THE QUINTESSENTIAL COLLECTION

Flush Casement and Sash Windows

ADVANCED SYSTEMS WITH TRADITIONAL STYLE

Welcome HOME

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NO ORDINARY HOME . . .

OUR HERITAGE

We're fortunate to have a rich tradition and history. It's reflected in our buildings which show the changing trends in architecture and the development of the craftsmen's skills. Our diverse geology is shown in the materials we've used: rich red clays, soft grey limestone, Welsh slate, crystalline granite, and sharp, scalloped flints. Every bit of our past is precious because it's made us who we are.

OUR FUTURE

Every era has its own revolutionaries: those who break the mould, strike out, create a building that redefines a home. When that happens, the rules change. Tall buildings become wide buildings, rich becomes simple, and texture and colour replace detail and ornament. The inspirational architects who have shown such vision have made our culture richer and have opened our eyes to new possibilities.

YOUR HOME

There are few who would disagree that a special house needs special windows. A Georgian townhouse with its tall, elegant proportions and its strict vertical alignments needs sash windows that complement the house's façade. A rough-hewn, stone cottage needs a different approach to the simple modernism of a 1930s art-deco-inspired bungalow and both of those need a window that reflects their particular character. But for all the diversity in windows and glazing, there's one thing that all houses should be: a home.

Part of transforming a house into a home is, of course, about the people who live there, but on a more practical level, comfort, performance and security are critical. It's hard to feel relaxed if your house is cold. It's even harder if your windows rattle every time there's more than a gentle breeze or if water penetrates when it's raining. Fortunately, you don't have to put up with things like that. Modern materials and glazing technologies have made homes warmer, safer and more secure. They have made windows that are easier to look after and kinder to the planet. And now that there are high-performing, PVC-U Flush Casement and sliding Sash windows, you can feel really at home in *your* special home.

TRADITION AND PERFORMANCE

If PVC-U had been available to builders in the past, they would have used it. No one disputes the beauty of timber, but it has drawbacks. In the wet, it can swell. In dry conditions, it can shrink. It can warp or twist and whatever else you do, you'll always have to find the time to take good care of it. Imagine never having to paint a window. Imagine never having a window already welded shut with layers of paint.

PVC-U windows are tough, durable and insulating. They need hardly any maintenance. They open easily and when they're closed, they are secure. Quintessential windows replicate the appearance of traditional wooden frames: the delicate curves, detailing and trims, even the colours, grain and texture, but there's more on offer than good looks. Multi-chambered frames are secure and strong, advanced seals block the weather, high-specification glazing provides thermal and acoustic insulation. We don't believe in 'either/or' – we know you can have traditional style and 21st century performance.

