

# Doors & Windows

## Don Cooper, Cooper Johnson Smith Architects, Tampa, Florida

We've been using a lot of Weather Shield lately, because it was the first company to get its double-hungs tested and certified for the new hurricane codes here. The  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch muntins on TDLs or SDLs are quite good. We also like Kolbe & Kolbe and Marvin. Almost everything we spec is aluminum clad—Florida has a terrible climate for wood windows. Clad windows now can be fit into any façade. For masonry, we use a brick mold with a double buck, so we can recess the window deeply but still meet hurricane standards.

## Art Lohsen, Franck Lohsen McCrery, Architects, Washington, D.C., and New York

Our favorite manufacturer is Zeluck. They handcraft high-quality custom windows—which are not, of course, inexpensive. Our first choice of material is sustainably grown mahogany, to be painted or left natural. It's a very stable wood, and it allows for muntins as narrow as  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch. We've used a few other manufacturers' product lines, like Marvin's Ultimate Series; we always require detailed shop drawings before fabrication. We rarely spec cladding; it's just too difficult to get elegant detail in the profiles. Screens are another problem. They kill the depth and shadow on a façade. We use concealed screens whenever we can, or at the very least, we make sure they're easy to install and take down seasonally. We usually fit windows as deep into the façade as possible, to accentuate the wall thickness and increase the shadow and detail of the opening.

## Curtis Gelotte, Curtis Gelotte Architects, Kirkland, Washington

For stock we work with Pella to some degree, and a lot with Marvin and Kolbe & Kolbe. Kolbe's factory finish on wood is extremely durable, and it comes in almost any color. We stay away from aluminum cladding for coastal sites, because saltwater and aluminum don't get along very well. And the wide casings and back bands you typically see on traditional windows are hard to find in aluminum and very hard to fit into bucks. For higher-end custom, and for a 100 percent period look, we like Dynamic near Vancouver and Quantum near Seattle. They'll both do any kind of custom profiles. For one recent house we designed, Dynamic made the window exteriors mahogany and the interiors oak, cherry, or paint-grade pine, depending on the finish in the room. On the Craftsman-style houses that fit in so well out here, Quantum's best. It produces windows that are all Douglas fir, inside and out.



Above, Dynamic Architectural Windows and Doors (circle 102) supplied these comely double hungs with interior shutters for a home along the New England coast. Pella Windows supplied the beautiful bay, below, for a restored house in Blue Hill, Maine (circle 103). On custom projects, windows increasingly are centers of attention, designed and built to both look good and work well. "Once you develop a critical, educated eye for windows," says architect Geoffrey Mouen, "a lot of what you'll see around doesn't work."

