

# Black Window Frames: Buyer's Guide

ALDA Windows and Doors - GTA reference 2026 to 2027

## Which black to choose by exposure

### 1 Matte black

Best for south and west exposures. Hides water spots and fingerprints. Reads soft and architectural.

### 2 Satin or low-gloss black

Best for north and east exposures where cleaning routine is easier to keep. Shows a subtle premium sheen.

### 3 Gloss black

Best for crisp contemporary architecture only. Reflective. Avoid on traditional brick homes.

### 4 Charcoal or near-black

A softer hedge if you want the look without the heat absorption peak. Slightly cooler under sun load.

## Pre-order checklist

<b>Cap-coat material</b>	Confirm PVDF (Kynar 500) or high-grade acrylic. Get it on the spec sheet.
<b>Warranty terms</b>	Read the south-facing exclusion. Many warranties limit fade coverage to 5 to 10 years on south exposures.
<b>Glass package</b>	Black frame with double or triple-pane low-E and argon. Glass dominates the energy story; frame color penalty is 1 to 3 percent.
<b>Interior color</b>	Decide on dual-color: black exterior with white interior is the most flexible for future paint and trim changes.
<b>Maintenance plan</b>	Vinegar-water wipe every 2 to 3 months keeps frames looking factory-new. Skip a year and the buildup shows.

## When black is not the right call

<b>Heritage districts</b>	Cabbagetown, parts of Forest Hill, period Victorians: stay with white or stained wood.
<b>Very dark brick exteriors</b>	Black on dark reads muddy; consider charcoal or off-white instead.
<b>Pre-1920 pressed brick</b>	Period proportions need lighter frames to balance the masonry.

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