EVERY DETAIL

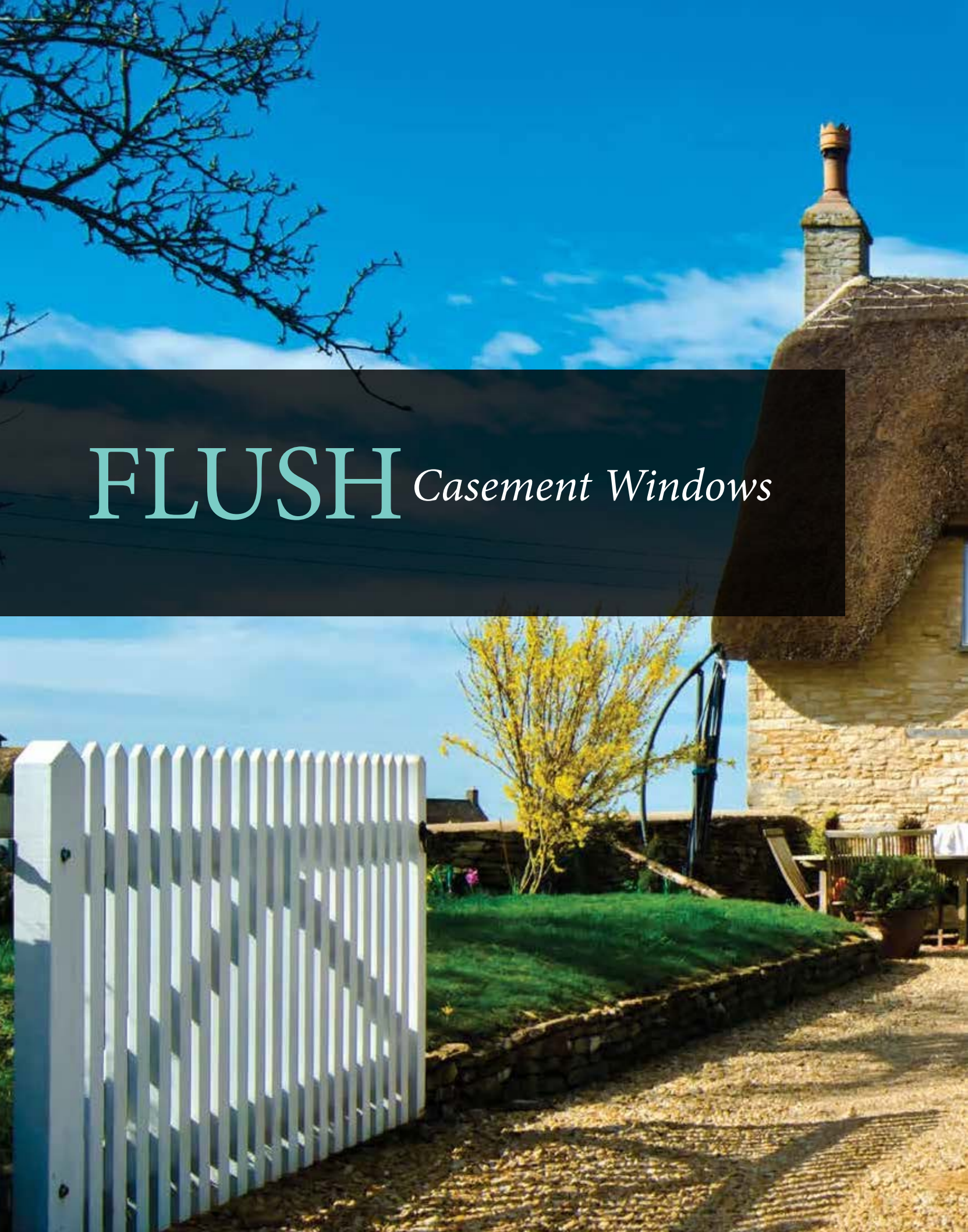
There are no corners cut, no detail left out that should be there. We've looked at every aspect of our window design, every angle, every joint, and every groove – even the positioning of screws you'll never see. Hardware is perfect, colours appropriate, proportions exactly right. Everything matters. Every, little thing.

SAFE AND SECURE

Style matters, but so does security. That's why our profiles are robust and impact-resistant and our locking systems advanced. Simple measures, like toughened glass in windows that are close to floor height and egress hinges which ensure you've got an escape route in case of emergency, help to keep your family safe and sound.

INSULATED

When it's cold outside, you want to be warm indoors. When the sun's blazing, you don't want to overheat. Smart glass technologies and multi-chambered frames insulate your home, not just from fluctuating temperatures but also from external noise. No draughts, no cold spots, just peace, quiet, and year-round comfort.



FLUSH *Casement Windows*

SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW . . .

Let's get the jargon out of the way. A casement is simply a window held on hinges in a frame. In the UK where external shutters are rare, the vast majority of casements open outwards. Within casements, there are various styles. A flush casement is simply one where the opening window sits flush in its frame, rather than standing proud.

It's a design that is elegant in its simplicity and is found in all sorts of traditional properties, from all periods. What's more, the lines are understated which makes them ideal for more contemporary properties which rely on minimalist styling. Quintessential Flush Casements replicate the timber original's appearance to perfection but go well beyond in terms of thermal performance and weathering capability. Now it's possible to have the look you want and the comfort you need. Now it's possible to combine charm and security, character and ease of maintenance. It's old style with new standards.

LINES AND PROPORTIONS

We've thought of it all: the right-sized frame with the right-sized window, and transoms, mullions and dummy sashes that create the authentic appearance and lines of a traditional flush casement. The shape is chamfered on the outside to shed the rain, and there's a choice of a chamfered or sculptured shape for indoors.

SHADES AND TEXTURES

Colours and wood finishes have been carefully selected to complement different building materials, periods and environments. There are soft, subtle shades: delicate creams and greens, striking greys and a host of timber effects. Choose a particular colour and we'll match it or pick a different finish for indoors and out.

HANDLES AND STAYS

We couldn't let our hardware let us down! The traditional appearance was a must, so even though our Flush Casements have their own friction hinges, we've got dummy peg stays and gorgeous, monkey-tail handles all finished the way you'd expect, with period colours and a craftsman's attention to detail.

