**Basic Nomenclature and Terminology for Windows and Window Components**

### Structural Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SINGLE-PANE</th>
<th>DOUBLE-PANE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Frame</strong></td>
<td><strong>Insulating Glazing Unit (IGU)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Wood</td>
<td>- Glass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Vinyl</td>
<td>- Spacer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Aluminum</td>
<td>- Creates a gap between panes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Glass</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Clear</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Tinted</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sash</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Holds glass in place</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Can be fixed or moveable</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Opening Options

- **Sliding**
- **Casement**
- **Awning**
- **Single-hung**
- **Double-hung**

### Glazings

- **Surface Numbering Convention**
  - EXTERIOR
  - INTERIOR
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3
  - 4

- **Secondary Glazing System (SGS)**
  - Additional pane installed on exterior or interior of existing window

- **“Storm Windows”**

### Coatings and Gas Fills

- **Better Thermal Insulation**
  - **Coating**
    - Often applied to either surface 2 or 3
    - The low-e part of the coating is for thermal control
    - Solar control is often added
  - **Air Gap**
    - Can be filled with higher insulating gases such as Argon or Krypton
  - **Applied Film**
    - Options include
      - Tint
      - Low-e
      - Solar control

More information: windows.lbl.gov/outreach