

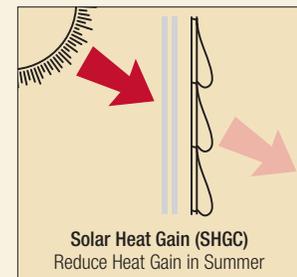
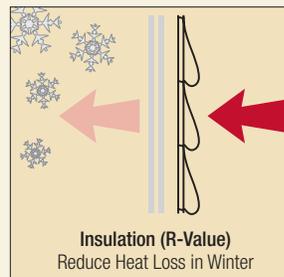
The Energy Efficiency Story

VIGNETTE® FABRIC	WINTER COMFORT: R-VALUE		SOLAR HEAT GAIN COEFFICIENT	SOUND ABSORPTION RATING
	Higher is better.		Lower is better.	Higher is better.
	(Low-e double glazing with product)	(Amount added to window)	(Measured with a standard double-glazed window)	(Scale is in a range from 0.00 to 1.00)
Standard Traditional™	4.39	0.89	0.28	0.45
Standard Traditional EveScape™	4.53	1.03	0.28	0.60
Tiered™ with LiteRise®	4.81	1.31	0.28	0.45
Tiered Architella® (all lifting systems)	6.00	2.50	0.19	0.70

Heating and Cooling Costs: Understanding R-value and Solar Heat Gain Coefficient

A product's "R-value" is a measurement of its ability to resist heat flow, keeping heat inside during the winter. The higher the R-value, the more insulation a product provides.

A product's "solar heat gain coefficient" (SHGC) is a measurement of its ability to reduce heat gain from the sun. The lower the SHGC, the less solar energy that passes through the window into the room, reducing heat gain in the summer.



Sound absorption ratings measure the amount of reflected sound absorbed by the window covering. On a scale from 0.00 to 1.00, the Tiered Architella value of 0.70 is equal to 70% sound absorption.

Vignette Tiered Architella Frequently Asked Questions

Question:

How much more energy efficient are Vignette Tiered Architella shades compared to standard or room-darkening Vignette shades?

Answer:

Tiered Architella shades add 2.5 to the R-value of the window while Tiered non-Architella shades add only 1.3. The Architella fabric construction almost doubles the energy efficiency of Tiered shades. Because Tiered shades have narrower inside mount edge gaps, Tiered Architella shades are two and one-half times more energy efficient when compared with other Tiered options. (Note: Vignette Architella shades are only available with the Tiered design option.)

Question:

For maximum energy efficiency, how should these shades be mounted?

Answer:

The shades should be inside mounted to maximize energy savings. This minimizes airflow around the shade. The same energy-saving benefit can be achieved with the EasyRise™, LiteRise or UltraGlide® lifting system.



Because Tiered Architella shades fit more tightly in the window opening, it will be necessary to mount the EasyRise cord tensioner outside the window opening as shown.

Question:

Why are Vignette® Tiered™ Architella® shades so much more energy efficient?

Answer:

An extra layer of back fabric creates an additional air pocket behind each fabric fold. Combined, the two air pockets (the backing and the fold) provide greater insulation than a single air pocket (fold only).

Question:

What does this increased energy efficiency mean to my customers?

Answer:

It means they will save on energy costs and reduce their carbon footprint. Savings vary by climate. In a typical December in Chicago, these shades reduce heat loss through a standard double-glazed window from about 13,000 BTU/sq. ft. (bare window) to less than 6,000 BTU/sq. ft. (covered window). This translates into December heating cost savings of about \$0.20/sq. ft., or \$20 for every 100 sq. ft. of shades. CO₂ savings for the month would be approximately 170 pounds for every 100 sq. ft. of shades.*

In addition, people lose radiant heat to cold window glass — which is often perceived as a cool draft. The better insulating a shade is, the higher its interior surface temperature — and so less radiant heat loss is experienced by the room’s occupants. This often allows for the thermostat to be lowered, again saving on heating costs.

Air pockets trap air, creating an extra layer of insulation.



Question:

What about savings on cooling costs?

Answer:

Vignette Tiered Architella shades have a solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC) of 0.19 compared to 0.28 of other Vignette shades and 0.76 of bare double-glazed windows. These numbers mean that with the extra layer of Architella back fabric, only 19% of incident solar energy enters the home to become heat compared to 76% with bare windows. Cost and CO₂ savings can be substantial.

Question:

How much more expensive are Vignette Tiered Architella shades compared to corresponding standard Vignette shades?

Answer:

They are priced 10% higher than standard shades. This difference in cost, however, can be made up in energy savings.

Question:

What are the visible differences between Vignette Tiered Architella shades and standard Vignette shades?

Answer:

The extra layer of fabric on the back of Architella shades filters the light so the shade is less translucent and colors are slightly richer. On outside-mounted Architella shades, the second air pocket is visible from the side.



*Savings calculations based on a methodology developed by Hunter Douglas and validated by Rocky Mountain Institute, a highly respected nonprofit organization that specializes in energy and resource efficiency. Vignette Architella shades are just one step in an energy savings plan for your home.