

case study: Double Glazing - the figures add up

Gisborne, Victoria



A recent home glazing renovation in Gisborne, Victoria, has given homeowners Joy and Terry Allsopp twice as much to smile about.

The Allsopps – whose home has 55 windows – commissioned Macedon Ranges Glass to remove the old 3mm single panes of glass from every window in the ranch-style house and replace them with double glazing. The project cost \$16,000 and retained the existing timber window frames; only the internal glass was replaced.

According to Mrs Allsopp, the cost benefits were immediate and quantifiable.

"Our electric split system heating bill used to be approximately \$17 per week," she says. "Since the double glazing was installed the cost has dropped to \$9 or \$10."

This cost reduction accords with the latest independent industry research from Arup Engineering, which shows that double glazing can create cost savings of up to 40%.

"In winter we used to have to turn the thermostat up to 25°C; now the highest temperature setting we have to use is 19°C to keep the house equally warm, and the setting has been as low as 16°C."

Moreover, Mrs Allsopp says there has been a noticeable improvement in overnight heat retention throughout the sprawling house. In the two main living areas heated by the split system, the internal temperatures early in

the morning (before any heating is turned on) have only dropped to 11°C – despite outside temperatures of 3°C. In smaller rooms at the end of the house where there is no fixed heating, temperatures have not fallen below 8°C.

Macedon Ranges Glass General Manager Brett Vernon says the building's 55 windows cover an area of 40m², with sizes varying from large feature windows to small bathroom windows of just 500 x 600mm.

"We didn't leave a window untouched," he says. "Every window, no matter how big or small, was replaced with double glazing. Essentially, we just lifted the three fixed glass units right out. With the smaller wind-out windows the rebate sizing in the timber meant we had to bring the outer sashes back to the shop for a little routing to fit the 16mm-deep double glazing. The timber was in pretty good shape so we didn't have to worry about whole new window frame installations. The whole job was done in a day."

Brett used DMS Glass 6.3mm clear laminated glass with a 6mm argon-filled space and 4mm Sunergy toughened glass.



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"We're starting to get a lot of people ringing for this kind of project and they always say they can notice the results straight away. And they're not just saying that to justify the job, they really do feel the comfort."

Brett says the energy cost savings speak for themselves, while the total glazing renovation cost – averaging \$280 per window – represented a significant capital improvement to the property.

In the meantime, the Allsopps are planning to invite their neighbours over for a double glazing demonstration – and to showcase the virtues of energy efficiency!

Contact

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