

ASK THE EXPERT:

Prevent Installation Errors



I am having new windows installed in my home. How can I make sure we don't run into issues caused by installation errors?

The key to proper window installation is to think beyond the actual act of installing. There are steps you can take both before and after the installation to ensure proper function and performance of your windows.

First, be sure the rough opening has been properly prepped - is clean and smooth and the proper size. Before windows are installed, be sure the installer reads any and all installation instructions thoroughly and notes any special care to be taken with the windows. Often, manufacturers have their own set of instructions in addition to the ASTM E2112 Standard Practice for Installation of Exterior Windows, Doors, and Skylights. Additionally, make sure all materials are on-hand and compatible with the product. Check with the proper resource to gather a list of materials (including flashing, sealant, etc.) that is compatible with the product you purchased.

After the installation is complete, if there is more work to be done, use extra caution around the job and make sure it's not disturbed. Keep in mind that any contact with the window that happens between the installation and finalization could possibly affect the original work. Lastly, take great care with any final caulking or trim work.

Click for a more detailed guide from windowanddoor.com regarding proper fenestration installation.