

PRESS RELEASE

Windows to the world

Cobus Lourens, from leading window and door manufacturer, Swartland, offers an overview on the most popular types of windows available on the market today.

24 June 2016, Johannesburg: There is an incredibly wide selection of windows available to suit virtually any function and personal sense of taste. Cobus Lourens from leading windows and door manufacturer, Swartland, explains: "Windows perform very important functional duties – they aid in ventilation, as well as letting natural light in and connecting the interior with the outdoors. They also make a big impact in the overall aesthetics and visual appeal of any building, and so, they should be chosen with care."

He notes that whether the windows you choose are off-the-shelf, or custom-built, the vast majority of windows can be classified into a few different groups depending on their configuration. Cobus provides an overview on the most popular styles:

Top hung windows

Also known as awning windows, top hung windows are hinged at the top of the frame, while the bottom of the window opens by swinging outwards. When open, the glass pane slopes downwards and can be left open when it rains, which is great for ventilation. "Top hung windows are a great choice for high windows or bathroom windows, as they offer partial ventilation, while still maintaining privacy if obscure glazing is used," explains Cobus.

The sliding sash window

Sliding sash windows features two movable panels, or sashes, which slide vertically to open and close the window. They can open wide from either the top or the bottom, but they remain inside the frame so they don't protrude out to the exterior or interior of the house. On a single-hung window, only the bottom part of the window operates while the top part remains stationary. Sliding sash windows are a timeless classic that will never date, notes Cobus: "Drawing inspiration from the Victorian era, modern sliding sash windows complement both modern and traditional architecture equally as well. Although their style is classic in its appeal, Swartland's modern sliding sash windows boast excellent energy efficiency ratings."

The mock sliding sash window

Mock Sash Windows open in the same way as normal top-hung awning windows, but when closed, they offer the same visual appeal as traditional sliding sash windows. Cobus notes: "Swartland offers two different types of mock sash windows – the Cape Mock Sash, which has been styled off windows present in traditional Cape Dutch architecture, and the Box Mock Sash window, which

boasts a thicker wooden frame for a more robust aesthetic. Both look just like traditional sliding sash windows when closed, but are available at much more affordable price points.”

Full pane window

As their name implies, full pane windows offer minimal obstruction to any outdoor views. They come in a variety of configurations, from single- to double-, and triple-pane formats, but all of them boast large panes, with slender frames. These windows are mainly side hung, except if there is a small top opener, which will be top-hung. Cobus notes: “Full pane windows are the ideal choice if you want to maximise your outdoor views and create a seamless flow between your home’s indoor and outdoor spaces.”

Horizontal gliding windows

These windows boast large panes or sashes, which slide open horizontally for maximum ventilation and minimal obstruction of any views. “Forming part of the design of the wall itself, while maximising access to the outdoors, horizontal gliding windows are a revolutionary design that can be used in areas where traditional side-hung windows would have been awkward to operate, such as behind the kitchen sink or in a stairwell for example. Swartland’s horizontal gliding windows boast a high-end gliding mechanism to ensure effortless ease of operation, and they are designed so that they can’t be removed from the outside to maximise security,” explains Cobus.

Small pane windows

Otherwise known as cottage pane windows, small pane windows boast a multi-pane window format where each sash is usually divided into two columns and five rows of glazing. For the most part, these windows are side-hung, and come in single, double, three and four sash formats. However, they can be easily made up to fit any space required. Cobus notes that although the multi-pane design can get in the way of outdoor views, they remain a great choice for security, as hidden metal burglar bars can be built-into the dividing wooden frames of these windows, making them incredibly secure.

ENDS

Released on behalf of Swartland (www.swartland.co.za) by The Line (www.theline.co.za).