

Window Replacement Quote Comparison Checklist

A standardized like-for-like scope audit for housing educators, consumer guides, and homeowners evaluating contractor bids.

PLANNING CHECKLIST ONLY: This checklist is an educational planning aid to compare written proposals on an identical scope of work. It is **NOT** a contractor survey, formal bid, engineering certification, verified energy savings claim, or personalized architectural advice.

GOLDEN RULE OF BID COMPARISON: Only compare quotes specifying the *same* number of openings, identical installation methods (insert vs. full-frame), equivalent NFRC glass ratings, and documented repair/trim allowances. Document scope differences before comparing prices.

Property / Homeowner: _____

Date: _____

Total Openings: _____

Target Style: _____

SECTION 1: PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS & WINDOW OPERATION			
Scope Specification	Quote 1: _____	Quote 2: _____	Quote 3: _____
1.1 Manufacturer & Series Brand line, product grade, and model number	☐ Stated in writing Series: _____	☐ Stated in writing Series: _____	☐ Stated in writing Series: _____
1.2 Frame Material & Colors Vinyl, Wood, Composite, Fiberglass, Aluminum; Ext/Int color	Material: _____ Ext/Int: _____	Material: _____ Ext/Int: _____	Material: _____ Ext/Int: _____
1.3 Window Style & Operation Double-hung, Single-hung, Casement, Slider, Awning, Picture/Bay	Operation: _____	Operation: _____	Operation: _____
1.4 Sizing & Opening Verification Custom factory manufactured to fit opening vs stock filler strips	☐ Custom measured ☐ Stock / filler used	☐ Custom measured ☐ Stock / filler used	☐ Custom measured ☐ Stock / filler used

SECTION 2: GLASS PACKAGE, NFRC ENERGY RATINGS & OPTIONS			
Glass & Rating Detail	Quote 1	Quote 2	Quote 3
2.1 Glazing & Gas Fill Double vs Triple pane; Low-E coating; Argon or Krypton gas fill	☐ Dbl ☐ Trp ☐ Low-E Gas: ☐ Argon ☐ Air	☐ Dbl ☐ Trp ☐ Low-E Gas: ☐ Argon ☐ Air	☐ Dbl ☐ Trp ☐ Low-E Gas: ☐ Argon ☐ Air
2.2 NFRC Ratings & ENERGY STAR U-Factor (insulation) & SHGC (solar heat gain) stated on label	U-Factor: _____ SHGC: _____	U-Factor: _____ SHGC: _____	U-Factor: _____ SHGC: _____
2.3 Safety / Tempered / Impact Glass Required by building code near bathtubs, doors, stairs, or coastal	☐ Included where needed ☐ Not required / noted	☐ Included where needed ☐ Not required / noted	☐ Included where needed ☐ Not required / noted
2.4 Insect Screens & Decorative Grids Full vs half screens (fiberglass/aluminum); grid pattern & style	Screens: ☐ Full ☐ Half Grids: ☐ GBG ☐ SDL	Screens: ☐ Full ☐ Half Grids: ☐ GBG ☐ SDL	Screens: ☐ Full ☐ Half Grids: ☐ GBG ☐ SDL

HOW TO AUDIT BID GAPS: If any quote writes 'Standard' or leaves a box blank, ask the contractor to add the exact manufacturer, series, and NFRC ratings in writing before comparing price totals. Proceed to Page 2 for installation scope, disposal, permits, warranties, and financial comparison.

Window Replacement Quote Comparison Checklist - Scope Audit

Confirm that installation methods, weatherproofing, municipal permits, warranties, and disposal terms match line-by-line.

<https://replacement-window-cost-calculator.com>

SECTION 3: INSTALLATION METHOD & OPENING PREPARATION			
Installation & Preparation Item	Quote 1	Quote 2	Quote 3
3.1 Installation Method Insert/Pocket (retains frame) vs Full-Frame tearout to rough studs	☐ Insert / Pocket ☐ Full-Frame tearout	☐ Insert / Pocket ☐ Full-Frame tearout	☐ Insert / Pocket ☐ Full-Frame tearout
3.2 Flashing & Weatherproofing Sill pan flashing, moisture barrier tie-in, head drip cap	☐ Sill pan flashing ☐ Membrane tie-in	☐ Sill pan flashing ☐ Membrane tie-in	☐ Sill pan flashing ☐ Membrane tie-in
3.3 Insulation & Air Sealing Non-expanding window/door polyurethane foam vs loose fiberglass	☐ Low-expansion foam ☐ Fiberglass / other	☐ Low-expansion foam ☐ Fiberglass / other	☐ Low-expansion foam ☐ Fiberglass / other
3.4 Trim, Casing & Exterior Capping New interior stops; exterior aluminum coil capping/wrap around wood	☐ Int trim included ☐ Ext capping included	☐ Int trim included ☐ Ext capping included	☐ Int trim included ☐ Ext capping included
3.5 Concealed Rot & Sill Repairs Stated per-foot or hourly rate for structural repairs found after removal	Rate: \$ _____ / hr or ft ☐ Excluded / TBD	Rate: \$ _____ / hr or ft ☐ Excluded / TBD	Rate: \$ _____ / hr or ft ☐ Excluded / TBD

