Home Improvement 101: Window Replacement Options by Nancy Ferdinand

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When it comes to homeownership, many abide by the principle "If you can't live with it, leave it". Yet with the economy still on its knees, homeowners are compelled to put off the thought of purchasing a new home and opt for improvement projects instead. If you've abandoned all hopes for a purchase, consider beginning the home makeover with window replacement.

Window replacement offers a significant difference in comfort, as well as the property's resale value. In fact, the National Association of Realtors reports that window replacements offer one of the biggest returns on investment, which can total a whopping 80 percent. But with many available windows in the market, choosing what to install at home can be difficult. Here are some popular choices homeowners can consider.

Casement

This window type is attached to its frame by one or more hinges. Casement windows are prized for being energy-efficient as they allow less air to pass through, helping you keep warm air in the winter and cool air in the summer. In addition, they offer excellent protection against burglars. Casement windows are fitted with hooked locks embedded into the window frame which, hands down, is very difficult to tamper with.

Double-Hung

A double-hung window appears with two sashes that slide up or down. It is a popular choice among homeowners due to its attractive style, ease of access, and superior ventilation properties. Double-hung windows can fit perfectly in most areas, be it the kitchen, bathroom, or bedroom.

Awning Windows

These windows are operated using hinges located at the top of the frame. Awning windows are perfect for bedrooms as they help maintain privacy while letting in some natural light. Residents of Madison, Wisconsin recommend awning windows because their ventilation abilities are appropriate for the city's moderate winters. Awning windows Madison WI homes are known for are available in different stylistic patterns and can be used in a variety of architectural situations.

Bay Windows

Bay windows are popular for their aesthetic effects. Their design causes them to protrude from the outer wall of the building, giving the illusion that the inside room is larger. In addition, bay windows Madison WI residents recommend can increase the flow of natural light into the room, depending on their size.

If you think window replacement projects are only for eye candy, you better think again. Today's Madison windows are ENERGY STAR-rated and can help cut 15 percent off your monthly energy bills. For more expert window replacement advice, visit HomeDoctor.net.

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