

What Homeowners Need To Know About Window Replacement Options...

The 3 most common window types are Wood, Fiberglass, or Vinyl. Each has its strengths and weaknesses. Here is a quick guide to each type:

Wood:

Wood windows are known for their beauty and classic look. There is no doubt that wood windows enhance curb appeal.

The drawbacks of wood windows are significant for the modern homeowner. They require a lot more maintenance and painting than other choices. Even with proper maintenance, they are less durable and more likely to become warped and difficult to operate.

Lastly, they are also typically the most expensive of any option.

Bottom line: Beautiful, but with significant drawbacks on maintenance, durability, and cost.

Fiberglass:

Fiberglass windows look good and typically require less maintenance than wood windows.

Fiberglass windows are typically billed as “strong.” This is true – fiberglass is a strong material. The only issue with the claim is this type of strength does not really add more value to the window or make it more durable.

Many times the higher costs of fiberglass windows are justified by saying it is stronger.

Bottom Line: Fiberglass is a quality choice, but too expensive for what you get.

Vinyl:

Vinyl has been the choice for the majority of homeowners for a long time – and for good reason. It is a durable material, but with a reasonable price tag.

It is also VERY LOW maintenance, maintains its appearance, and often comes with a Lifetime Warranty.

The only thing to avoid with vinyl windows is super cheap options. The quality of the vinyl and the manufacturer makes all the difference when it comes to vinyl windows! Get the facts about the contractor and manufacturer you are selecting for your vinyl windows... otherwise that “bargain” will turn into a nightmare when the windows fail in just a few years.

Bottom Line: Vinyl is a superior choice – low maintenance, reasonably priced, and beautiful. Just make sure you do your due diligence and make a quality choice.