



North American
Specialty Laminations™
We've got you covered™

Windows Glossary of Terms

ACTIVE PANEL

Primary operating door panel

ALUMINUM SURROUND

The aluminum frame around a screen or energy panel

APRON

A piece of casing or decorative trim installed against the wall immediately beneath the stool of a window

ARGON GAS

A colorless and odorless gas used to fill the airspace between insulating Low E glass. The addition of argon greatly increases the insulating performance of the Low E glass

ASSEMBLY

Single units mulled together

ASTRAGAL

A moulding applied to one stile of a French Door, Sliding French Door or French Casement window unit which the other door panel or window sash strikes. Usually head and footbolt devices will be found on the astragal side

AUTHENTIC DIVIDED LITES (ADL)

Also known as True Divided Lite. Permanent stationary muntins and bars separate the glass in a window or door sash to give the sash two or more lites of glass

AWNING WINDOW UNIT

A combination of frame and sash, hinged at the top of the vertical jambs which allows the unit to pivot from the top with the sash opening to the exterior of the building

BALANCES

A block and tackle system used in the jamb liner of double hung or single hung units

BARS

A narrow rabbeted, horizontal or vertical sash or door member in an authentic divided lite unit, extending from rail to rail or stile to stile along the total length or width of the glass opening

BAY WINDOWS

A series of windows installed in a bay which is two flanker units and a center sash; a bay may be an arc or a polygon; when a bay is or closely approaches an arc, the window is termed a bow. See Bow Windows



North American
Specialty Laminations™
We've got you covered™

Windows Glossary of Terms

BLINDSTOP

The frame member on a double hung window located between the jambs and the casing. The blindstop forms a rabbet that supports either a storm sash or screen

BOW WINDOWS

A series of adjoining window units, installed on a radius

BRICK MOULD CASING BMC

An exterior moulding of window and door frames that abuts the exterior facing material of the structure. The casing serves as the boundary moulding for brick or other siding material and also helps to form a rabbet for screens and/or storm sash or a combination door

CAM LOCK

A lever operated lock which is used to prevent intrusion through the sash. Cam locks and keepers were installed on the jambs and stiles of older Casemasters and awnings

CAM PIVOT

A zinc pivot pin attached to the top and bottom sash stiles of double hung units (bottom sash on single hung units). Cam pivots rest on the clutch system of the balance tube assembly which allow opening and closing of the sash

CAPILLARY TUBES

A tube inserted into the insulating glass spacer that allows the inside and outside air pressure to equalize in higher elevations

CASEMENT WINDOW

A combination of frame, sash, weather-strip, concealed hinges and operating device assembled as a complete and properly operating unit. Casements have a flat sill and a sub-sill; screens and/or energy panels are optional. Operating casements have a crank handle for smooth operation

CLADDING

Clad products refer to wood window and door parts which are covered with an extruded permanent colored aluminum or vinyl jacket on the exterior side of the frame and sash

CLUTCH

The plastic and metal assembly on which the cam pivots of a double hung or single hung sash rest. The clutch is attached to the block and tackle system of the balance tubes which allow opening and closing of the sash.



North American
Specialty Laminations™
We've got you covered™

Windows Glossary of Terms

COTTAGE WINDOW

A window with unequal sash, top and bottom

DAYLIGHT OPENING (DLO)

The width and the height of the visible glass

DEPTH OF THE JAMB

The point where the exterior casing ends to the point where the interior casing begins. On clad units, the point from the backside of the nailing fin to the interior of the frame

DIRECT GLAZE

Refers to a window with no sash. The glass is glazed directly into the frame and is stationary

DIVIDED LITES

Division of light by the use of muntin bars

DOUBLE HUNG

Double hung windows have two movable sash which operate vertically. Double hung sash are held in an open position with the use of coil spring block and tackle balancing devices

DOUBLE HUNG TILT PAC

A specially designed, made-to-order, package which includes everything needed to replace double hung sash and hardware in an existing frame without changing the frame.

