

# origin

DOORS AND WINDOWS



## What's Right For My Home?

An advice guide on picking the best product to suit your needs

## Aluminium vs timber vs uPVC – which is right for me?

When installing doors or windows, choosing the right material is one of the most important decisions you can make. It will impact the strength, security, longevity of service, and possibly even the value of your property. The three main materials are aluminium, timber and uPVC. Here, we compare these materials to highlight each one's strengths and weaknesses.



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▲ Product shown: OB-72

	Aluminium	Timber	uPVC
Strength	Aluminium is innately strong, so it can achieve very slim sightlines. Because of its strength, it also means that individual panels can often be larger than other materials.	Timber is strong, but it can absorb moisture, corrode and become infected with mites, which can compromise its overall strength and rigidity.	uPVC is the weakest material, which can affect both security and visibility. Because it's weak, sightlines are often wide so it can accommodate the glass weight.
Maintenance	Aluminium is low maintenance and only requires a clean every now and then with a diluted soapy water solution.	Timber requires regular maintenance, including waxing, painting or using treatments to prevent rotting.	uPVC doesn't require much maintenance. However, the colour finish tends to fade quickly.
Thermal efficiency	Aluminium is not naturally a good insulator. However, some manufacturers, like Origin, incorporate a thermal break within the profile to meet current building regulations.	Timber is naturally a good insulator. However, it can contract in the cold which can lead to gaps, compromising its thermal efficiency.	As uPVC is plastic, it's a very good insulator. However, if it warps or flexes, then energy performance and overall operation can be drastically reduced.
Environmental impact	Not only does aluminium have the best longevity out of these materials, but it's also infinitely recyclable and therefore more environmentally friendly.	Timber can't be recycled as many times as aluminium, and the process of obtaining timber requires cutting down trees.	uPVC can also be recycled but not as many times as aluminium.
Property value	Aluminium can boost the value of your property as it provides many long-lasting benefits.	Depending on the property style, timber can add to the value of your home.	uPVC can add an initial bump to the property value, but aluminium is becoming more expected in higher valued properties.
Guarantee length	Aluminium can offer long guarantees. Origin offer an industry-leading 20-year guarantee for its doors and windows.	The average guarantee length for timber doors and windows is between 6-10 years.	uPVC guarantee lengths tend to be much shorter than aluminium and timber, approximately 5-10 years.

So, if you're looking to add value to your property, benefit from low maintenance and a long guarantee, then aluminium doors and windows are the right choice for you. If you like the timber look and feel, you can achieve a very realistic finish with aluminium powder coated woodgrain effects.

## Using windows in your extension...

Building onto your home can cause loss of light in the existing rooms, so allowing as much natural light into the extension as possible is highly important.

Here are 7 things you can do to successfully incorporate windows into your extension:

### ▶ Consider where the sun is

Think about which way the extension is facing, as this could affect the amount of light the room will get and what type of roof and windows will work best. An architect is usually the best person to help with this.

### ▶ Maximise the use of glass

By opting for a fully glazed or heavily glazed extension using doors and large panel windows, you can optimise natural light while making a strong contemporary statement, as well as allowing the original features of the house to show through. Bear in mind that this is probably the most expensive option.

### ▶ Bring in light from above

Rooflights work really well for extensions as they allow natural light to flood in from above without compromising yours or your neighbours' privacy. Depending on your budget, you can opt for either ready-made rooflights or have bespoke glazing panels fitted into the extension roof using advanced glass that optimises temperature as well as light.

### ▶ Have a dual aspect extension

Introducing windows on two or more sides of the extension will ensure the space is well-lit throughout the day and will let more light into adjoining rooms.

### ▶ Be prepared to reconfigure

Getting the best light from your extension may mean rethinking what's already there, so be prepared to alter the layout of existing rooms to optimise existing light, views, privacy and access in or out of the property.

### ▶ Consider the internal appearance

It's important to think about what your windows will look like from the inside of your extension, not just the outside. For example, windows that are evenly spaced will look better, and flush casement windows offer a timeless look to all property types.

