

The Exhilaration of Openness

Enjoy the best of both worlds: a room that blurs the line between indoors and outdoors and the peace of mind that comes from a weather-resistant glass wall.

Glass is a crucial component of modern architecture. With folding and single-track sliding glass door systems, this element becomes dynamic. Whether residential or commercial, exterior or interior, sliding glass walls create large wall openings that blend the divisions between the spaces.


A recent trend has re-created the patio and back yard into living environments that are fully integrated into the rest of the house. The modern concept of outdoor rooms — kitchens and entertaining areas — is vital. The more convenient the connection between indoor and outdoor living areas, the more value is added to both spaces. In sidewalk restaurants and shops, open complete walls to outdoor space to add valuable square footage for seating and display. Hidden floor tracks offer seamless transition from one side to the other. In interior applications, open walls to create larger rooms when needed.

But even when closed, glass walls help you to enjoy your space with natural lighting. And in home, restaurant and office interiors, flexible room dividers create smart spaces, allowing acoustical separation without visual barriers.

Glass wall systems come with aluminum, wood or aluminum clad over wood frames in hundreds of colors, configurations and finishes. These sophisticated systems are precision engi-

neered for structural performance, and to resist air infiltration, water penetration, and forced entry.

Folding systems consist of panels connected together in a train. Panels can be hinged off either one or both side jambs and meet in a number of ways. With an odd number of panels on one side, a swing door is possible. With an odd number of panels on both sides, a double French door is created. Further options include inswing or outswing and center pivot panels. The total number of panels in your wall opening depends on your design and the combination of panel height, width, and glazing.

With single-track sliding systems the maximum number of panels is virtually unlimited, restricted only by structural steel constraints. And even if there are structural posts, tracks can be laid to the inside or outside of the posts to allow sliding beyond the posts. As opposed to traditional sliding doors, these systems are operated on a single track only. In non-weather-tight applications the floor track can even be eliminated altogether. When open, the panels can be stored outside the plane of the opening, creating literally a disappearing wall. Many different stacking configurations are available, tailored to your opening situation. Some systems allow for incorporated swing doors which easily convert from sliding into swing panels. 

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