“ Every great architect is - necessarily - a great poet. He must be a great original interpreter of his time, his day, his age ”

Frank Lloyd Wright

SASH *windows*

A BEAUTIFUL TRADITION

Sash windows originated in the latter part of the 17th century. At first they featured many small panes of glass held together by wide glazing bars. Within a few decades, improvements in glass allowed slimmer glazing bars and fewer individual panes. Soon the box sash window became the norm for all bar small rural dwellings.

With the advent of plate glass, larger panes allowed larger windows. Homes became lighter and better ventilated. Designs changed. By the middle of the Victorian era, it was common for sashes to have only a single, central glazing bar or even none at all and horns were added to the sashes to support and strengthen them.

We're still seeing improvements in glass. That's one reason why sash windows are still evolving. It's also because we expect more – we want homes that are warmer, cleaner and safer than those of our predecessors. Using smart materials means we can enjoy the best of both worlds: the grace and elegance of an outstanding and enduring design classic with the comfort, security and energy efficiency of a 21st century lifestyle.

PERFECTLY FINISHED

We wouldn't dream of trying to 'gild the lily' but the right finishing touches are essential. As well as the detail of sash horns, we've selected hardware that includes tilt buttons, lift hooks, sash locks, handles or ring pulls. Even though our sashes perform better than the old, timber styles, we want them to look the part.

GLAZING BARS

You can have as many as you like or none at all. But if you choose glazing bars, you'll have beautiful ovolo detailing and a choice of size because proportion is all important in sash windows. Our glazing bars faithfully replicate the appearance of small panes but have none of their drawbacks and never need painting.

WARM HEARTED

Our sash windows can achieve an A+ Window Energy Rating. Flush gaskets keep out the rain and mimic a traditional putty line, and draughts are prevented with pile seals to the sash and outerframe. The multi-chambered profiles and double-glazed sealed units insulate your home from heat loss and external noise.

BREAD

PERFORMANCE AND CHARM

'John and Gina's home restoration was a labour of love. They knew that their home had to retain all its charm, but they still wanted to be sure they were building a practical home – one that wouldn't cost the earth to heat or demand constant maintenance. When planners approved the use of our Sash windows they were delighted. They've got the appearance they want and the performance they need.'

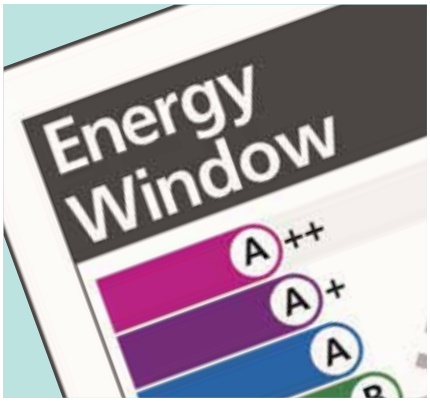
A PERFECTED HOME

IN CONTEXT

You could take a window out of a building and its style would be meaningless. In isolation, a window is an exercise in engineering. It's a theoretical barrier against the elements and intruders. Bring it home, install it and everything about its design has new relevance. Its sightlines, its proportions, its colours, its fittings, and its glazing – everything is important. Both traditional and contemporary homes need every aspect to work in context.

ON TARGET

With progress and technology, standards are always improving. Modern lifestyles, even if they are lived in period properties have high ideals and we live up to those. No one wants cold spots, draughts, condensation, dark rooms, insecure homes or the racket of external noise. With Quintessential windows, those parts of our history can be forgotten. We're living in the future, not the past, and it's much more comfortable.