### ▶ Think about temperature, not just light

Rooms with lots of windows aren't generally very thermally efficient, as they get extremely hot in summer and cold in winter. Solar-control coatings are now available for glass to keep excessive heat out of the room, but consider having remote control of your extension windows if they're unreachable, so that you're able to open and close them easily. Windows with lower U-Values are recommended as they give better thermal insulation.



▲ Product shown: OB-72 and OW-80



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▲ Product shown: OW-70

## Tips to optimise natural light...

When it comes to planning your extension and adapting the layout of existing rooms, it's worth thinking about the following:

- ▶ Where is the sun? Tracking how the sun moves around will help you plan your layout. While south-facing windows enjoy the best natural light, a heavily glazed extension could overheat, so east or west-facing might be better.
- ▶ Use mirrors. They reflect natural light while giving the illusion of more space.
- ▶ Curtains or blinds? Sheer fabric for large windows or wide-slatted shutters/blinds will let the most natural light in while offering privacy.
- ▶ Flooring matters. Choosing a hard, polished floor will help bounce light around the room.



▲ Product shown: OB-72 OW-80

## Bi-fold, Sliding or French Doors: Which option is best for me and my home?

If you're not sure what type of door would best suit your property or requirements, then the best thing you can do is visit a showroom and actually operate the doors to get an impression of the look and feel of each door. In the table adjacent, we've compared some of the key features of each door type to give you a better understanding of each door's strengths and weaknesses.



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▲ Product shown: OS-20 and OW-80 Colour: 9005M

	Bi-fold Doors	Sliding Doors	French Doors
Cost	Prices for bi-fold doors depend entirely on configuration style, colour and aperture size. However, generally speaking, bi-folds are the most expensive option.	Sliding doors can be bought 'off the shelf' or can be made bespoke, with the latter being the more expensive option, though they tend to be slightly cheaper than bi-folds.	French doors are the most affordable option as they tend to be much smaller than bi-folds and sliders.
View	Can replace an entire wall in your home and offer totally uninterrupted views when folded back. Origin Bi-fold Doors have slim sightlines, which offer great views even when closed.	Sliding doors offer a great view when closed. However, it's not possible to open the slider in the same way as the bi-fold as one pane will always be visible.	French doors don't tend to be as big and are unable to be opened as wide as bi-folds or sliders as they can't replace an entire wall of a home. Therefore, views tend to be more restricted.
Property suitability	Bi-folds can be powder coated to offer a variety of styles and finishes, including woodgrain. Therefore, bi-folds are becoming increasingly more popular for traditional homes, as well as contemporary.	Like bi-folds, sliding doors can be powder coated in over 150 different colours and finishes, ensuring its versatility. Origin offer 3 different sightline options, so more modern properties tend to opt for the slimmest, whilst traditional properties go for the slightly wider.	Best suited for traditional properties, French doors offer greater variation in frames and glass styles, and can be adapted to work with traditional windows.
Configuration	Very versatile in nature, bi-fold doors have multiple door leaves and configurations to suit your preference, including corner or bay configurations.	Sliding doors require one door to slide past another therefore, not providing a complete opening.	A normal configuration involves two doors that open either outwards or inwards.
Threshold	Can be specified with a weathered or non-weathered threshold, which creates a seamless transition between indoors and out, removing a possible trip hazard.	Sliding doors can achieve a sleek, ultra-modern effect by having the track recessed into the floor to create a flush finish. The doors are still able to pass each other flawlessly, offering a smooth and dependable operation but also a smooth transition from the inside, to the out.	Traditionally, they are unable to achieve a non-weathered threshold. However, Origin French Doors can be specified with a weathered or non-weathered threshold.

## Bi-folding door thresholds FAQs...

### What is a bi-fold door threshold?

A bi-fold door threshold is the track in which the carriage slides in that allows the door to open and close.



### What threshold options are available for the doors?

Origin offers two types of threshold:

- ▶ Non-weathered threshold - this is when the track is almost completely flush to the floor.
- ▶ Weathered threshold - also known as a 'rebated' threshold, it features a small lip on one edge of the track. The seal on the bottom of the door compresses against the lip to create a weather tight seal.



▲ Weathered threshold



▲ Non-weathered threshold

### What are the features of a weathered threshold?

Weathered thresholds are designed to give greater protection against driving rain and draughts.

