

Exterior PVC Window Trim Guide

Frame your windows beautifully with off-the-shelf materials and exact standard cuts.

Upgrading your curb appeal is completely achievable with this stock materials guide. Use these exact proportions for a classic, weatherproof finish that will never rot.

● Stock Sizes & Specs

Under \$50

Average material cost per 3x5 window

6-inch

Top header width for craftsman weight

4-inch

Side casing width using standard stock

1-inch

Sill overhang past the outer edge

12-foot

PVC board length to minimize waste

Hidden metal drip cap

Tuck this essential flashing directly above the top header and completely underneath your existing house wrap to direct rainwater safely outward.



● Standard Window Cut List

- 1 Rot-proof PVC sill** Cut 1x6 stock to your window width plus 10 inches to accommodate side casings and overhangs.
- 2 Vertical side casings** Measure your window height and cut two 1x4 pieces to sit flush between sill and header.
- 3 Horizontal top header** Cut to your window width plus 7 inches to cover the sides with a slight reveal.

● Exterior Fastener Guide

Find your row: **Trim application**

Trim application	Your pick	Why
Casings and headers	2.5-inch stainless screws	Space every 16 inches
Small trim details	2-inch brad nails	Space every 12 inches
Mitered corner joints	PVC Glue	Apply to both edges

● Prep & Installation Checks

- Score old caulking before prying wood to protect house wrap.
- Apply flexible flashing tape over existing nailing flanges.
- Verify the bottom ledge sits at a slight downward angle.
- Notch back corners with a jigsaw to wrap the frame.
- Run continuous exterior-grade silicone sealant along every transition seam.
- Finish with 100-percent acrylic latex exterior paint for UV protection.

● Window Measurements & Notes

Enjoy your beautiful, maintenance-free exterior upgrade!