Energy Code Compliance Guide to Window Selection in Texas

Code: 2006 International Energy Conservation Code

This guide is designed to help select windows, doors and skylights that will meet the requirements of the 2006 IECC for residential buildings as it relates to Texas. The IECC assigns the counties in the state of Texas into three climate zones. The requirements vary for each zone as detailed in the window selection requirements found on the back of this sheet. The requirements in the 2006 IECC are the same for windows used in new buildings, remodeling & additions to existing buildings, and as replacements of existing windows.



Step-by-Step Instructions

- **1.** Use the color-coded map or list of counties to locate the IECC climate zone in which construction is taking place.
- **2.** Use the "Table of IECC Requirements for Window Selection in Texas" (on the back of this sheet) to determine the window performance requirements associated with the climate zone.
- **3.** Construct the home with windows that have area weighted average U-factor and SHGC values less than or equal to the values for the climate zone and meet the code maximum air leakage requirements.

The 2006 International Energy Conservation Code

The 2006 IECC was adopted during the 2005 International Code Council (ICC) code cycle and is currently available to states for adoption. It is published by the International Code Council. For additional details or to obtain a copy of the 2006 IECC, contact the ICC by phone or visit their website at www.iccsafe.org.

The IECC is the national model energy standard certified by the U.S. Department of Energy pursuant to the Energy Policy Act (EPAct). EPAct requires that all states review and consider adopting the IECC as the state building energy code.

IECC Climate Zone 2				
Anderson	Cherokee	Harris	Limestone	Starr
Angelina	Colorado	Hays	Live Oak	Travis
Aransas	Comal	Hidalgo	Madison	Trinity
Atascosa	Coryell	Hill	Matagorda	Tyler
Austin	De Witt	Houston	Maverick	Uvalde
Bandera	Dimmit	Jackson	McLennan	Val Verde
Bastrop	Duval	Jasper	McMullen	Victoria
Bee	Edwards	Jefferson	Medina	Walker
Bell	Falls	Jim Hogg	Milam	Waller
Bexar	Fayette	Jim Wells	Montgomery	Washington
Bosque	Fort Bend	Karnes	Newton	Webb
Brazoria	Freestone	Kenedy	Nueces	Wharton
Brazos	Frio	Kinney	Orange	Willacy
Brooks	Galveston	Kleberg	Polk	Williamson
Burleson	Goliad	La Salle	Real	Wilson
Caldwell	Gonzales	Lavaca	Refugio	Zapata
Calhoun	Grimes	Lee	Robertson	Zavala
Cameron	Guadalupe	Leon	San Jacinto	
Chambers	Hardin	Liberty	San Patricio	

IECC Climate Zone 3					
Andrews	Dawson	Hopkins	Midland	Shelby	
Archer	Delta	Howard	Mills	Smith	
Baylor	Denton	Hudspeth	Mitchell	Somervell	
Blanco	Dickens	Hunt	Montague	Stephens	
Borden	Eastland	Irion	Morris	Sterling	
Bowie	Ector	Jack	Motley	Stonewall	
Brewster	El Paso	Jeff Davis	Nacogdoches	Sutton	
Brown	Ellis	Johnson	Navarro	Tarrant	
Burnet	Erath	Jones	Nolan	Taylor	
Callahan	Fannin	Kaufman	Palo Pinto	Terrell	
Camp	Fisher	Kendall	Panola	Terry	
Cass	Foard	Kent	Parker	Throckmorton	
Childress	Franklin	Kerr	Pecos	Titus	
Clay	Gaines	Kimble	Presidio	Tom Green	
Coke	Garza	King	Rains	Upshur	
Coleman	Gillespie	Knox	Reagan	Upton	
Collin	Glasscock	Lamar	Red River	Van Zandt	
Collingsworth	Grayson	Lampasas	Reeves	Ward	
Comanche	Gregg	Llano	Rockwall	Wheeler	
Concho	Hall	Loving	Runnels	Wichita	
Cooke	Hamilton	Lubbock	Rusk	Wilbarger	
Cottle	Hardeman	Lynn	Sabine	Winkler	
Crane	Harrison	Marion	San Augustine	Wise	
Crockett	Haskell	Martin	San Saba	Wood	
Crosby	Hemphill	Mason	Schleicher	Young	
Culberson	Henderson	McCulloch	Scurry		
Dallas	Hood	Menard	Shackelford		