Though rebated, the track can be sunk so that the upstand is just 14mm from outside to in. Many people who originally want a completely level threshold often opt instead for a weathered threshold to give them peace of mind that their home will be protected from the elements.

Due to the superior weather performance, this is a perfect option if the doors open out to an external environment, such as a garden or patio.

### What are the features of a non-weathered threshold?

Non-weathered thresholds offer a completely flat transition between the inside and out.

As there is no raised section, this type of threshold is especially good for:

- ▶ Older people
- ▶ Toddlers
- ▶ Those with mobility issues

However, because the door seal doesn't have a solid lip to compress against, optimal weather performance cannot be guaranteed. This type of track is ideal for internal use or a sheltered outside area.

### Why do you need drainage with bi-fold doors?

Drainage is used to channel rainwater away from the threshold of external bi-fold doors. This stops water pooling in the track and routes it through the correct channel away from the building.



▲ Product shown: OB-49

## Which sliding door should I choose? (inline sliding door vs. lift and slide door)?

The main differences between an inline sliding door and a lift and slide door are in the way that they open and how they move.

If you have regular visitors at home, need everyday access or children at home, a lift and slide door could be harder for little hands to master opening the door on their own. A lift and slide door can only be opened through turning the handle 180°, and it's this movement which causes the door to raise onto rollers to enable the doors to move.

Once the handle is turned again, the door will be locked in place – so it won't move unless it's supposed to. These doors are primarily designed in this manner to allow larger glass expanses.

An inline sliding door is the more traditional of the two – its weight helps it to move smoothly on rollers when opening, making it a light, effortless door to use. If you are looking for a door that will slide easily to create a seamless space between your home and garden, this would be a perfect option. Unlike the lift and slide door, the Origin Inline Sliding Doors are able to accommodate large glass expanses whilst maintaining flawless, smooth operation of the doors because of their advanced running gear.



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▲ Product shown: OS-20

## How many panels can you have?

The Artisan Slider (OS-20) covers a huge amount of space – up to 13.2m, in fact – through configurations that range from two to six panels.

Configurations of up to three panels are available using the Patio Slider (OS-44 and OS-77), with it being able to have a maximum set size of up to 6.6m.



▲ Product shown: OS-20



▲ Product shown: OS-44



▲ Product shown: OS-77

## How do I choose the right sightline?

3 sightlines are available with Origin – an ultra-slim 20mm sightline on the Artisan Slider (OS-20), or 44mm or 77mm on the Patio Slider (OS-44 and OS-77). Whichever Sliding Door you choose, you will benefit from the opportunity of being able to flood your home with natural light.

The best way to ensure that you're choosing the right sightline for you is to go to your local showroom to see the doors for yourself – it's hard to imagine what a Sliding Door will look like until it's there, but this will give you the chance to see which one you're most drawn to.

## Are sliding doors heavy to operate?

Precision engineered and specially designed to your specifications, Origin Sliding Doors pass each other smoothly on a double or triple track configuration, through a high quality carriage system and a robust runner. All of this combined together makes for a door that's light and effortless to use.

It doesn't just slide, it glides.

## Sliding door thresholds

Because of the way sliding doors operate – sliding rather than hinged to open inwards or outwards – it is possible to achieve a completely flush threshold, even with the built-in drainage system. This is easier if you are adding an extension, as you can factor the necessary work into the design to

ensure that the inside space meets your outside space at the same level. If you are adding a sliding door to an existing opening, a flush threshold may still be easy to achieve, even if it needs a little help from a small upstand detail, to get the inside and the outside to the same height.

No matter where your new sliding door will be placed, it's important to let your builder know what you have chosen as soon as possible, as there are a few things that they will have to factor into the design and build. Not only do they need to ensure that the drainage system runs away from your home, but they also need to accommodate room for the frame depth, which is much larger than a standard door, along with the triple track configuration, so that your door will slide smoothly, with as flush a threshold as possible.



▲ Product shown: OS-20



## Comparing composite doors to aluminium front doors...



▲ Product shown: Residential Door, Panel SE 04 in 7015M

### What is a composite door?

A composite door is made up of a blend of different materials including uPVC, wood, insulating foam and glass-reinforced plastic (GRP). These materials are used in different parts of the door and the main frame is normally a mix of materials that are tightly pressed together to deliver the final finish.