SECTION 4: REMOVAL, DISPOSAL, PERMITS & PAYMENT TERMS			
Contract & Logistics Scope	Quote 1	Quote 2	Quote 3
4.1 Removal & Old Window Disposal Dumpster and haul-away included in base price vs extra customer fee	☐ Haul-away included ☐ Customer disposal	☐ Haul-away included ☐ Customer disposal	☐ Haul-away included ☐ Customer disposal
4.2 Jobsite Protection & Daily Cleanup Drop cloths, interior dust protection, magnetic sweep for nails	☐ Floor/furniture cover ☐ Magnet nail sweep	☐ Floor/furniture cover ☐ Magnet nail sweep	☐ Floor/furniture cover ☐ Magnet nail sweep
4.3 Building Permits & Inspection Contractor pulls municipal permit and coordinates final inspection	☐ Contractor pulls ☐ Homeowner / None	☐ Contractor pulls ☐ Homeowner / None	☐ Contractor pulls ☐ Homeowner / None
4.4 Sales Tax & Change Order Terms State/local sales tax included in total; written change order agreement	☐ Tax included in bid ☐ Written change rules	☐ Tax included in bid ☐ Written change rules	☐ Tax included in bid ☐ Written change rules
4.5 Payment Schedule & Deposit Record deposit percentage and payment milestones in writing	Deposit: _____ % Balance: Upon signoff	Deposit: _____ % Balance: Upon signoff	Deposit: _____ % Balance: Upon signoff

SECTION 5: PRODUCT & LABOR WARRANTIES AND EXCLUSIONS			
Warranty Coverage & Transferability	Quote 1	Quote 2	Quote 3
5.1 Manufacturer Product Warranty Frame/vinyl material, insulated glass seal failure, moving hardware	Frame: _____ yrs Glass seal: _____ yrs	Frame: _____ yrs Glass seal: _____ yrs	Frame: _____ yrs Glass seal: _____ yrs
5.2 Contractor Labor Warranty Workmanship coverage for installation defects and water leakage	Labor: _____ yrs ☐ In writing	Labor: _____ yrs ☐ In writing	Labor: _____ yrs ☐ In writing
5.3 Documented Exclusions & Transfer Glass breakage, caulking maintenance; transferable to next homeowner	Transferable: ☐ Yes ☐ No Exclusions listed: ☐ Yes	Transferable: ☐ Yes ☐ No Exclusions listed: ☐ Yes	Transferable: ☐ Yes ☐ No Exclusions listed: ☐ Yes

SECTION 6: BOTTOM-LINE PROPOSAL AUDIT SUMMARY			
Comparison Metric	Quote 1	Quote 2	Quote 3
Contractor Company Name	_____	_____	_____
Total Quoted Price (\$)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Number of Openings / Windows	_____ openings	_____ openings	_____ openings
Calculated Price per Opening Total Price / Window Count	\$ _____ / opening	\$ _____ / opening	\$ _____ / opening
Scope Completeness Verdict	☐ Scope fully verified ☐ Scope gaps to clarify	☐ Scope fully verified ☐ Scope gaps to clarify	☐ Scope fully verified ☐ Scope gaps to clarify

WEBSITE ATTRIBUTION & CITATION: Replacement Window Cost Calculator (<https://replacement-window-cost-calculator.com>) | Public Methodology: <https://replacement-window-cost-calculator.com/methodology>
2026 Reference Benchmarks Table: <https://replacement-window-cost-calculator.com/replacement-window-cost-data-2026.csv> | Interactive Quote Comparer: <https://replacement-window-cost-calculator.com/#quote-comparison>
Note: Baseline cost ranges combine published industry benchmark guides with explicitly noted modeled planning ranges. Methodology adjustments are model outputs; entered contractor bids are user-supplied and not vetted contractor surveys.