DRIP CAP

A formed aluminum or vinyl piece which is installed at the top of windows and doors that allows water to run off the casing of the unit instead of seeping around the casing and into the unit

ESCUTCHEON

An article or product of vinyl or metal-made by the process of extruding. Extrusions include vinyl sill and head jamb tracks, vinyl jamb liners and aluminum cladding used on the exterior of clad units

FINGER-JOINT

A series of fingers machined into the ends of two pieces of lumber to be joined together. They are then held firmly in position by adhesive. Finger jointed wood is very strong and has a lesser chance of warping than does a clear piece of wood the same length



North American
Specialty Laminations™
We've got you covered™

Windows Glossary of Terms

FLANKER

A term used to describe a side or lateral part of a window assembly. Also used to describe a 3-wide picture unit or bay. See two-wide entry

FLAT CASING

Flat, surfaced on four sides, pieces of pine of various widths and thicknesses for trimming door and window openings. The casing serves as the boundary moulding for siding material and also helps to form a rabbet for screens and/or storm sash or combination doors

FOOTBOLT

A locking rod device installed vertically in the stile or astragal of a door or screen which when activated secures the panel or screen in a stationary position

FRAME

The stationary portion of a window that encloses either the glass (direct glaze) or the sash (operating or stationary) and consists of the head jamb (top), sill (bottom), sub-sill, side jambs, jamb extension, brick mould or flat casing, and blindstop

FRAME EXPANDER

A flat aluminum extrusion used in conjunction with the 90 degree frame expander to provide a flat casing appearance for clad units

FRENCH CASEMENT

A casement styled unit with two sash in one frame providing a sense of openness unrestricted by a vertical mullion or stiles when both sash are open

FRENCH DOOR

French Doors are usually available in either inswinging or outswinging rectangular or arch top style choices

GLASS SIZE (GS)

The measurement of the actual glass, not the visible glass

GLAZING

Installing glass into windows and doors.

SINGLE GLASS: Glazing with a single piece of glass

INSULATING GLASS: two panes of glass separated by a spacer and hermetically sealed together with dead air space between the panel



North American
Specialty Laminations™
We've got you covered™

Windows Glossary of Terms

GLAZING BEAD

Strips of profiled wood or vinyl used to hold the glass in position in the sash. Wood glazing bead is attached to the rails and stiles of the sash using staples, small nails or vinyl barbs. A vinyl bead is held in place by extruded barbs positioned in the kerf. Aluminum caps may be used over the vinyl bead in some cases

GLAZING TAPE

A two sided adhesive tape placed between the glass rabbet and the glass and/or the glazing bead and glass of some unit types

GLIDER

Horizontal operating units which have one sash fixed while the other glides open and shut horizontally

GRILLES

Removable wood dividers made to simulate authentic divided lites. Grilles are often rectangular or diamond shaped and are easily removed for cleaning purposes

HANDING

A term used to describe the right or left hand operation of a window or door

HEAD JAMB

The top member of a frame

HEADBOLT

A locking rod device installed vertically in the stile or astragal of a door or screen which when activated secures the door in a stationary position

HISTORICAL

A term used to define a window or door product meeting the requirements of historical renovation standards

INACTIVE PANEL

Secondary operating door panel

INSULATING GLASS (IG)

See Glazing

INSWING FRENCH DOOR

A French door with panels that swing to the inside. One, two, three and four panel units available as stationary or operating

INSWINGING CASEMENT

A non-tilting version of a Tilt-Turn casement



North American
Specialty Laminations™
We've got you covered™

Windows Glossary of Terms

INTERIOR CASING

The casing trim used on the interior perimeter of the window or door. Generally supplied by others except in the case of round top casing which is factory supplied

JAMB EXTENSION

A jamb-like member, usually surfaced on four sides, which increases or extends the depth of the exterior or interior window or door frame; jamb extensions imply a larger depth than "wood jamb liners."

JAMB LINER

Thin strips of wood attached to the head jamb, side jambs and sill to accommodate various wall thicknesses. Common jamb depths are: 4 9/16" and 6 9/16"

KEYED CYLINDER LOCK

A lock providing an exterior entry and locking convenience

KRYPTON GAS

Inert gas known for its ability to provide insulating properties in a small air space

LAMINATED GLASS

Glass composed of two sheets of glass fused together with a sheet of transparent plastic between the sheets. When broken laminated glass will generally not leave the opening

LAMINATING

A method of gluing strips of thin clear wood to the lengthwise surfaces of finger jointed material to provide the appearance of clear stock

LEVER LOCK

A lever handle and lever arm operator available as an option on awning units

LOCKSET

A complete door lock system comprised of the lock mechanism together with knobs, keys, plates, strikes and other accessories

LOW E GLASS

Low E stands for low emissivity. The lower the emissivity the higher the percentage of long-wave radiation blocked thereby improving thermal performance. Low E glass is coated with a thin microscopic, virtually invisible, metal or metallic oxide layer. The primary function is to reduce the U-value by suppressing radiative heat flow. A secondary feature is the blocking of short wave radiation to impede heat gain. There are two basic types of Low E glass. The first, vacuum or sputter coated Low E, is referred to as soft-coat. The second is pyrolytic Low E, commonly referred to as hard-coat