### Advantages of a composite front door

- ▶ Popular because they are one of the more affordable options
- ▶ Quick lead times as the doors tend to only be available in set sizes
- ▶ They “designed out” many flaws found from uPVC doors, making it stronger
- ▶ Usually provides high thermal performance
- ▶ Available in woodgrain effects to imitate real wood
- ▶ Low maintenance

### Disadvantages of a composite front door

- ▶ “Off-the-shelf”, so tend to be available in a limited number of styles, sizes and colours
- ▶ Woodgrain effect isn’t as realistic as the powder coated aluminium woodgrain effect
- ▶ Usually doesn’t offer a smooth finish when compared to aluminium
- ▶ uPVC outer frame means the door could be prone to expanding and contracting, making it difficult to open and close in years to come
- ▶ Composite doors are not as strong as aluminium doors
- ▶ Some composite doors with sidelights and top lights can be prone to rattling and shaking when the door is shut as the uPVC used is relatively flexible.



▲ Product shown:  
Residential Door, Panel CO 01 in RAL 6021M

## What is the Origin Residential Door?

The Origin Residential Door is manufactured with premium-grade aluminium, comprised of only prime billets and an ultra-insulating core, making it one of the highest quality, yet affordable, aluminium residential doors.

## Advantages of the Origin Residential Door

- ▶ Available in as little as 1-week in a bespoke size
- ▶ Incredible strength and durability. The increased strength means the doors are available in larger sizes to give a grander appearance
- ▶ 10 panel options available in 150 RAL colours - you choose the door you want and customise it exactly how you like
- ▶ PAS 24:2016 and Secured by Design accredited, with either an 8-point or 5-point automatic firing lock available and 3-star cylinder
- ▶ Finished with an extremely hard-wearing powder coating, which prevents oxidation and water stains, and comes with a guarantee of up to 20-years
- ▶ Very low maintenance needed - just wiping the doors down is enough in most environments
- ▶ Available in a realistic woodgrain finish

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- ▶ 1. Residential Door, Panel SE 07 in 9910G
  - ▶ 2. Residential Door, Panel CO 01 in RAL2010
  - ▶ 3. Residential Door, Panel TR 02 in 5024M
  - ▶ 4. Residential Door, Panel SE 04 in 3002M



## Disadvantages of the Origin Residential Door

- ▶ Can be more costly due to expensive raw materials and higher quality components

An aluminium door, like the Origin Residential Door, will suit you if you are after a door with supreme quality that will outlast others and requires very little maintenance.

Composite doors have some advantages over materials such as timber or uPVC, however, when looking for a door that is durable, strong and secure (whilst maintaining unmatched aesthetics), more customers are turning to aluminium. The Origin Residential Door is made using pure aluminium and manufactured to the highest standards, making it one of the highest quality front doors available.

Why not take the next step up from a composite door and invest in the highest quality door available at an affordable price? Feel pride when you get home, for decades to come.



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## Our Accreditations...

**At Origin, we pride ourselves on providing best quality products backed by best levels of service and efficiency. Put simply, our aim is to continuously learn, evolve and improve.**

We are well known for having rigorously high standards in everything that we do. We're also known for innovation, but we never want to settle: if there's a way that we could do something better, we will find it.

This ethos has been instilled throughout Origin. Whether it's a process, product offering or even the company's sustainability, we have created a culture that encourages continuous improvement.

To demonstrate our commitment and as a way of measuring our performance, we work towards gaining certain prestigious accreditations. Our achievements show a strong moral and ethical intent in how we operate and how we try to do things the best way, not because we are told to do so, but because we think it is the right thing to do.

### Queen's Award For Enterprise

Origin are honoured recipients of the Queen's Award for Enterprise for International Trade 2020.

Now running for over 50 years, this award is the most prestigious business award in the country.

The awards celebrate the success of our exciting and innovative business which is leading the way with pioneering products and services whilst showing their commitment to excellent sustainable development practices, not only in our own industry, but throughout the country.

"This is an incredible achievement and is testament to the wonderful team we have at Origin. We started out as a small family business back in 2002, and it's been an amazing journey to have gone on to get to where we are now and be able to receive this incredibly prestigious award.

