



# Questions About Window Energy Performance? NFRC Has the Answers

The National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) rates the energy performance of windows, doors, and skylights. These ratings can be a valuable tool, much like the miles-per-gallon sticker on a new car, because they can help you to:

- Compare different products on an apples-to-apples basis.
- Verify that a product will perform as the manufacturer claims.
- Make an informed choice about an expensive product that will stay in your home for many years.

## A Source You Can Trust

NFRC ratings are fair, accurate, and credible because the rating system is independent – manufacturers have no say over how their products are rated. That’s why the federal government and energy codes in many states and local jurisdictions encourage homeowners (and builders and contractors too) to purchase only NFRC-rated products.

## A Valuable Online Resource

One way to find NFRC-rated products is to look for the NFRC label (see back for more information).

Since you can’t always see the label on products sold in stores, NFRC also makes its ratings available on its Web site at [www.nfrc.org/windowshop](http://www.nfrc.org/windowshop). There you can:

- **Search the NFRC database** to find ratings for the products you’re thinking about buying.
- **Find answers** to the most frequently asked questions about NFRC.
- **Learn more about NFRC** and how its rating system works.
- **Send your questions** about window energy performance to experts at NFRC.
- **Connect to other Web sites** that can help in your search for the right window.

For answers to your questions,  
visit [www.nfrc.org/windowshop](http://www.nfrc.org/windowshop)



# Look for – and Buy – NFRC-Labeled Products

Only NFRC labels – with the NFRC logo – provide credible ratings for a number of energy performance characteristics.

**NFRC's Energy Performance Rating Label**

	<p style="font-size: 24pt; margin: 0;"><b>B</b> <b>World's Best Window Co.</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">Millennium 2000+ Vinyl-Clad Wood Frame Double Glazing • Argon Fill • Low E Product Type: <b>Vertical Slider</b></p>
<b>ENERGY PERFORMANCE RATINGS</b>	
U-Factor (U.S./I-P) <span style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">D 0.30</span>	Solar Heat Gain Coefficient <span style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">E 0.30</span>
<b>ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE RATINGS</b>	
Visible Transmittance <span style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">F 0.51</span>	Air Leakage (U.S./I-P) <span style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">G 0.2</span>
Manufacturer stipulates that these ratings conform to applicable NFRC procedures for determining whole product performance. NFRC ratings are determined for a fixed set of environmental conditions and a specific product size. NFRC does not recommend any product and does not warrant the suitability of any product for any specific use. Consult manufacturer's literature for other product performance information. <a href="http://www.nfrc.org">www.nfrc.org</a>	

- A This mark indicates that NFRC has rated and certified the energy performance of the product to perform as stipulated by the manufacturer.
- B This area is reserved for the name of the manufacturer, the product name, and a description of the product (type of frame, number of glazing layers, etc.).

- C This space lists sources for more information, and provides details about NFRC testing procedures.
- D **U-Factor** measures how well a product prevents heat from escaping a home or building. U-Factor ratings generally fall between 0.20 and 1.20. The lower the U-Factor, the better a product is at keeping heat in. U-Factor is particularly important in northern climates.
- E **Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC)** measures how well a product blocks heat from the sun. SHGC is expressed as a number between 0 and 1. The lower the SHGC, the better a product is at blocking unwanted heat gain. SHGC is particularly important in southern climates.
- F **Visible Transmittance (VT)** measures how much light comes through a product. VT is expressed as a number between 0 and 1. The higher the VT, the more light that comes through the product.
- G **Air Leakage\* (AL)** measures how much outside air comes into a home or building through a product. AL rates typically fall between 0.1 and 0.3. The lower the AL, the better a product is at keeping air out.

**\*This rating is optional and manufacturers can choose not to include it.**

*The color, frame, price, warranty, and a dozen other things are up to you.  
But when it comes to energy performance, NFRC can be a powerful partner as you search for  
the perfect window, door, or skylight for your home.*

**So be sure to visit [www.nfrc.org/windowshop](http://www.nfrc.org/windowshop)**