CONSERVING AND ADVANCING

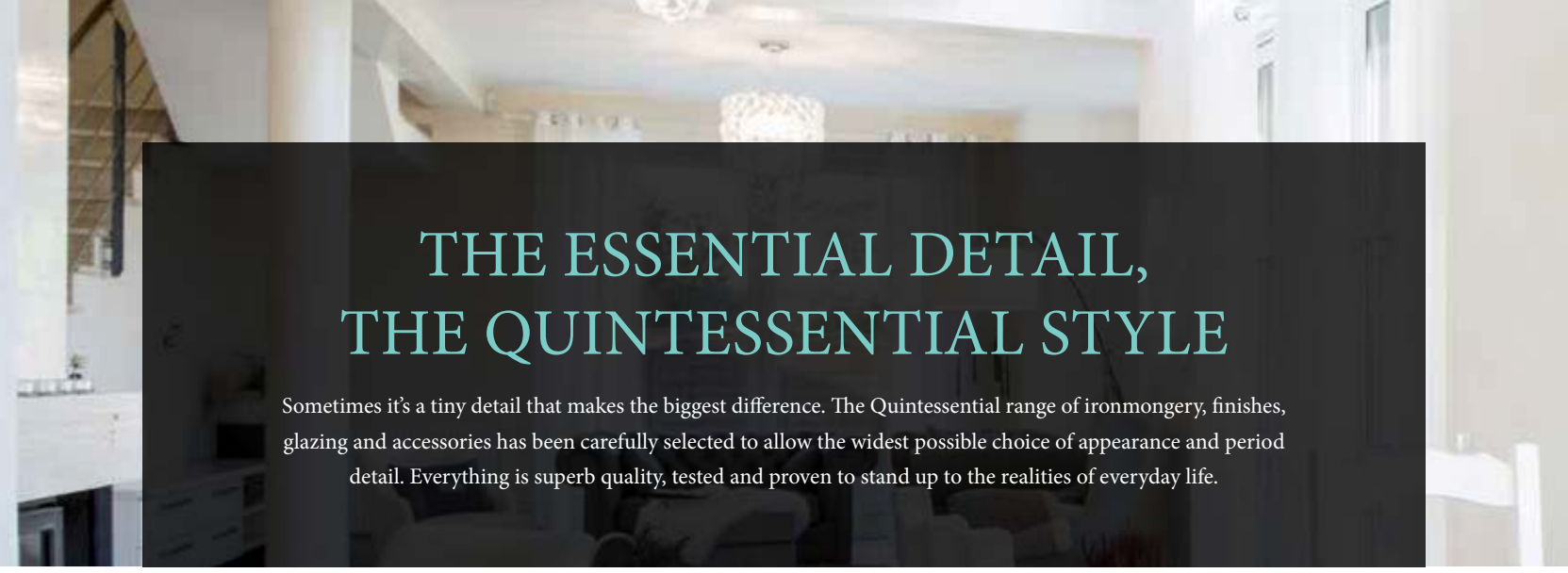
There's a fine line between preserving our heritage and being stuck in the past. Many planning authorities recognise this and although there are a few cases where original materials are the only acceptable option, these are becoming fewer and further apart. Conservation areas and even listed buildings now have their share of PVC-U windows. The reasons are simple: the appearance has been perfected. Our PVC-U Sash and Flush Casement windows are virtually indistinguishable from timber but have two major advantages. Firstly, they are more affordable and can make a huge improvement to the comfort and appearance of a property where timber alternatives may be prohibitively expensive. Secondly, their insulating qualities, easy maintenance and recyclability make them an environmentally-friendly alternative.

Our sightlines are spot on. Our Flush Casements have perfectly balanced dummy sashes and with our Sash windows, there are deep bottom rails and a front to back depth that matches box-sash dimensions. Our windows can include mechanical jointing to replicate the appearance of a timber joint. There is a great selection of period colours and wood-effect finishes, including a timber-grained, white or cream painted effect, which avoids potential unease about the smooth surface of PVC-U.

IT'S CHARACTER THAT COUNTS

"Conservation areas protect the features that give character to our developed environments. They do not prevent change, but alterations should preserve or enhance the special character of the area and its setting.'

We couldn't agree more.

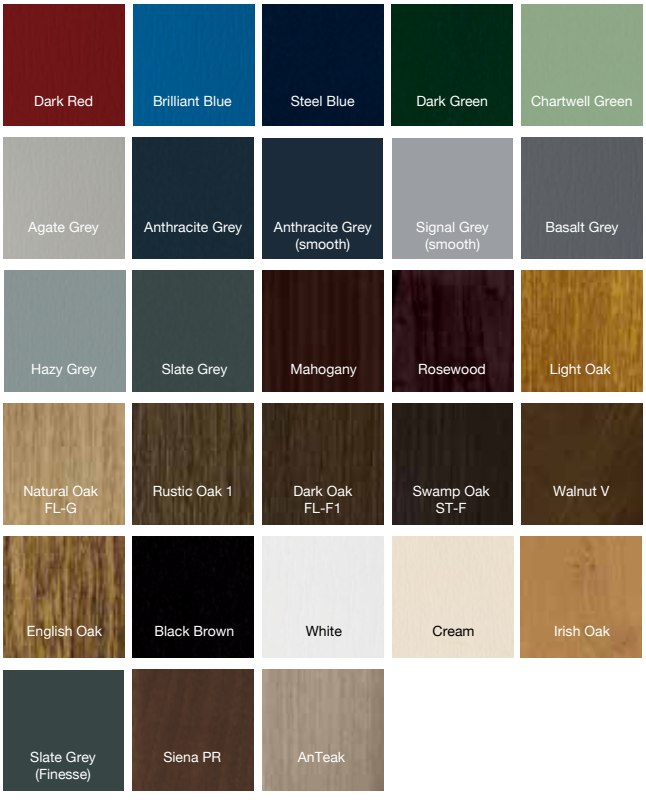


THE ESSENTIAL DETAIL, THE QUINTESSENTIAL STYLE

Sometimes it's a tiny detail that makes the biggest difference. The Quintessential range of ironmongery, finishes, glazing and accessories has been carefully selected to allow the widest possible choice of appearance and period detail. Everything is superb quality, tested and proven to stand up to the realities of everyday life.

