

# DIY Double Glazing

## RETROFIT OPTIONS

Windows have a major impact on energy efficiency in the home. A square metre of glass in direct sun can allow as much heat in as a small single bar radiator. Heat loss from a window can be ten times the loss through the same area of insulated wall. There are a number of retrofit options available. They can be implemented on any budget and any level of skill. Each approach needs to be assessed based on the type of window, its uses and your own skill levels. Table 1 (below) provides further details.

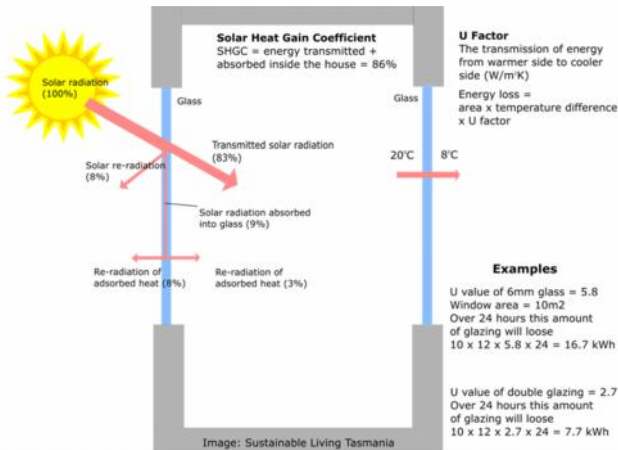
**Table 1: Retrofit options**

Retrofit Option	Description of approach	Notes/pitfalls	Est DIY cost per m <sup>2</sup>	Longevity	Aesthetics	DIY ability
Plastic films	Retrofit a clear plastic film over the frame.	Only as good as the preparation put into cleaning the surface.	\$2-\$10	1 or 2 years	OK	Easy
Bubble wrap	Bubble wrap attached with spray or tape.	You can't see the view! This could be good in the bathroom.	\$0 - \$10	1 or 2 years	Poor	Easy
Retrofit with spacer	Installing a new pane of glass or acrylic in the window rebate using a spacer of wood, aluminium or acrylic.	Permanent - using spectrum 2 or removable using magnetic tape or screw fixtures.	\$100	2 or more years	Good	Medium
Retrofit with sub-frame	Adding an additional layer of glazing over existing window opening. For example Magnetite window in SLT offices.	Often removable (using magnetic strips).	\$120	2 or more years	OK	Medium
Retrofit with Low-e glass	Same as using spacer or sub-frame but using "Low-e glass".	More expensive than standard glass, but improved performance.	\$250	2 or more years	OK	Medium
Retrofit complete frame	Adding a complete double glazed solution over existing window opening. For example Paarhamer window in SLT offices.	Can be the best solution with bad frames or louvre windows.	\$500	2 or more years	Good	Hard
Replacing glass with IGU	Removing existing glass pane and replacing with pre-made double glazing IGU.	Frame needs to be solid enough to take new unit.	\$450	2 or more years	Good	Hard
Replacing whole window	Replacing whole window.	Possibly only option with rotten/poor construction windows or at time of renovation.	\$800	2 or more years	Good	Hard

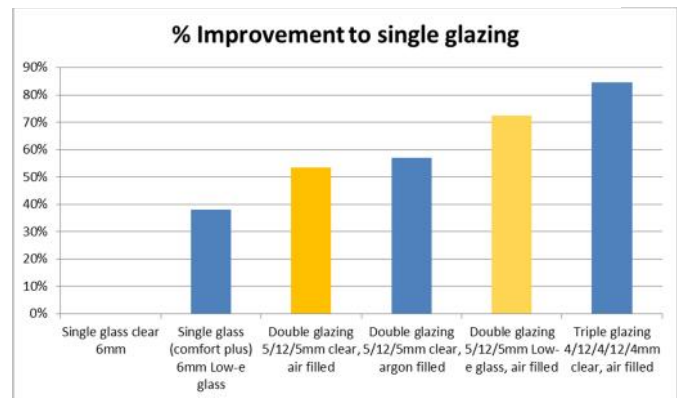
## THERMAL BENEFITS

Retrofit double glazing could reduce heat loss from windows from 50% or even 70% with more expensive approaches. For a 10m<sup>2</sup> area of glazing this could equate to a saving of around 7kWh per day – around 25% of the average energy bill!

**Figure 1: Thermal Performance of Windows**



**Figure 2: Available Energy Savings through improving glazing**



## SUPPLIERS

There are a number of businesses with DIY supplies. The following table lists DIY supplies as well as professionals who can help do the job for you

**Table 2: Product Suppliers**

Business name	Product	Location	Contact
The bearded Tradesman	Retrofit glazing	Hobart	0414248084
Eagle Plastics	Perspex/Acrylic Plastic	North Hobart	6234 2030
Terrace Trading	Spectrum 2 and other specialist glazing supplies	Derwent park	6272 4327
Amazon	“Duck” brand indoor window shrink film	Inter-webs	<a href="http://www.amazon.com/Duck-281506-10-Window-Insulator-420-Inch/dp/B002GKC2GW">http://www.amazon.com/Duck-281506-10-Window-Insulator-420-Inch/dp/B002GKC2GW</a>
Clear Comfort	Clear Comfort brand indoor window shrink film	Canberra	<a href="http://www.clearcomfort.com.au/">http://www.clearcomfort.com.au/</a>
Magnetite	Fully installed Perspex secondary glazing on sub-frame	National	1300552785
Paarhammer	High Quality double and triple glazed windows	Victoria	03 5368 1999
Seal a sash	Specialist draft-proofing of windows	Hobart	0404 641 206
Taylor Screens	Double Glazing supplies	Moonah	62788887
Uptons	Timber trim options	North Hobart	6234 4944
Ullrich Aluminium	Aluminium trim	Moonah	6278 0000
Viridian Glass	Double Glazing supplies	Mornington	1800 810 403
Mastertint	Low-e window tint film, retrofit acrylic	Moonah	6272 1215