

*** = Term is specific to Hy-Lite products**

1-3/4 * - An aluminum frame that is 1-3/4" deep, with no nail fin. Intended for use as doorlites and sidelites.

45-degree Corner Cap * - An aluminum accessory cap designed to connect two panels together at a 45-degree angle.

90-degree Corner Cap * - An aluminum accessory designed to connect two panels together at a 90-degree angle.

AAMA - American Architectural Manufacturers Association - A national trade association that establishes voluntary standards for the window, door, and skylight industry.

Air Infiltration - The amount of air that passes between a window sash and frame when fully closed. In windows it is measured in terms of cubic feet or air per minute, per square foot of area. The lower the number, the less air the window lets pass through.

Aluminum Mull * - An aluminum accessory designed to connect two aluminum panels together, end-to-end.

ANSI - American National Standards Institute - Clearing house for all types of standards and specifications.

Apron - Horizontal trim board under a window stool.

ArchTop™ * - A block window in which the head is curved. The height of the curve is less than a half circle.

ASTM - American Society for Testing and Materials - Organization that sets standards for testing of materials.

Awning Window - A top-hinged window that swings outward for ventilation.

Basement Window (also sash, cellar sash) - Wood or metal in-swinging sash that is hinged at either the top or bottom.

Bay Window - An angled combination of three windows that project out from the wall of the home. The windows are commonly joined at 30- or 45-degree angles.

Bedding - Method of glazing in which a thin layer of putty or glazing compound is placed in the glass rabbet, the glass pressed into the bed, the glazier's points (metal tabs) driven, and the sash is face-puttied over the points.

Blind Stop - The frame member on a Double Hung located between the jamb and the brickmould, the blind stop forms a ridge that supports either a storm sash or screen.

Bow Window - An angled combination of windows in 3-, 4- or 5-lite configurations. The windows are attached at 10-degree angles to project a more circular, arced appearance.

Box Size - Actual size of a window. Usually ½" smaller than "Rough Opening".

Brickmould or Brick Molding - Standard milled wood or Vinyl trim piece to cover the gap between the window frame and masonry (or siding material).

Btu (B.T.U.) - An abbreviation for British Thermal Unit - The heat required to increase the temperature of one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit.

Butt Cut * - A straight cut used for cutting aluminum accessories.

California Flange: Replacement window frame with a 1-3/4" flange which can be trimmed to fit over an existing window frame.

Coming - Often referred to as "leading", it is the decorative center glaze in a triple glazed window.

Cap - Upper member of an entrance, wainscot, partition or pilaster; (also cap trim, wainscot cap, dado moulding, chair rail cap); top portion, above the fluted area, of a pilaster; (also capital).

Caseament Window - A window with a side-hinged sash that opens outward for ventilation.

Caseament Adjuster - Device to hold a caseament window in any open position.

Casing - Exposed molding or framing around a window or door, on either the inside or outside, to cover the space between the window frame or jamb and the wall.

Caulking - Sealants used to seal fixed and moveable construction joints and prevent infiltration of air and water.

Cladding - Material that covers the exterior of a window or door frame and/or sash, offering increased durability with less maintenance than other exterior finishes.

Clerestory - A window in the upper part of a lofty room that admits light to the center of the room.

Condensation - The deposit of water vapor from the air on any cold surface whose temperature is below the dew point, such as a cold window glass or frame that is exposed to humid indoor air.

Condensation Resistance Factor - A measure of the effectiveness of a window or glazing system to reduce the potential for condensation. The higher the condensation resistance factor, the more efficient the window and glazing system.

Conduction - Energy transfer from one material to another by direct contact.

Convection - Heat transfer by currents that flow from a warm surface to a colder one.

Corner Cap * - An aluminum accessory cap designed to connect two panels together at an angle. Available as 45- and 90-degree caps.

Cross Rib Alternating * - The cross rib pattern block has horizontal ribs on one side and vertical ribs on the other. Oriented in a window or panel so that each block's orientation is opposite of the block next to it, like a checkerboard pattern.

Cross Rib Uniform * - The cross rib pattern block has horizontal ribs on one side and vertical ribs on the other. Oriented in a window or panel so that the ribs are in the same direction.

Custom Configuration * - Aluminum windows or panels that are not rectangular, such as stair-steps, octagons, triangles, and southwest diamonds.

Cutlite - (AKA True Divided Light) - Individual glass units whether single panes or insulating glass units, separated by permanent, stationary wood bars to create one larger window. Cutlite is the traditional means of creating multi-light windows for greater aesthetic appeal.

Daylight Opening - (D.L.O.) - The visible area of glass.