North American
Specialty Laminations™
We've got you covered™

Windows Glossary of Terms

LOW E II GLASS

A high performance Low E glass, providing the best winter U-value and warmest center glass. It offers significant improvement in reducing solar heat gain coefficient values, providing customers one of the coolest summer glass temperatures of all Low E products. Additionally, ultraviolet light transmission is greatly reduced. The Low E II coated glass products are specifically designed for insulating glass units normally as a second surface coating

MASONRY OPENING

A brick, stone or block opening into which a window or door unit is installed including the outside casing

MULLING

The vertical member of a sash, window or door frame between openings in a multiple opening frame

SPACE MULL: Two or more units mullled together with a space left between the units. The jamb extension surrounds the entire unit

STUD POCKET: Two or more units mullled together with a space between the units. The jamb extension surrounds each unit separately, providing space for a support member between the units

MULLION

A method of gluing strips of thin clear wood to the lengthwise surfaces of finger jointed material to provide the appearance of clear stock

MULLION COVER

A clad cover for a mull

MULLION REINFORCEMENT

A mullion reinforcement is designed to be used to improve structural performance

MULTI-LOCK HARDWARE

An adjustable lock system used to ensure a tight seal of the sash frame components. It also provides a secure locking system



North American
Specialty Laminations™
We've got you covered™

Windows Glossary of Terms

MULTI-POINT LOCKING SYSTEM

Multiple point locking mechanisms installed on the operative panel(s)/ sash of window units

MUNTINS

A short "bar," horizontal or vertical, extending from a bar to a stile or rail or another bar

NAILING FIN

A factory installed vinyl strip that is inserted into a kerf in the frame of clad units. Nailing fin installation is the standard method used for installing clad units

NON-KEYED CYLINDER

A handle without a keyed cylinder. The door cannot be locked from the exterior

OBSCURE GLASS

Glass formed by running molten glass through special rollers. These rollers have a pattern on them causing the glass to become patterned and thus obscure

OPERATION

Plans and drawings always illustrate the window sash or door panels as if you are looking at it from the exterior. X means operating, O means stationary

OPERATOR

An operating sash, panel or unit

OSM

Outside Measurement

OUTSWING FRENCH DOOR

A French door with panels that swing to the outside. One, two, three, or four panel units available as stationary or operating

PART STOP

A strip of wood with weather-stripping attached which prevents air and water infiltration. Part stops are commonly found at the head jamb of a double hung unit.

PITCH

A term used to describe the angle of a roof. For example: A 4 -12 pitch indicates that the roof rises 4" vertically for each 12" horizontally



North American
Specialty Laminations™
We've got you covered™

Windows Glossary of Terms

PLINTH BLOCK

A decorative wood block placed between the vertical casing and the top casing of a unit to provide an elegant interior casing profile

POLE CRANK

An aluminum extension pole used to open or close roof windows or awnings which would be inaccessible because of their height

POLYGON

A term used to describe triangles, trapezoids, pentagons, hexagons and octagons

PRIME

The first coat of paint in an application that consists of two or more coats; also refers to the paint used for such an initial coat - primer

PULTRUSION

Lineal profiles manufactured by combining plastic resin and continuous glass fiber reinforcement. These thermally insulating and structural components are ideally suited for applications where strength, thermal stability and weather resistance are required, such as in patio door frames and commercial windows

PYROLYTIC LOW E GLASS (HARDCOAT)

Pyrolytic Low-E is designed to be used either in non-insulating applications such as energy panels that have exposed surfaces or for insulating glass applications. In some northern climatic situations where an application or customer requires increased solar heat gain, over Low E II performance, this is a desirable option. This increased solar heat gain which is desirable in winter may increase summer energy costs if the home is air conditioned. The pyrolytic coating is typically applied to the second surface, but can be applied to the third surface to provide increased solar heat gain

R-VALUE

The resistance a material has to heat flow. Higher numbers indicate greater insulating capabilities

RABBET

A groove along or near the edge of a piece of wood



North American
Specialty Laminations™
We've got you covered™

Windows Glossary of Terms

RADIUS

The length of an imaginary line from the center point of a circle to the arc or circumference of a circle

RAILS

The cross or horizontal members of the framework of a sash, door or other panel assembly

RELIEF KERF

Kerfs machined into the frame parts of a unit. Relief kerfs inhibit warping

RETRO-SIZING

Refers to units which are sized for replacement purposes

ROLLED ALUMINUM

A term used to describe aluminum profiles for screen and energy panel surrounds which are fabricated by the use of a roller or series of rollers to produce a desired profile. All other Marvin profiles are fashioned by the extrusion method

