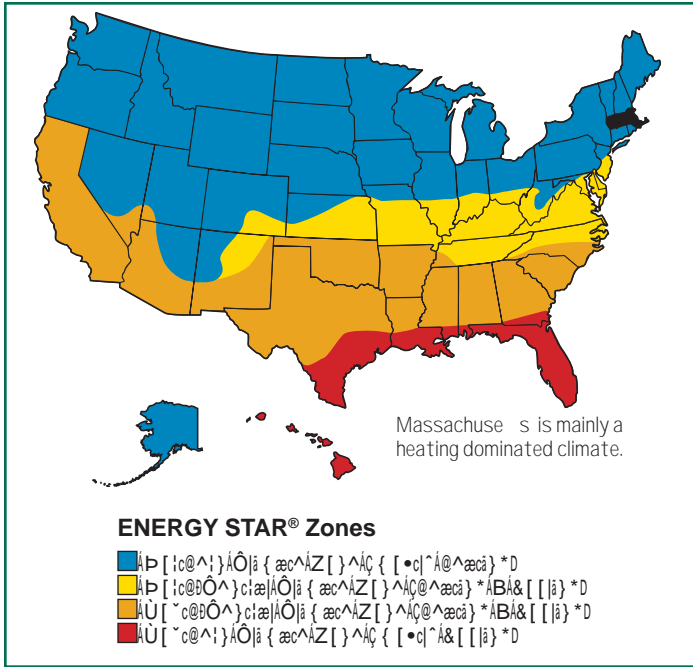




Fact Sheet: Selecting Energy Efficient Windows in Massachusetts

U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and the Massachusetts Green Building Council (MGBC)

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Benefits of High Performance Windows

Cooling and Heating Season Savings

High performance windows reduce energy costs by minimizing heat loss in winter and heat gain in summer, leading to lower utility bills.

Improved Daylight and View

Energy efficient windows provide clear, unobstructed views and abundant natural light, reducing the need for artificial lighting.

Improved Comfort

By reducing drafts and uneven temperatures, high performance windows improve indoor comfort and air quality.

Reduced Condensation

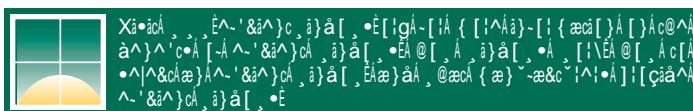
Energy efficient windows have multiple panes and gas fills that reduce condensation on the interior glass surface.

Reduced Fading

Low-emissivity (low-E) coatings on window panes help reduce ultraviolet radiation, protecting interior furnishings from fading.

Lower Mechanical Equipment Costs

Energy efficient windows reduce the load on heating and cooling systems, allowing for smaller, less expensive equipment.



1. Look for the ENERGY STAR®

The ENERGY STAR logo is a key indicator of energy efficiency. It is awarded to products that meet strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).



2. Look for Efficient Window Properties on the NFRC Label

The National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) label provides detailed performance metrics for windows. Key ratings include U-Factor, Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC), Visible Transmittance (VT), Air Leakage, and Condensation Resistance (CR).

ENERGY PERFORMANCE RATINGS	
U-Factor (U.S./IP)	Solar Heat Gain Coefficient
0.35	0.32
ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE RATINGS	
Visible Transmittance	Air Leakage (U.S./IP)
0.51	0.2
Condensation Resistance	
51	—

Manufacturer declares that these ratings conform to applicable NFRC procedures for determining window product performance. These ratings are determined on a basis of laboratory conditions and do not represent actual performance in the field. For more information on NFRC procedures for determining window product performance, visit www.nfrc.org.

3. Compare Annual Energy Costs for a Typical House

Comparing annual energy costs for a typical house helps homeowners understand the long-term value of energy efficient windows. Factors like climate, house size, and window quality significantly impact energy costs.



4. Customize Energy Use for a Specific House

Customizing energy use for a specific house involves analyzing its unique characteristics, such as orientation, insulation, and window placement, to optimize energy efficiency.

