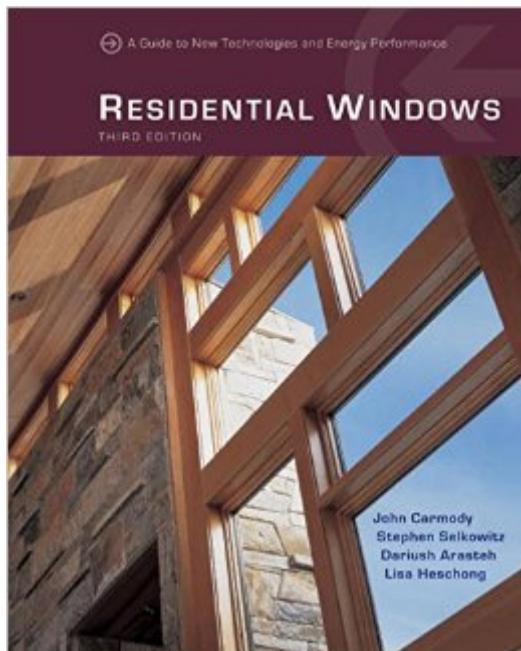


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# Residential Windows: A Guide To New Technologies And Energy Performance (Third Edition)



## **Synopsis**

The third edition of Residential Windows: A Guide to New Technologies and Energy Performance provides updated and expanded information on window properties and technologies, as well as new sections on such key topics as window installation, energy efficiency, and building codes. For this latest edition, all of the energy performance data have been revised, based on the latest simulation techniques and industry-accepted assumptions. Residential Windows provides an overview of new window products for consumers, designers, and builders, as well as regulators, standards developers, utilities, and the researchers, manufacturers, and suppliers in the window industry itself. It is an essential resource for anyone considering purchasing or installing new windows. 232 illustrations

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I used the first two editions of this book to educate myself about modern windows. This knowledge was used to design and build a passive solar house at 7300' in the San Juan Mountains of Colorado, where the winters are often severe. The design was successful since the heat has been left off for more than three years, yet the house stayed comfortable year round. Residential Windows is written at a semi-technical level that is ideal for builders, architects, and home owners. I have given several copies away (including this third edition) and recommended it without reservation to many others. All the issues pertaining to windowing are explained lucidly and are well illustrated. Other than a Consumers Union style review of named makes and models (which it scrupulously

avoids doing), you could hardly ask for more.

This is an absolutely outstanding resource for anyone who is looking to specify, sell, buy or install window or skylight products into residences. Up to date in the 3rd edition with the latest technology, including software packages and product information, Residential Windows is a Bible full of must know and must think about information. The book covers various frames, glazing options, specifications, design considerations, building code information, window properties, analysis tools and basic physics and technologies. You can pick up this book (and should) with almost no window knowledge and get smart enough to not be bamboozled by the slick window sales guy. Strongly recommend for any of our customers looking to replace windows, and anyone with interest in selling, spec'ing or installing. A modest investment in great information compared to the five figure investment in new windows. Get smart...

Not recommended. Having previously read "Window Systems for High-Performance Buildings" (covering commercial and institutional buildings) by most of the same authors, I assumed "Residential Windows" would continue the same detailed discussion and information applied to residential buildings. It does not. "Residential Windows" particularly lacks information about windows used for passive solar heat gain.

Windows cost a lot; studying this book will help you to avoid making a huge mistake, and pick the right kind for your climate, house design, and comfort needs. I learned a lot. For example, people tend to think of "temperature" as something you adjust by turning up the heat or the A/C. This book patiently and carefully explains the difference between thermal heat and radiant heat, and how glazing choices and frame choices both matter. You will see many diagrams illustrating exactly how different layers and coatings and spacers work. You will realize that if you live in the north, you probably don't want the low solar gain glass promoted by the 2009-2010 tax credit. First, you will lose much of the radiant heat you now enjoy on a bright winter day, and second, your windows will allow in significantly less light all year, making the dark days gloomier. After digesting all the details covered in the book, and then studying windows and their cross-sections in stores, you will appreciate that the windows sold by the really big companies right now are still a long way from being ideal. And if you, the buyer, know what to ask for, window producers will be motivated to improve what they offer, especially if you tell them you'll wait a year until the product improves, or that you'll keep looking for a company that is ahead of the curve. Given that we are still in the early

stages of a major upgrade in Energy Star guidelines, many of today's windows are going to look inadequate as early as 2012 and pathetic in 2015. It doesn't help that window companies make useful information very hard to find. Get informed!

This book is so packed with studies, reviews, and reports on glass and all the various properties that it almost makes me dislike it. Glass is supposed to be fun, right? Well, already I have put the knowledge to good use while discussing the properties of windows with my clients. It is a must for people serious about glazing or window installs. Jim Dewey owner, Gig Harbor Window Defoggers "We Make Life Good." [...]

Great book. good tables for reference. Lots of details explained. Worth the read. I would recommend this book plus Charlie Wing's book on Energy efficiency. The only problem you may run up against after reading this is that local building departments are not necessarily as physics savvy and may tell you to do stupid things, like put low-e coatings on south-facing glazing. The IRC is adopting new energy standards, which is great, but it's a white-washed approach without attention to detail. They want you to put high R-value low-e windows everywhere, which is not necessarily a good idea, since low-e coatings also limit your VT and SHGC. Better, in some cases, to reduce the SIZE of your window and let it be double-paned with no coatings (which is a much less expensive window), for the same R, SHGC, and VT net values, especially with South facing and west facing glazing where SHGC gains you a lot, especially in heating climates where your heating loads far outweigh cooling loads. After reading this and a few other books (charlie wing's and Daniel Chiras's book on passive solar design), I find that my conundrum is now having a broader and whole-systems knowledge of energy efficiency design that does not fit into the bureaucratic mold of city building codes. Hopefully they will catch up eventually. They are trying. In CA we have Title 24, which is a fair attempt but it's excessively complicated and not intelligent or comprehensive.

very good

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