



NEWS

Pella® Windows & Doors

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Back-to-basics home improvement tips

— *Energy-efficient updates can help lower utility bills* —

PELLA, IOWA — While small things help, it's the big steps consumers take to improve their home's energy efficiency that truly make a difference, according to researchers at Scientific American magazine.

Of the 505 Americans surveyed by the Earth Institute and Center for Research on Environmental Decisions, more than 40 percent said the most effective way to save energy was to turn off lights, drive less or adjust the thermostat. Less than 10 percent identified what researchers say are more effective measures — improving your home's overall efficiency by buying energy-saving appliances or replacing old windows with more energy-efficient ones.

"Now is an ideal time to replace drafty windows or doors," says Annette Bravard, vice president of retail replacement at Pella Corporation. "Installing energy-efficient windows and doors can help lower your utility bills and increase your energy efficiency for years to come. If you've been putting off window or door replacement, now's the time to do it."

You may be able to claim an energy-efficiency tax credit from \$200 to \$500 on certain ENERGY STAR® qualifying windows, skylights and exterior doors installed in 2011. Visit Pella.com to explore qualifying window and door styles for your project.

Simplify your replacement

Sometimes the most daunting aspect of a home improvement project is figuring out how to pay for it. Once homeowners take the first step toward securing financing options, they're surprised how quickly and easily windows and doors can be replaced, Bravard says.

Whether you're replacing all your windows or just want a more energy-efficient patio door, these steps will help get your replacement project under way.

1. Financing — Contact your lender or the window company you're buying from to discuss possible financing options. Not ready for a big remodeling project right now? Consider a multi-year approach that fits your needs.

2. Schedule appointment — Schedule an in-home consultation with an expert to discuss your energy-efficiency, installation and timing goals.

3. Window/door selection — Your window expert will help you choose energy-efficient windows and doors based on your home's style, your climate and your budget. They can also arrange for installation.

“Replacement projects don't need to be messy, time-consuming or complicated. In fact, it's possible to install new windows without replacing wallpaper or repainting your walls,” Bravard says.

Pella Precision Fit® replacement windows provide a simplified solution for home renovation. These easy-to-install replacement windows slide into existing window openings helping retain surrounding interior trim, wallpaper, paint or plaster. The windows are designed for applications where the exterior frame remains in good condition, but an upgraded sash unit — the part of the window that moves — can increase energy efficiency and eye appeal.

Choose from awning, transom and casement windows — whichever meet your needs and the style of your home.

Concerned about costs? Consider vinyl windows and doors that offer low maintenance, durability, distinctive design and energy efficiency.

“With so many energy-efficient options, stylish new replacement windows and doors can help keep your home warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer while creating a better view,” Bravard says.

If you're ready to take on this every-saving project, visit Pella.com for a downloadable step-by-step guide to window and door replacement or call our customer service team at 1-800-374-4758 to schedule an in-home consultation.

About Pella

Pella Corporation is a leader in designing, testing, manufacturing and installing quality windows and doors for new construction, remodeling and replacement applications.

As a family-owned and professionally managed privately-held company, Pella is known for its 86-year history of making innovative products, providing quality service and delivering on customer satisfaction. Headquartered in Pella, Iowa, the company is committed to incorporating new technologies, increasing productivity and practicing environmental stewardship to create satisfied customers.

Pella manufactures quality windows, patio doors and entry door systems sold through a Direct Sales Network operating Pella Window & Door Showrooms across the United States and Canada and select building materials retailers, including Lowe's®. For more information, call 888-847-3552 or visit pella.com. Follow Pella on [Twitter.com @Pella_News](https://twitter.com/Pella_News), on Facebook at facebook.com/pellawindowsanddoors and on YouTube at youtube.com/pellawindowsanddoors.

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