Colour

The colours and finishes in the Quintessential range allow you to match the style and fashions of any era with shades chosen to complement different types of brick, stone and render and a range of wood effects including oaks and rosewood grains. For more modern homes, there are smart greys with flat surfaces and for black and white timber-framed houses a deep, dark colour that's almost black. For a Georgian townhouse, choose a crisp painted-white finish, or reflect your rural surroundings with softer, more-muted colours. And if you want to match your interior décor or features, our dual-colour options might be the answer you're looking for.



Glazing

Both our Sash and Flush Casement windows are designed to deliver fantastic thermal performance using 24mm sealed-unit double glazing. The overall energy efficiency is dependent upon the actual glass, the construction of the sealed unit, the gas used to fill it and the ratio of glass to frame. We'll work with you to find the best combination for your home and how you use it, but as every home is different it's wouldn't be right for us to give rigid performance figures in this guide.

Your glazing choices also include aesthetics. Flush casement windows in an Edwardian home can look fabulous incorporating stained glass. Cottage windows can have fully-leaded styles, or for something minimalist how about simple etched glass in a bold coloured frame?

Glazing Bars

With different sizes and shapes of glazing bar, you can recreate your home's original window style or throw caution to the wind and get creative. Our glazing bars fit perfectly onto the surface of the glass, indoors and outdoors, keeping the efficiency of a single glazing unit and the elegant detail that makes your home special.

Hardware

There's no point producing a beautiful, traditional-style window and then adding a modern-styled handle to it. The ironmongery we've selected is appropriate to the windows we've designed and has all the charm of a craftsman made original fittings. Ring pulls, and hooks for Sash windows, peg stays and monkey-tail handles for flush casements, and all with a choice of finish to blend with, or accent, your choice of window colour. But here's the bonus: our hardware has security built in – features like key-locking handles, which secure all around the frame, sash locks, and child safety restrictors which prevent sashes being opened too far.

Shape

The Quintessential system has been developed to offer as much choice of individual style as possible whilst still retaining the authentic proportions and designs of historic windows. Our chamfered edges replicate authentic putty lines, our ovolo detailing is precise and our sculptured option a perfect representation of the carpenter's skill.

Weatherbars

A stylish feature on flush casement windows, a weather bar was often used as a decorative touch that served to strengthen a timber mullion and to help shed rain. Now you can recreate that all- important period detail. Quintessential's Flush Casement weatherbars are available in all of our colours and finishes.

A LONG TRADITION, A LONG-LASTING FUTURE

Even though our materials are modern and our technology advanced, we've not rejected the best of our traditions. We're as proud of our history as you are of your beautiful home, but we know that your comfort, security, carbon footprint and sustainability are important too, even if you live in a stunning historic home.

The Quintessential system is made in Great Britain by a business that's respected for its methods and its quality, and which employs many of the industry's leading designers and manufacturing experts. Quintessential delivers the best of innovation whilst maintaining respect for the architecture and buildings of the past.

CRAFTSMAN MADE

We expect your home to be a little extraordinary. We don't expect your windows to be all exactly the same size. We know that some may be tiny or unusual shapes but we don't have a problem with that. That's what the system is designed to cope with. We'll measure everything precisely, and even consider things like your access, your home's orientation and levels of exposure to the elements. We want to ensure windows that work for *your* home.

Experts in fabrication will check every detail of finish and frame construction before delivering windows to your home. Our installation teams are skilled with traditional building materials and methods and are well used to handling everything from super-tall sash windows to gorgeous feature bays with cherished stained glass

OUR REASSURANCE TO YOU

Every part of the Quintessential range has been tested for safety and performance. The system is approved by the British Standards Institute and easily passes all requirements of the Building Regulations. It is produced to the ISO 9001 quality standard in a factory that works to an approved environmental policy and which has received the BES 6001 award for responsible sourcing of its materials. All aspects of manufacturing, parts and labour are fully guaranteed for a period of ten years.

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