

# COMPARING HURRICANE PROTECTION OPTIONS FOR YOUR HOME

Keeping wind and water out is critical to your home's survival. Hurricane protection should be a planned element of any vulnerable home. Plywood should be a last-minute alternative, and if used, it must be properly fastened. It should be noted that plywood is more expensive over time because it doesn't qualify for insurance discounts and must also be replaced periodically.

When choosing a product, you should ask yourself the following:

- Am I a year-round resident?
- Am I capable of installing shutters alone? If no, you may want to consider installing permanent protection, such as impact-resistant glass.
- What are my physical limitations? Can I handle screens or lightweight corrugated plastic but not aluminum or other shutters?
- Will I be comfortable with the look of permanent products, such as roll-down or accordion-style shutters? These often have visible storage "boxes" on a home's exterior when not in use.

	Ease of Use	Storage	Effect on Appearance of Home	Egress (the ability to exit from protected openings)	Security	Visibility	UV Protection	Noise Reduction
<b>WinGuard and PremierVue Impact-Resistant Windows and Doors</b>	No effort required by homeowner.	No storage required.	No negative effect on appearance of home.	Full egress.	24/7 protection from intruders.	Allow light to enter home. Allow full outside view.	24/7 protection from up to 99% of harmful rays.	24/7 reduction of outside noise..
<b>Electric Roll-Down Shutters</b>	Require homeowner to be present. No labor required to roll down, minimal time. Motors susceptible to operational problems in coastal areas. Manual override needed if power is out.	No storage required.	Shutter housings and tracks detract from appearance of home.	No egress when shutters are down.	Protect from intruders only when shutters are down.	No light, no outside view when shutters are down.	Only when shutters are down.	Only when shutters are down.
<b>Manual Roll-Down Shutters</b>	Require homeowner to be present. Minimal labor and time required to roll down.	No storage required.	Shutter housings and tracks detract from appearance of home.	No egress when shutters are down.	Protect from intruders only when shutters are down.	No light, no outside view when shutters are down.	Only when shutters are down.	Only when shutters are down.
<b>Accordion Shutters</b>	Require a moderate amount of labor and time to fold out.	No storage required.	Shutter housings and tracks detract from appearance of home.	No egress when shutters are folded out.	Not designed for security.	No light, no outside view when shutters are folded out.	Only when shutters are folded out.	Only when shutters are folded out.
<b>Panel Shutters</b>	Require significant labor and time to install and remove. About \$300 to have someone else install and remove them.	Require storage space.	Panel tracks detract from appearance of home.	No egress when shutters are installed.	Not designed for security.	No light, no outside view when shutters are installed.	Only when shutters are installed.	Only when shutters are installed.
<b>Plywood Panels*</b>	Require significant labor and time to install and remove. About \$300 to have someone else install and remove them.	Require significant storage space.	Anchoring system detracts from appearance of home.	No egress when installed.	Not designed for security.	No light, no outside view when installed.	Only when installed.	Only when installed.

\* Code compliant, but must be 7/16" and pre-cut with anchoring system in place. Can't be used for spans greater than 8 ft. or on buildings taller than 33 ft.