Decorative Glass: A Hot Trend In Home Building And Remodeling
A Guide To Choosing Efficient Windows And Doors

(NAPSA)—For centuries, people have enjoyed the beauty and style of decorative glass in churches and public buildings. By the mid-19th century, homebuyers considered stained, beveled and jeweled glass windows to be symbols of elegance and luxury in a home.

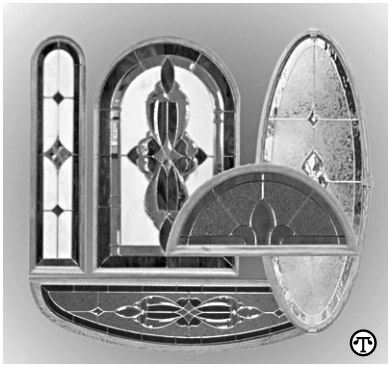
Today, home improvement television and magazines have revived this Victorian attitude of artful expression in home decor. Modern homeowners are looking for innovative ways to add light, color, beauty and originality to their home projects.

Reducing maintenance and improving energy efficiency of these decorative home accents is commonly accomplished by protecting the decorative glass in an insulating glass unit. An insulating glass unit is a combination of two or more panes of glass separated by a spacer and then heat sealed.

Decorative Glass Panels

Adding decorative glass as part of your home design can take several forms, such as entry door inserts, transoms and side panels, as well as windows. When selecting windows or doors with decorative glass panels some important things to consider are:

• Spacers: In insulating glass panels, also known as IG, spacers are used to maintain separation between the panes of glass and to protect against thermal transfer. Spacers can be made of several types of materials, but non-metallic (or "warm edge") spacers are best for optimizing efficiency. DecoSeal™ from TruSeal Technologies, Inc. is highly recommended for triple-glazed decorative windows and doors.



• Gas Fills: Non-toxic, odorless and colorless gases are added between panes of glass to improve insulation—Argon and Krypton are commonly used.

• Weather Stripping: Maintaining the energy efficiency of your windows and doors often relies on gaskets and sealants that stop outside air from entering around window and door frames. These materials have improved dramatically over the years and today are very resilient and durable.

• Low-E Coating: This is a thin, microscopic film applied to window glass that reflects heat energy to help keep warm air inside in the winter and outside in the summer. The type of Low-E Coating recommended depends on the climate:

Northern Climates (Cool summers with very cold winters): High Solar Gain Low-E;

Central Climates (Hot summers and cold winters): Moderate Solar Gain Low-E;

Southern Climates (Very hot summers and mild winters): Low Solar Gain Low-E.

Recommendations for Energy Efficiency

Triple-glazed decorative windows and doors are recommended to obtain optimal efficiency. With triple-glazing, there are two air spaces within the window construction—leaving double the space for insulation.

Combine the low maintenance benefit of insulating glass to protect the decorative glass, with the improved energy efficiency of a warm edge spacer system and you will have a long lasting, attractive and comfortable addition to your home.

Warm Edge Spacer Systems

The rise in popularity of decorative glass has prompted a new solution in warm edge spacer systems that provides excellent efficiency and aesthetic appeal.

TruSeal Technologies, Inc. has developed a warm edge spacer system made specifically for decorative windows and doors called DecoSeal.

Specially engineered to support the center pane of glass in a triple-glazed unit, DecoSeal provides a new level of thermal performance of windows without interfering with the aesthetic appeal.

The investment in buying decorative windows and doors that are long lasting, maintenance free and sealed with warm edge spacer systems can pay off—just check your energy bill.

For more information, visit www.TruSeal.com.