter, occupant comfort is increased; window temperatures are more moderate and there are fewer cold drafts. Discomfort from strong summer sunlight is reduced.

#### Reduced Condensation

Frame and glazing materials that resist heat conduction do not become cold and this results in less condensation.

### Reduced Fading

Coatings on glass or plastic films within the window assembly can significantly reduce the ultraviolet (UV) and other solar radiation which causes fading of fabrics and furnishings.





# Look for the ENERGY STAR,® rated for the northern climate, as well as



## efficient window properties on the National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) label.

Windows that qualify in Florida will not necessarily be energy

efficient in New York (though they may appear in the same stores). To get windows that deliver the best performance and energy efficiency for the New York climate, look for the ENERGY STAR

label (above) and also learn what the numbers mean on the NFRC label. Together, they will give you the best information for the most energy-efficient windows for your home. The NFRC label appears on all fenestration products which are part of the ENERGY STAR program.



# Here are the properties recommended for the Northern Climate.

### **U-Factor**

The rate of heat loss is indicated in terms of the U-factor (U-value) of a window assembly. The lower the U-factor, the better its insulating value. The recommended U-factor for New York is .35 or less.

### Visible

**Transmittance (VT)** The higher the VT, the more light is transmitted. Select windows with a higher VT (typically 0.2 to 0.8) to maximize daylight and view, but all numbers are

acceptable for New York.

### Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC)

The SHGC is the fraction of incident solar radiation admitted through the window. To reduce heating, select the highest SHGC you can find so that winter solar gains can offset a portion of the heating energy need.

#### Air Leakage (AL)

Heat loss and gain occur by infiltration through cracks in the window assembly. Select windows with an AL of .30 or less.

# Ask your builder about ENERGY STAR.



New York ENERGY STAR Labeled Homes 1-877-NY-SMART • www.GetEnergySmart.org