### How Heat-Blocking Window Film Can Keep Your Cooling Costs Down

U.S. Film Crew Article (Page 1 of 2)

### Summer is a wonderful time of the year; we get to enjoy the great American wilderness, experience the pristine waters of the coastal regions, and spend quality time with friends and family.

Despite all the joys of this season, however, the fact is that golden summer rays increase the temperature inside our spaces and have an effect on how comfortable they are. Most homeowners, naturally, rely on their HVAC systems to do the heavy lifting and keep their homes cool and pleasant.

In fact, 87% of American homes use some form of electrical cooling solution, and 63% of Southern households let HVAC systems run throughout the summer, which can lead to a significant increase—sometimes by up to 40%—in energy spending.

The good news? There's an effective and inexpensive way to maintain the ideal temperature inside your space without burning a hole in your wallet—and that's installing heat-blocking window tints.

In this post, we explore how heat blocking window film can help you reduce your cooling costs.

# Why heat blocking window film is effective at reducing heat inside your space

Windows are a great addition to any residential space. They allow you to experience fresh air inside your home and give you great views of the outside world.

Despite these benefits, the truth is that windows are not too great at blocking the heat of the sun. Statistics even reveal that windows are a major contributor to heat build-up during the summer and heat loss during the winter.

Regular untreated windows can even increase the temperature inside your home, beyond what anyone would consider pleasant and make you feel like you're inside an oven—forcing you to run your HVAC systems for longer.

Heat-blocking window film is an effective and inexpensive way to maintain the ideal temperature inside your space without burning a hole in your wallet.

For more information, please contact U.S. Film Crew at 412-961-TINT or visit www.usfilmcrew.com

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U.S. Film Crew Article (Page 2 of 2)

Heat-blocking window tints like solar window film, on the other hand, are designed specifically to block the sun's rays and heat, allowing you to maintain an ideal temperature without needing to ramp up your AC—saving you hundreds of dollars in cooling costs.

In addition to heat blocking, window film can also block 99% of harmful UV rays and prevent your furniture from fading.

#### How do window tints block heat?

Different heat blocking windows tints use different coatings and dyes to block heat and UV rays from the sun.

The cheapest heat blocking films use a thin, dyed polyester layer while the more expensive and advanced heat-blocking film solutions use metal coatings—generally nickel and chromium.

The latest window tints use a combination of carbon and ceramic particles to create a highly effective heat prevention layer that offers superior visibility and durability compared to traditional window tint solutions.

Regardless of their coating, however, these window tints transmit light without allowing heat to get through by preventing solar heat gain.

#### Things to consider before installing heat-blocking window film

Heat blocking window film like solar window film can create a high amount of thermal pressure on your windows. Certain types of glass, like tinted annealed glass, old insulated glass, and clear annealed glass, can't withstand this pressure and may run the risk of cracking.

When you're choosing your film solution, consider the Visible Transmittance (VT) and Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC) values of the options you're considering. As a general rule, window film solutions with low VT values are more efficient at blocking heat.

That said, keep in mind that high-VT films tend to be darker, which certain homeowner associations may prohibit!

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