IECC Climate Zone 4					
Armstrong	Dallam	Hansford	Moore	Roberts	
Bailey	Deaf Smith	Hartley	Ochiltree	Sherman	
Briscoe	Donley	Hockley	Oldham	Swisher	
Carson	Floyd	Hutchinsor	nParmer	Yoakum	
Castro	Gray	Lamb	Potter		
Cochran	Hale	Lipscomb	Randall		

Table of IECC Requirements for Window Selection in Texas

Simplified Prescriptive Paths for Compliance with the 2006 IECC for Windows in New Buildings and Remodeling & Replacement Windows

Package	Window & Door U-factor	Skylight U-Factor	Window, Door & Skylight SHGC
Climate Zone 2	0.75	0.75	0.40
Climate Zone 3	0.65	0.65	0.40
Climate Zone 4	0.40	0.60	NR

"NR" means no requirement is specified in this package.

NOTES:

- This table of window requirements is based upon the 2006 IECC and does not necessarily reflect the version of the IECC that may have been adopted by the state or any state-specific amendments. The IECC specifies additional requirements for other parts of the building envelope not listed here, such as insulation for walls and ceilings.
- 2. This table applies to residential buildings as defined in the IECC for compliance under the prescriptive approach. The 2006 IECC permits unlimited window area, so long as the prescriptive requirements are satisfied. In addition to new construction, this table of prescriptive requirements applies to all additions, alterations and replacement fenestration.
- 3. "Window" refers to glazed products in exterior walls of buildings, including glass doors and glass block, along with the accompanying sashes, frames, etc. Windows include all glazed products in the exterior of buildings that are not skylights. "Skylight" refers to glazed products installed at a slope of 15 degrees or more from vertical.
- 4. U-factor is a number, generally between 0.2 and 1.20, that indicates the rate of heat loss (or gain) through a window. A lower U-factor demonstrates a greater resistance to heat loss and gain, i.e., better insulating value of the window. As a result, a lower number produces greater winter comfort.
- 5. SHGC, or Solar Heat Gain Coefficient, is a number between 0 and 1 that indicates the fraction of radiation (heat) from the sun that is transmitted through the window; the lower the SHGC, the less the amount of solar radiation that is allowed to pass through the window and become unwanted additional heat in the summer. As a result, a lower number produces greater summer comfort.
- 6. Window and skylight U-factor and SHGC values are maximum acceptable levels. An area-weighted average of fenestration products shall be permitted to satisfy the U-factor and SHGC requirements. Up to 15 square feet of glazed fenestration is permitted to be exempt from the U-factor and SHGC requirements.
- 7. Window U-factor and SHGC must be determined from a National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) label on the product or from a limited table of product default values in the IECC.
- The code requires that non-site-built windows be labeled in a manner to show that they meet the IECC's air infiltration requirements; specifically, equal to or better than 0.30 cfm per square foot of window area (swinging doors below 0.50 cfm) as determined in accordance with NFRC 400, AAMA/WDMA 101/I.S.2, or AAMA/WDMA 101/I.S.2/NAFS.
- 9. The labeled product U-factor and SHGC should also be used in calculation procedures to properly size the home's HVAC equipment. The IECC requires the use of an appropriate computational procedure to size equipment. Properly sized equipment will operate more efficiently and effectively and will save money up front because builders and consumers can avoid paying extra for oversized equipment.



Look for the NFRC Label!

The 2 most important values to look for are: U-factor & Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC)



See the Efficient Windows Collaborative (EWC) web site for more information. www.efficientwindows.org

Limitations

This guide is an energy code compliance aid for window selection in Texas based upon the 2006 IECC and reflects the prescriptive values from Table 402.1.1 of that code. This guide only addresses window requirements and not the requirements applicable to the rest of the home. It does not provide a guarantee that a home meets the IECC, nor is it a guarantee that the home meets the energy code of the state. The guide has not been customized to reflect the version of the IECC or any statespecific amendments that Texas may adopt or has adopted. For additional details on Texas' energy code, please contact your local building guide official.