

Alpina® Storm Snaps™ vs. Indow™ and other brands

Alpina Storm Snap frames offer the same heat/cold insulation and sound reduction as Indow windows, but we offer these superior design advantages:

1. Measuring.

Indow CONS: Indow lenses require very precise measuring, especially diagonal measurements which are very difficult to do with a laser measure. If not made exact, Indow windows will not fit. Indow measuring requirements are time consuming and challenging, even for experienced people.

Alpina® PROS: Alpina Storm snaps are easy to measure for with tape measures or a simple laser measure, for a tight/perfect fit. Storm Snaps do not require precision, just +/- 1/16, and Storm Snaps don't require diagonal measurements. Fast and easy measuring. Storm Snaps patent-pending articulating corners adapt our frame tightly to all out of square window cavities.

2. Ease of installation and positioning.

Indow CONS: Indow windows are difficult to install nicely in the window cavity. It gets pushed in too deep, or too far pushed in on one corner. Once it's pushed in, it's hard to pull out and straighten. It's really challenging to get it "just right" inside your window cavity, without it looking crooked.

Alpina® PROS: Storm Snaps frames are super easy to install and align in your window frame. Storm Snaps™ are first installed "without" the lens. So, it's very easy to push in and pull out a bit to get it square and aligned nicely in your window cavity. Because the lens is not yet installed, it's easy to push from the front and pull out from the back of the frame and align it. Our patent-pending Pressure Grip™ screws hold your frame in place to avoid "blow-ins." You then simply install your lens and snap down all 4 frame edges. You're set!

3. Frame retention in the Cavity.

Indow CONS: With Indow, you have to screw a ball chain to your window frame to prevent the Indow from falling out. It's possible the Indow can still fall out, it's just that the ball chain will prevent the Indow from completely falling out.

Alpina® PROS: With Storm Snaps, our patent pending Pressure Grip™ screws squeeze on all 4 corners onto the window cavity to hold the Storm Snap frame in place. No ugly and visible ball chain hanging in back of your frame and visible through the lens, no need to screw or drill holes into your window cavity to use the Pressure Grips to hold your frame. Our Pressure Grip™ screws make it easy to remove your lens for cleaning the inside of the window cavity, as our frame stays in place.

4. Lens swap out option.

Indow CONS: Indow windows have to be completely removed to gain access to the window or for summer window opening. Then, you'd have to repeat the installation hassle again in the winter. If Indow windows gets scratched, you would need to buy a completely new Indow.

Alpina® PROS: Storm Snap frames allow easy swap out of lenses or removal during summer months. Frame can stay in place for easy re-installation of the lens in the fall, or use a tinted lens for summer solar blocking. If lens gets scratched, it's easy to replace just the lens or buy one from the local hardware store.

5. Rubber Edge fit and appearance.

Indow CONS: Indow's bulbous rubber corners have a tough time sealing off the corners, they often curl up and don't seal perfectly. Also, Indow's squished gaskets at the corners are not attractive. See pictures further below for common examples.

Alpina® PROS: Storm Snaps EPDM seal goes tightly into the corners and sides for a clean, tight sealed appearance.

6. Emergency Escape.

Indow CONS: Indows can only be pulled out using the one D ring Indow installs. There is no way to grab the rubber edging to pull on it. If the D ring is at the top, and the window is tall, client may not be able to reach it. So, if a window is needed for an emergency exit due to a fire, Indow windows may block the exit.

Alpina® PROS: Easy removal of the Storm Snap lens or frame "egress" in the event of an emergency. Simply grab any of the 4 flip up frame sides, flip open and pull the frame out of the cavity quickly, or if the frame is screwed in or with Pressure Grips, lens pops out when frame edges are opened.

7. Appearance and Beauty.

Indow CONS: Indow's "plastic" looking appearance with the bulbous rubber edge squashing out, is not as attractive as our aluminum profile.

Alpina® PROS: Attractive professional profile appearance of our alum profile, no visible squished out ugly rubber edge. Our EPDM rubber edge is almost invisible. Our finish looks like painted wood, so it fits beautifully with any wood window frames.

8. We make outside Storm Snaps too.

Indow CONS: Indow does not make outside use window inserts.

Alpina® PROS: Alpina makes Storm Snaps frames for outside use to protect historic and stained glass windows from weather damage. Also Storm Snaps are very popular to enclose 3 season screened porches from the exterior to make them 4 season use. Storm Snaps outdoor windows offer the same insulation and noise reduction as the interior models, or use both for double the benefits! We make trim and blind mount, as well as exterior press fit windows.

Storm Snaps vs. WindowInserts.com

Storm Snaps are far superior in quality, appearance, and durability vs. windowinserts.com Their thin, saran wrap type Vinyl plastic mounted in a flimsy, off the shelf Screen window frame and cheap foam edging are not worth the money you'd be paying. Pay a bit more for Storm Snaps and get a far superior product with a Polycarbonate lens that is 8x as thick and clear as glass. Plus, Storm Snaps in your window will be much more attractive, with an easily replaceable lens. Also, only Storm Snaps offers an exterior mount product as well.

Storm Snaps vs. Innerglass

Innerglass is a nice, sturdy product, but you have screw tracks into your window frame. You also have to deal with heavy, breakable glass inserts, that do not offer as good of insulation as our Acrylics. Storm Snaps is much easier to install, less expensive, more features, and no need to drill any holes, and Storm Snaps offers a superior seal against Air leakage vs. Innerglass. Also, only Storm Snaps offers an exterior mount product as well. Buy both and compare, you'll see.

Indow™ Windows' bulbous edging makes for unattractive, bulging or gapped air leakage corners. Not fixable on site, it's a design defect.





Alpina's Storm Snaps' attractive, finely mitered corners with commercial quality EPDM press fit rubber trim make for fully sealed, highly attractive corners.





Alpina has made over 6,000,000 frames for many industries, so we have the expertise, machinery, design intelligence to make the best, most affordable, most effective Storm window frames in the industry.

See our company video to explore our 100,000 sq. foot factory floor.