

PRESS RELEASE

Choosing the right windows and doors

Cobus Lourens from leading window and door manufacturer, Swartland, offers some invaluable tips and professional advice on how to go about selecting the right windows and doors for your home.

27 March 2017, Johannesburg: If you are looking for windows and doors for a new home you are building, or an existing home that you are renovating, you have probably noticed the wide range of options that are available to you. With all the different sizes, frames, colours, materials, styles and designs to choose from, the choice can be quite a daunting one to make, especially if you are not well versed on what you need to be basing your decision on.

Says Cobus Lourens from leading window and door manufacturer, Swartland: "Choosing windows and doors for you home is a very important decision to make, as they are a sizeable investment, and once installed, it is costly to change them out – as such, it is something you really want to get right the first time so that you can maximise the value of your investment. Most homeowners make their decisions purely based on aesthetics and budget considerations, however, the truth is that when it comes to windows and doors, there are is a wide variety of other very important considerations that need to be taken into account as well."

Things to consider...

Cobus offers an overview on some of the most important aspects that need to be considered when electing windows and doors for your home:

- **South African National Building Regulations:** You need to make sure that the windows and doors that you choose are compliant with all the necessary building regulations.
- **Purpose:** You need to have a clear understanding of the purpose that each window and door installation will fulfil. For example, you will want privacy in a ground-floor bathroom, but you also want it to be filled with natural light, so a long, narrow window with opaque glazing could be the best choice here. Or for living spaces where you want to maximise light and views for example, then large glass sliding doors or bi-fold doors with safety glass are more than likely your best option.
- **Architecture:** Another obvious consideration, but one that is often overlooked, is to choose windows and doors that complement your home's architectural style. For example, large expanses of floor-to-ceiling glass is contextually complementary to contemporary styles, yet would look out of place in a classically traditional home. You need to select windows and doors that suit your property's overall character and aesthetic.
- **Security:** Windows and doors can be a home's weak point with regards to security, so it is essential to factor this in when making your choice. Their

height relative to the ground, the locks, the strength of the glazing, and the quality of the security screens will all factor into the security of your windows and doors.

- **Orientation:** Since your windows and doors are your home's source of natural light, it is important to factor the orientation of the sun into your choice. The size and orientation of the products you choose in relation to the sun, along with the type of glazing you choose, will determine how much sunlight will stream into each room.
- **Energy efficiency:** A large section of any home's heat loss and gain comes from its windows and doors, so choosing energy efficient windows and doors can make a huge impact on your power bills. Although energy efficient products are usually a little more expensive than their non-efficient counterparts, they will save you loads of money in the long run. The design, glazing, seals and materials all work together to determine how energy efficient a window or door will be.
- **Acoustics:** This is especially important for those living in a busy urban setting – they are designed to reduce neighbourhood, traffic and building noise from entering your home.
- **Budget:** Of course, your choice of windows and doors needs to fit within your budget – which is why it is so essential to prioritise which features are most important to you.

Get professional help

Cobus says that for those individuals who just don't have the time or the know-how to feel comfortable to choose the windows and doors for their home themselves, Swartland offers a new and very helpful service to its clients that will make all the difference: "Windows and doors are one of the largest expenses when it comes to building or renovating your home – so you really want to get it right. And if you are the kind of person who doesn't want to settle for mediocre quality and service, then Swartland's newly launched and exclusive One Touch service concept will ensure that you don't have to compromise. The One Touch service makes Swartland's expert consultants available to you to inform and guide you through the decision-making process, installation, right through to when the building is complete."

He explains that Swartland's experts are well versed on all the necessary aspects that need to be considered, and will help each customer make the optimum window and door choices – from selecting the right products, managing delivery times, monitoring the installation quality and being on-site before, during and after installation: "With the One Touch service, Swartland will be with you every step of the way – ensuring that your doors and windows are a beautiful permanent feature in your home, that they are perfectly installed and that they meet up to all your expectations!"

Visit www.swartland.co.za or call us on 086 110 2425 to find out more.

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