It would not have been possible without the commitment, dedication and support of our staff, partners and stakeholders."  
Victoria Brocklesby, COO



### Secured by Design...

Secured by Design (SBD) is a national, police-backed standard, associated with security and levels of performance for weather, operation and quality on domestic properties. The flagship UK police initiative was originally introduced to help 'design out' crime through the use of high-quality, innovative products and market-leading processes.

It recognises that our doors and windows have not only been tested to the required security standards, but that they also adhere to the rigorous test standards required by the police.

This independent certification involves initial testing of the products and regular re-tests, as well as inspections of our manufacturing and production facilities, to ensure the correct processes are maintained constantly over time, providing more secure and reliable products.

In order to be able to apply, we first needed to achieve:

1. PAS 24:2016 (Enhanced Security)
2. BS EN 6375 Part 1 (Weathertightness)
3. BS EN 6375 Part 2 (Operational and Strength Characteristics)
4. BS EN 6375 Part 3 (Basic Security)
5. ISO 9001 (Quality Management)

We're proud to say that our products passed every one and SBD, so you can feel secure by choosing Origin.



### ISO 9001 – Quality Management...

ISO 9001 is an international standard that assesses a company's quality management system. Having first achieved it in 2013, the fact that we are still certified means that we have a track record of consistently providing products and services that meet both customer and regulatory requirements.

It's something that we take very seriously and its influence is integrated into every process. Key areas of this include:

Product quality – to ensure a product's overall manufacture is flawless, we have checks in place to guarantee you the best quality. A few examples are:

- ▶ Supply chain – an inspection at the point of delivery and before going into manufacturing. If anything is spotted, it's documented and raised with the supplier.
- ▶ Production – there are quality checks at every station, not only to look over the previous person's work, but to review the quality of the overall build.
- ▶ Equipment – a robust maintenance schedule for machinery and equipment ensures consistency.
- ▶ Pre-delivery – before products are packaged and loaded ready for delivery, there's another thorough check to ensure nothing's happened whilst being moved from station to station.

Feedback – as part of our mission to always innovate, whether it's from internal or external stakeholders, feedback is imperative. We are very proactive at bringing this type of information back into the business and learning, as it gives us an opportunity to improve.

Training and development for our employees – meaning we're better at understanding the good, the bad, and what we can do better.



FS 584084

## ISO 45001 – Health & Safety...

As with everything Origin, we go above and beyond when it comes to health and safety best practices.

ISO 45001 is a standard we achieved in 2019, and it recognises our commitment to employee safety, reduces workplace risks and creates a better, safer working condition.

We have spent time reviewing all the activities that go on within the offices, manufacturing centres and warehouses, and have created a full risk log which will link up to our current risk assessments which are fed back so they can be actioned to be rectified or developed into an improved method of operating.



OHS711491

## ISO 14001 – Environmental Management...

Now more than ever, we need to be aware of the impact our operations may have on our environment; the legal obligations we must adhere to, and ensuring we are doing things the right way.

The internationally renowned ISO 14001 accreditation measures the environmental management system that we have in place. It's a subject that's very close to our hearts, which is why working towards this standard was an easy decision.

We care about the resources we use for our products – where they come from and where they end up. To add to this, we aim to be zero waste to landfill and have already put into place many positive changes to make this happen. We want our customers to buy from us with a clear conscience and feel that ISO 14001 can prove that Origin is taking responsibility, acting ethically, legally and exercising best practice in all that we do. Our environmental management system covers:

- ▶ Waste management and energy targets – to reduce our consumption and impact on the environment. Helpful hints, tips and reminders are prompted to all staff regularly, so that they can join us in our goal and see how small changes to their work practices can have a big impact.

- ▶ Product design and lifecycle – recyclability and sustainability are a design priority for us.
- ▶ Supply chain – choosing suppliers that are aligned with our ethos and vision. This is applicable not only when bringing on new suppliers, but also working with existing ones to better their carbon footprint – whether that's minimising packaging, reusing or even our drivers picking up the materials on their routes, rather than a supplier sending their own fleet, we are constantly reviewing how we can improve.





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