Decorative Glass - Glass with a decorative pattern

Dewpoint - The temperature at which water vapor in air will condense at a given state of humidity and pressure.

Diamond Window * - A window utilizing square and triangle blocks in such a way that the caulk lines form diamonds.

Direct Set - A window with no sash. The glass is set directly into the frame and, therefore, the window is stationary.

Divided Light - A window with a number of smaller panes of glass separated and held in place by muntins.

Double Hung Window - A window that has two operable sash which slide vertically.

Drip - A projecting fin or a groove at the outer edge of a sill, soffit, or other projecting member in a wall designed to interrupt the flow of water downward over the wall or inward across the soffit.

Drip Cap - Horizontal molding to divert water from the top casing so water drips beyond the outside of the frame.

Dryer Vent Block * - An acrylic block with a dryer vent installed.

E-Gard™ - Developed by Truth Hardware, E-Gard™ protects exterior window operator parts from the corroding effects of the weather, chemicals, environmental hazards and ultraviolet radiation. E-Gard™ is not a plating process, so it does not consume and produce the environmentally hazardous materials that a plating process would.

Egress Code - The code that requires a minimum opening of a window for persons to exit or firefighters to enter a building.

Energy Star Label – A label that indicates a window meets Energy Star program energy efficiency requirements for a specific region, and is at least 40% more efficient than products required under the most common national building codes.

Energy Star Windows Program – A voluntary partnership between the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the fenestration industry to promote sales of energy efficient windows, doors and skylights. All Energy Star windows must be NFRC rated, certified and labeled for both U-factor and solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC).

Extruded screen frame - Different from a Rollformed frame, this frame is pressed through a form or die.

Fenestration - An industry term referring to all windows, doors and skylights.

Fixed Light - A pane of glass installed directly into non-operating framing members; also, the opening or space for a pane of glass in a non-operating frame.

Flange Replacement Unit * - A special aluminum framed unit designed to replace damaged aluminum windows without removing the existing unit. This unit slides into the existing aluminum frame to replace all of the block.

Flankers - Application in which circle top window is placed along the side (flanked with) straight glass windows on each side. The circle top is covered with an arch and the side straight glass windows are flanked with crossheads.

Flashing - Sheet metal or other material applied to seal and protect the joints formed by different materials or surfaces.

Flat Casing - Exterior casing with a flat surface.

Flat End Cap * - A flat aluminum accessory cap that snaps on the end of the frame (after removing the nail fin) to finish off the end. Can also be used for mounting the panel by securing the cap to a wall or floor and then snapping the panel onto the cap.

Frame - The stationary part of a window or door system which encloses the sash or the glass (in the case of a direct set). A frame consists of a head, sill, side jambs, extension jambs and blind stop.

Frosted Wave * - Hy-Lite's most obscure block pattern. Same as Wave, except that one half of the block is made with diffused acrylic. This half typically goes to the exterior side of the window.

Geometric - Specially designed windows classified as either Straight line Geometrics such as rectangles, triangles, trapezoid, octagons, pentagons, etc., or Radius Geometrics which include half-rounds, quarterrounds, full-rounds, sectors, ellipses, eyebrows, etc.

Glass Size - The measurement of the actual glass, not just the visible glass.

Glazing - The process of sealing the glass to the sash.

Glazing Bead - A strip of vinyl which surrounds the edge of the glass and holds it in place in conjunction with other sealants.

Glazing Insert Option * - An option that allows for the customer to glaze in their own glass in the center of a block window.

Grids - Decorative horizontal or vertical bars or silicone installed between the glass panes or blocks to create the appearance of the sash being dividing into smaller lites of glass.

Grille - A grid that visually divides a window into panes.

Half-Circle Top - Windows or doors which form a half circle at the top.

Head - The horizontal top portion of the main frame.

Heat Gain - The transfer of heat from outside to inside by means of conduction, convection, and radiation through all surfaces of a house.

Hinged windows - Windows (casement, awning, and hopper) with an operating sash that has hinges on one side. See also Projected window.

Hinging – (AKA Hinging or OX, XO) - Hinge placement on a window or door.

Hopper - A window with a bottom-hinged sash that opens inward for ventilation.

I.G. Unit (Insulating Glass Unit) - Two or more lites of glass separated by a spacer and hermetically sealed at the glass edges.

I.U. (Insert Unit) * - Glazing unit comprised of acrylic block wrapped with an aluminum or vinyl framed, designed to be glazed into standard window frames in place of insulated glass.

Infiltration - The movement of outdoor air into the interior of a building through cracks around windows and doors or in walls, roofs, and floors.

