

More glazing options to suit your needs

The glass choices you make for your windows and doors can enhance not only the energy efficiency of your home, but other aspects that you may not have even thought of such as safety, security and acoustics.

SAFETY

Most homes built in Australia before the 1970s were built without safety glass. Today, there are minimum requirements for where safety glass must be used in a home. These requirements are specified by two Australian Standards: AS1288 – Glass in buildings: selection and installation; and AS2208 – Safety glazing: glass in buildings. These standards specify that all low level glazing (close to the floor), internal and external glass doors, showerscreens, balcony balustrades and overhead glazing must be Grade A Safety glass. However, safety is more than just meeting Australian Standards and we recommend using safety glass throughout your home.

Glass Choices

Toughened glass is produced by passing cut-to-size annealed float glass through a heat furnace. This process introduces stress into the glass and produces a glass 4–5 times stronger than annealed float glass. Toughened glass can still be broken. However if this does happen it shatters into small fragments, minimising the risk of injury caused by glass splinters.

Laminated glass is safety glass that has been manufactured by adhering two or more sheets of glass with a flexible interlayer. The interlayer is made from polyvinyl butyral (PVB) and prevents the glass from disintegrating when broken. The interlayer does not impact the transparency of the glass.

SECURITY

With the security of family being of the utmost importance to any homeowner, your selection of windows and doors, together with your choice of performance glass, can contribute to the overall security of your home and the safety of your loved ones.

Glass Choices

Viridian IntruderGuard looks like normal glass yet provides a barrier to forced entry that is 20 times harder to break through than standard float glass and it achieves this without making a building look like a fortress. IntruderGuard is specifically developed to offer a resilient and enduring barrier for vulnerable entry points across a broad range of applications. IntruderGuard is 7.52mm laminated glass and provides extra resistance to penetration because its interlayer is four times thicker than normal laminated glass.

ACOUSTICS

Windows and doors offer unrivalled access to natural light, views and a secure connection to the outdoor environment, but left unaddressed, they are typically the weakest link in the acoustic performance of a home. Our individual perception of noise is affected by both real and subjective factors, such as the type and repetition of noise, our mood, the time of day, background noise levels, its frequency and our expectations. Careful understanding of the noise problem and the selection of the right windows, doors and glass is critical in reducing the excessive entry of exterior noise.

Two fundamental areas are critical to the acoustic performance of a window. The first is how well a window is sealed to reduce noise travelling through air leaks, and secondly the reduction of transmission of noise 'through' the glass.

Glass Choices

Vlam Hush is a special laminated glass with a 3-ply interlayer that is designed to dampen sound in critical frequencies that can be irritating. Vlam Hush is a thinner and lighter glass offering the equivalent acoustic performance of heavier and thicker glass. It is also a Grade A safety glass and blocks 99% of UV light to help reduce fading of furnishings.