

# DIY FACT SHEET

## A low cost way to double glaze your windows



Letting sunlight into your home in winter is a great way to warm it up. However, regular single glazed windows are very poor insulators, so in most homes, this natural heat gain is lost. Double glazed windows reduce this problem by effectively insulating your windows. This results in lower heating and cooling loads for your home.

Double glazing is often thought of as a high-cost energy efficiency measure requiring complete replacement of windows. However, there are lower cost options available, including applying double glazing films to existing windows. This can cost between \$60-\$100 per square metre depending on performance needed and film type, whereas installing shading devices can be anything from \$150+ per square metre and installing new double-glazed windows can cost around \$800+ per square metre. It is definitely the cheaper option and is easy to do yourself!

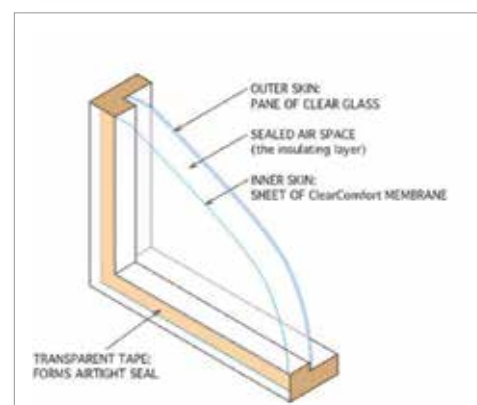
### How double-glazing films work

Double-glazing films work by reducing the amount of heat energy transmitted through glass which reduces heat gained in summer and lost in winter.

### Did you know?

Double-glazing film can achieve a 30% saving in cooling air conditioning usage, equating to about 10 - 15% reduction in a home's annual electricity costs.

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General instructions to apply double glazing films\*^:

## What you need

- > Double glazing film. A clear plastic film that goes over your window frame creating a sealed air space while still allowing light to pass through like normal.
- > Double sided adhesive tape (usually supplied with a kit)
- > Hair dryer
- > Sharp blade or scissors

## Key points to consider:

When considering which product to buy, it is important to keep in mind that some can also reduce the amount of light entering through the window, which could potentially lead to using more artificial lighting.

There is the 'Window Energy Rating Scheme (WERS) for Film' which provides accreditation to particular companies and their products, and includes a star rating for the performance of each. Visit <http://www.wers.net/wersforfilm> for details of current accredited products.

You could also do an internet search to find other products or visit the Window Film Association of Australia and New Zealand [www.wfaanz.org.au](http://www.wfaanz.org.au) if you want to find an accredited installer if you do not wish to do it yourself.

## How to install

- 1 Measure your window frame and cut film to fit the size with a little extra around.
- 2 Clean and dry the window frame (where you will apply the film).
- 3 Apply the double-sided tape to the outside edge of the frame and leave the liner intact until you are happy with the placement of the tape then remove the liner.
- 4 Lightly press the film to the top of the window. Work your way down the sides to the bottom of the window making sure the film is kept tight and wrinkle free.
- 5 Use a hair dryer to shrink the film and make it taut. Work your way up and down the entire surface of the film making sure that the hair dryer does not touch it. Do this until all wrinkles and creases disappear.
- 6 Trim the excess film around the outside of the tape with scissors or a blade.
- 7 Once installed, the film can be cleaned with a damp cloth if needed. If you wish to remove the film, heat the tape with a hair-dryer and carefully peel it off.



## More information:

Window Film Association of Australia and New Zealand [www.wfaanz.org.au](http://www.wfaanz.org.au)

Window Energy Rating Scheme (WERS) for Film [www.wers.net/wersforfilm](http://www.wers.net/wersforfilm)

*\*These are basic instructions and are intended to demonstrate how easy it is to install double-glazing films to your windows. Please follow the manufacturer's instructions of the product that you purchase when installing.*

*^Council does not recommend any particular brands. The use of the above images are for information and education purposes only and should not be relied upon to make decisions on which product to purchase.*

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