J-Channel Frame * - An aluminum or vinyl frame that has an extended exterior leg to hide siding ends.

Jamb - Vertical sections of the main frame.

Jamb Liner - Small strip of wood, either surfaced four sides or tongued on one edge, which, when applied to the inside edge of a window jamb, increases its width.

KWH - KiloWatt Hour - Unit of energy or work equal to one thousand watt-hours.

Leading – Also called “caming” it is the decorative center glaze in a triple glazed window.

Lintel - A horizontal member above a window or door opening that supports the structure above.

Lite - A unit of glass in a window.

Low E (Emissivity) Glass - Glass with a transparent metallic oxide coating applied onto or into a glass surface. The coating allows short-wave energy to pass through but reflects long-wave infrared energy which improves the U-value.

Low Profile * - A fixed vinyl frame that has less exposed vinyl than Hy-Lite’s standard vinyl frame.

Masonry Opening - The opening formed in brick, block or stone, which receives a window or door.

Matting * - The material between the block and the frame in a retrofit window. The matting matches the color of the frame and is designed to make the block window adaptable to any size opening by creating a bridge between the blocks and the frame.

Meeting Rail - The horizontal sections of a pair of sash that meet when the sash are closed.

Meeting Stile - The vertical section of a pair of sash that meet when the sash are closed.

Mesh - Fabric made of either fiberglass or aluminum, used in the making of screens.

Miter Cut * - A 45-degree angled cut used for cutting aluminum accessories.

Mull - Term used to join two or more windows at the jamb, head or sill

Mull Casing - A casing that covers the joint between two windows or doors when they are mullied side by side or one atop the other.

Muntin Bar - A short, lightweight bar that visually divides a window into "separate" panes.

Muntins * - Metal, vinyl or wood strips that are installed over the caulk line. Metal muntins can be installed at the factory or shipped in raw lengths to be installed at the job site. Wood muntins are unfinished and are shipped in raw lengths to be cut, finished, and installed at the job site. Can be used on aluminum and vinyl windows.

Nail Fin Offset * - The distance the nail fin sets back from the exterior face of the window. Aluminum and vinyl windows are available with 7/8" and 1-3/8" nail fin offsets

Nailing Fin - An extrusion attached to the main frame of a window used to secure the unit to the rough opening.

NFRC – National Fenestration Rating Council is a non-profit organization that administers the only uniform, independent rating and labeling system for the energy performance of windows, doors, skylights, and attachment products.

Nominal - A nominal measurement is an approximate measurement; the actual measurement may vary slightly.

NWWDA - (National Wood Window & Door Association) - A nationwide association which set standards and guidelines for wood windows and doors. Name changed in 1999 to Window and Door Manufacturers' Association (WDMA). Focus changed accordingly.

Obscure Glass - Glass that has been made translucent instead of transparent. Glass obscurity is measured from 1 to 10 with 1 being the least obscure, or clear, to 10 being the most obscure or nearly opaque.

Operable window - Window that can be opened for ventilation.

Operator – (AKA Guide Bar) - A rotary mechanism that opens and closes a Casement or Awning window.

Pane - One of the compartments of a door or window consisting of a single sheet of glass in a frame; also, a sheet of glass.

Parting Stop (or Parting Strip or Parting Bead) - A vertical strip on each jamb that separates the sashes of a double-hung window.

Picture Window - A window that has no moveable sash. Also called a fixed window.

Projected Window - A window fitted with one or more sashes opening on pivoted arms or hinges. Refers to casements, awnings, and hoppers.

QuickShip * - A program that makes available certain "stock" windows for shipment in two days (see details in Price Book).

R-value - Resistance a material has to heat flow. The higher the R-value, the greater the resistance. R-value is the reciprocal of the U-value.

Radius Wall * - A curved wall of acrylic block.

Rail - The horizontal sections of the sash.

Retrofit Window * - Custom sized block windows for use in replacing existing windows with or without removing the existing outside window frame. Available in fixed and operable vinyl units.

Retrofitting - Adding or replacing items on existing buildings. Typical retrofit products are replacement doors and windows, insulation, storm windows, caulking, weatherstripping, vents, landscaping.

Rollformed Screen Frame - A method of fabrication in which a flat (usually metal) material is placed on a machine where the material is formed into shape using differently shaped rollers and pressure.

Rough Opening (R.O.) - The size of the wall opening into which a window or door is to be installed. Typically ½" larger than "Box Size".

Round End Cap or Radius End Cap * - A half-round accessory cap that snaps on the end of the frame (after removing the nail fin) to finish off the end.

RoundTop™ * - A block window in which the head is a half circle.

