

Windows & Doors Experts

The Insider Buyer's Guide to UPVC Windows & Doors

 *How to Avoid Costly Mistakes, Spot True Quality — and Get the Best Value for Your Home*

 Serving Homeowners Across the UK

 Expert Advice • Verified Installers • Zero Sales Pressure

 <https://windowsanddoorsexperts.co.uk/home-page/>

Why This Guide Matters


Most homeowners make the same 3 mistakes when buying replacement UPVC windows and doors — and they can cost £1,000s in wasted money, heat loss, and security risks.


This guide reveals **the insider checks** the best buyers use to make sure they're getting *true quality* — not marketing hype.

1. Check Real Quality — Not Sales Talk


Most companies *say* their windows are “high quality.” But only independent **third-party testing** proves it.

Here's what to look for:

 **BBA Certification** – This shows the product has been tested for durability, lifespan, and long-term performance.

 Ask: *Does the company have a valid BBA certificate?*

 [Check more about BBA testing](#)

 **BFRC Energy Rating** – Confirms genuine energy efficiency and verifies *zero air leakage*.

 If the windows don't have verified **zero air leakage**, expect *drafts and noise*.

 [Check window ratings on the BFRC site](#)

2. Energy Efficiency That Actually Works

High energy bills usually mean poor seals, air gaps, or untested glass.

 Look for:

- BFRC rating “A” or higher
- Verified zero air leakage
- Proper insulation and spacer bars
- Made-to-measure fit (not “made-to-fit” with cover-up strips)

3. Security: Don’t Take Their Word for It

If a company can’t prove its products are **independently tested by the police** through the “Secured by Design” scheme — your home may be at risk of break-ins.

 Ask to see proof of **Secured by Design certification**

 [Learn more on the official Secured by Design website](#)




4. Installation & Accountability

Even the best window is useless if it’s badly installed.

Ask these vital questions:

 Are the installers **FENSA-registered**?

 [Check on the FENSA website](#)

 Are they **company-employed fitters** — or third-party contractors with no accountability?

 Are windows sealed **both inside and outside**? (Many cheap installers only seal inside.)

5. Made in Britain — or Imported?


Many cheap “British” windows are actually fabricated in **Eastern Europe or China**, then rebranded.

Ask directly:


- “Where are your windows manufactured?”
- “Do you use UK-made profiles and glass?”
Supporting local fabrication = better aftercare, parts, and long-term quality.

6. Company Credibility & Guarantees


Before you trust any company with your home — check their track record.

 **Companies House Check** – See how long they’ve been trading, and if they’ve changed names frequently.

 [Search any company on Companies House](#)

 **Guarantee Length vs. Trading History** – If they offer a 10-year guarantee but have only been in business for 2 years... that’s a red flag.

 **Financial Standing** – Check the company’s financial filings on Companies House to confirm stability.

 **FCA Regulation** – If they offer finance options, they *must* be authorized and regulated by the **Financial Conduct Authority**.

 Check FCA registration

7. Acoustic & Comfort Performance

If you live near a busy road or flight path, ask about **acoustic ratings (dB reduction)**.

No rating? No sound protection.


A properly tested window can cut road noise by up to **70%**.

8. Fabrication & Materials

Understand what “fabricator” really means — many companies don’t make their own windows; they assemble parts from multiple suppliers.

That means:


- Inconsistent quality
- Parts changing frequently
- No single-source accountability

 Always choose a supplier that controls its own manufacturing or works with **certified**

UK fabricators.

9. Made-to-Measure (Not Made-to-Fit)

Be wary of companies using pre-made frames and “cover-up” strips to fill gaps.

 Demand *custom, made-to-measure* windows that fit perfectly the first time. That means no foam fillers, no corner wedges, no drafts.

Final Thoughts

Thank you for reading this guide 

We hope it's given you **massive value** — and will help you save **£1,000s** while getting the quality and peace of mind you deserve.

We'll contact you shortly to let you know which **verified companies in your area** meet these standards and can provide free, no-obligation quotes.

Useful Links

- [BBA Certification](#)
- [BFRC Energy Ratings](#)
- [FENSA Registration Check](#)
- [Secured by Design](#)
- FCA Register
- [Companies House](#)

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