

Aspect Windows – Glass Types.

Glass is mostly formed from 3 different types of glass. This page offers some brief explanations of what each of these glasses can be used for:

Float or Annealed Glass:

- This is the most common type of domestic glass in use. Annealed glass comes in varying thicknesses and offers high daylight transmission in a clear form.

Toughened Glass:

- Toughened glass is formed after annealed glass has been heat treated in a furnace. It is classified as a Grade A safety glass type and when broken, breaks into small granules with blunt edges. It is generally used where a form of safety glass is required.

Laminated Glass:

- Laminated glass is formed when two sheets of annealed glass are bonded together with a polyvinyl (PVB) interlayer. This glass is also classified as a Grade A safety glass. The main characteristic of laminated glass is that when struck, the glass retains its form as a sheet (albeit with cracks showing) and does not split into dangerous shards. Laminated glass also assists in reducing UV transmission.

Some other commonly used terms for glass include:

Low Emissivity or Low-E Glass:

- Low E glass is a high performance glass designed for energy saving. The glass is coated to one side with a thin film of metal and this is designed to reflect radiation into or out of a room to control heat loss or heat gain.

Double Glazing:

- Sometimes also known as a DGU or Insulated Glass Unit. Double-glazing generally consists of two panels of glass that are sealed together with a metal spacer bar separating the two sheets. Most DGU's have air trapped into between the two glass panels and this impedes heat transfer from one side of the DGU to the other.

Argon Gas:

- Argon is an inert gas type that is sometimes used instead of air within a DGU. Argon has molecules larger than air and thus increases insulation. Generally, Argon can add between 7 and 15% increase in performance to a window.

Tinted or Toned Glass

- This is a coloured glass type that is mostly used as a solar control measure. Toned glass helps to reduce solar heat gain through a window and assists in keeping a room cooler.