Sash – The movable or operating part of the window which contains the glass.

Sash Opening - The frame area which accepts a sash.

Screen - Woven mesh of metal, plastic, or fiberglass stretched over a window opening to permit air to pass through, but not insects.

Sculptured Cut * - A special cut used to shape the end of a flat cap to conform to the end shape of a radius cap.

Sculptured Miter Cut * - A special cut used to shape the ends of flat cap to conform to the shape of a corner cap.

Shading Coefficient (SC) - A measure of the ability of a window or skylight to transmit solar heat, relative to that ability for 1/8-inch clear, double-strength, single glass. It is being phased out in favor of the solar heat gain coefficient, and is approximately equal to the SHGC multiplied by 1.15. It is expressed as a number without units between 0 and 1. The lower a window's solar heat gain coefficient or shading coefficient, the less solar heat it transmits, and the greater is its shading ability.

SHGC – Solar Heat Gain Coefficient, which is a measure of the ability of a window or skylight to transmit solar heat, relative to that ability for 1/8" clear, double strength, single glass. It is expressed as a number between 0 and 1. The lower a window's solar heat gain coefficient, the less solar heat it transmits, and the greater is its shading ability.

Side Jamb - The vertical members of a frame.

Sidelight – (AKA Sidelite) - A wood or glass panel installed on one or both sides of a doorframe.

Sill - The horizontal, bottom section of the main frame.

Sill Horn - The portion of sill nosing which extends past the side jamb.

Sill Nose Trim - Exterior portion of a sill on a window unit.

Simulated Divided Lights - A window that has the appearance of a number of smaller panes of glass separated by muntins, but actually is a larger glazing unit with the muntins placed between or on the surfaces of the glass layers.

Single Hung - A window in which one sash slides vertically and the other sash is fixed.

Single-Glazing - One thickness of glass, with no airspace.

Slider Window - A window in which the sash move horizontally. Sliders are available in a 2- or 3-lite configuration, with the 3-lite having operable end vents.

Sound Transmission Class (STC) - The sound transmission loss rating of a material over a selected range of sound frequencies. The higher the number, the less sound transmitted.

Specifications - Architectural details of a window or door.

Stacked - Windows that are joined in a vertical plane, one above the other.

Stationary - A door panel or window that does not open.

Stile - The vertical sections of the sash.

Stool - The shelf-like board of the interior part of the windowsill, against which the bottom rail of the sash closes.

Stop - The molding on the inside of a window frame against which the window sash closes; in the case of a double-hung window, the sash slides against the stop. Also called bead, side stop, window stop, and parting stop.

Stucco Block Frame * - An aluminum or vinyl frame with a ½" wide, flush flange designed for installing into cinder block construction, primarily in Florida.

Tempered Glass - Glass with a surface compression of not less than 10,000 psi, or an edge compression of not less than 9,700 psi. When broken, the glass breaks into pebbles instead of shards.

Thermal Break - An element of low conductance placed between elements of higher conductance to

reduce the flow of heat. Often used in aluminum windows.

Transom - A horizontal transverse beam or bar in a frame; a crosspiece separating a door or the like from a window or fanlight above it. Also, a window above a door or other window built on and commonly hinged to a transom.

Transom Window - The window sash located above a door. Also called transom light.

Trim Union * - An aluminum accessory designed to connect two accessories, such as a flat cap to a corner cap.

Triple Glazed - Three layers of glass, including the interior, exterior and a center layer of glass

Tube Lighting * - Available through Tube Lighting Products, tube lighting can be inserted between the 3" blocks of a unit. Hy-Lite drills holes in the aluminum frame in which the tube lighting is inserted.

U-value - Also called U-factor. The amount of heat transferred through a material. The lower the U-value, the slower the rate of heat flow and the better the insulating quality.

Vapor Retarder (or Vapor Barrier) - A material that reduces the diffusion of water vapor across a building assembly.

Vinyl - Polyvinyl chloride material, which can be either rigid or flexible, used for window frames.

Vinyl-Clad Window - A window with exterior wood parts covered with extruded vinyl.

Wave * - Hy-Lite's most popular block pattern. The block has wave-like undulations. This pattern is what most people think of when they think of glass block.

Weatherstripping - Material used to form a weather-resistant seal around operable sash.

Weep Holes - Small openings designed to allow water to escape that might otherwise accumulate in a window's sill.

Window - A glazed opening in an external wall of a building; an entire unit consisting of a frame sash and glazing, and any operable elements.

Window Hardware - Various devices and mechanisms for the window including catches, fasteners and locks, hinges, pivots, lifts and pulls, pulleys and sash weights, sash balances, and stay.