ROSE

A circular cover plate attached to the stile directly behind a knob or door handle. May be plain or have a decorative design embossed into the cover

ROTO-GEAR

A term used to describe the steel drive worm, gears and crank device used for opening awnings and casements

ROUGH OPENING

The opening in the wall where a window or door unit is to be installed. Openings are larger than the size of the unit to allow room for insulation and to shim the unit square

ROUND TOP

Generally a semicircle window which is mulled to the top of another window or door, thus forming the round top appearance. There are full round tops, separated round tops, ellipticals, transoms, inverted corners, ovals and Gothic heads, etc. Round tops can be used separately or combined with other units to create a seemingly endless selection

SASH

The operating and/or stationary portion of the window unit that is separate from the frame



North American
Specialty Laminations™
We've got you covered™

Windows Glossary of Terms

SASH LIMITER

An optional metal device which attaches to a casement sill and bottom rail which limits the sash to a specified opening

SASH LOCK

A locking device which holds a window shut, such as a lock at the check rails of a double hung unit. Larger units utilize two locks

SASH OPENING (SO)

The opening between wood frame members for both height and width (disregarding any jamb hardware tracks)

SASH WIDTH

Horizontal measurement across the face of a sash

SCREEN OM (OUTSIDE MEASUREMENT)

The width and the height of a screen including wood or metal surrounds

SCREENS

A close-mesh woven screen material of metal or fiberglass attached to an aluminum or wood surround. Screens inhibit entry of insects, yet permit light, air and vision. Most products utilize full screens. Half-screens are available for single hung units

SIDE JAMB

The side (vertical) member of a frame

SIDELITE

A stationary glass panel mullied to or installed next to a door

SILL

The operating and/or stationary portion of the window unit that is separate from the frame

SILL-HORN

The extension of the lip of a window sill to the outside edge of the casing



North American
Specialty Laminations™
We've got you covered™

Windows Glossary of Terms

SINGLE HUNG

A window very similar to a double hung window, except that the top sash is stationary or non-operable

SLIDING FRENCH DOOR

A sliding door utilizing French door style panels

SLOPE

The measure of the tilt of a line; rise over run

SNUBBER

An interlocking metal bracket attached at the center of the hinge side of a casement sash and frame. It pulls the sash tightly against the frame weather-strip to maximize performance

SPACER

Used to separate the two pieces of glass in an insulating glass panel

SQUARE FOOT

For measuring the area of a unit. RO width (in inches) x RO height (in inches) divided by 144 equals the area in square feet of a unit

STARBURST

A semi-elliptical area, the lower center is the point where the dividing spokes meet and radiate outward. May be constructed of glazed sash, removable grilles, ADL or SDL

STATIONARY

A non-operating sash, panel or unit

STILES

The upright or vertical perimeter pieces of a sash, panel or screen

STOOL

A horizontal trim member that laps the window sill above the apron and extends beyond the interior casing. See apron entry

STORM SASH

An assembly containing non-removable glass. The storm sash is removed during the summer and replaced with a screen



North American
Specialty Laminations™
We've got you covered™

Windows Glossary of Terms

SUB-SILL

The supplemental member of a frame used under most awning and casement units as an additional sill with the primary purpose being to hold multiple units together at the sill

SURROUND

An attractive, protective trim which is secured to an energy panel by an adhesive or vinyl barb to give the glass panel a safe finished edge. Also the aluminum framework for most standard screens

TEMPERED GLASS

Float glass panels heated and then cooled rapidly in a controlled environment. This process makes the glass several times stronger than regular glass. It also makes it safer because when broken it yields small pebble-like fragments

TEMPLATE

A pattern of a window unit from which dimensions and measurements can be determined. Round Tops require templates for replacement units

TRANSOM

A window above a window or door. Transoms can be either stationary or operating

U-FACTOR

A measure of total heat flow through a window or door barrier from room air to outside air. Lower numbers indicate greater insulating capabilities

UNIT

One single product such as a one wide casement

VINYL GLAZING BEAD

A vinyl extrusion used on clad units which serves the same purpose as a wood glazing bead for wood units

WEATHER-STRIPPING

A strip of resilient material designed to seal the sash and frame members in order to reduce air and water infiltration

WIRE GLASS

Glass with wire embedded into the glass when the glass is still in a molten state. This prevents the glass from falling out of the sash if it should break

XO

The letters OX or XO identify the operation of window or door units as viewed from the exterior. The letter O stands for stationary while the letter X stands for operating