



Jim Dulley

Thank you for your interest in writing to me about patio and screen rooms. Using an outdoor screened room in the evening will allow you to turn your air conditioner off or, at least, set your thermostat higher to save electricity. I built a three-season (aluminum frame, single-pane glass) patio room over my own patio (see photo below).

On the following pages, I have listed some of the major manufacturers of high quality screened patio rooms and kits. Some are just simple frames with screened walls and others are closer to an actual sunroom without the glass roof.



Dulley's House

has many small local builders and patio room companies. Some make excellent products, but others will be out of business before your warranty period is expired. For this reason, it is probably safer to install a kit or have a room installed by one of these major patio room manufacturers. Since there are so many models, sizes and options, I did not attempt to list suggested retail prices.



Patio Enclosures

If you want the simplest screened area and a reasonable cost, Kay Home Products makes several kits (round or square) with a three-ply vinyl roof and an aluminum frame that you can disassemble for

storage in the winter. If you are interested in a three-season room or a year-round room, the roof/wall section design and features are very important. Insulation is required for use in addition to just the summer. Insulated laminated aluminum roof panels, often three inches thick, are adequate for most climates. In very cold climates, some companies (PGT Industries) offer 6" thick insulated panels.

For year-round use, you should get thermal pane windows or your heating bills will be too high and you will feel uncomfortably chilly near the windows. If the frame is aluminum, it should also have insulating thermal breaks.



Americana

Selected Manufacturers of Patio and Screen Rooms

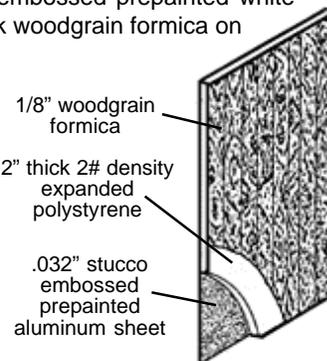
AMERICANA BUILDING PRODUCTS (HINDMAN), #2 Industrial Dr., Salem, IL 62881 - (888) 442-2928 www.americana.com

roof/wall systems - "Classic Vue" wall section is a 2" thick panel that consists of .032" stucco embossed prepainted white aluminum outside, expanded polystyrene core (provides R-8 insulating factor) and 1/8" light or dark woodgrain formica on the interior. See the illustration to the right. Aluminum, charcoal or sunshade (blocks 70% of the sun's rays) fiberglass screens for all windows. Roof not included • "Scenic Vue" screen room comes with fiberglass screen panel with aluminum kick panel available in white, ivory, brown or bronze. Can add self-storing double-track window. Easy tilt-in and removable sections for cleaning or for screens only. Roof not included • "Yukon" 3"-thick insulated roof package provides R-12 insulating value.

window/door options - Vinyl window options — standard horizontal slider available in white or beige finish, double locks. Optional windows include single/double hung vertical, circle, single/double hung vertical, casement — thermally broken, 12" stationary glass over window. Self-storing door, foam-filled extruded aluminum frame with keyed dead bolt lock. Outswing or inswing available and left or right hinge (outside facing door). Optional doors include sliding glass door, French door or insulated glass door. Screens available for windows and doors.

glass options - standard insulated glass on window with grey or bronze tint or low-E glass options • standard safety glass with marine glaze on door, with insulated, tinted or low-E glass

features - Custom designed. Ninety percent preassembled sections that pop rivet together for quick and easy installation. Side wall sections are made so you can cut on the job to match your roof's slope. Optional fan light beams to hang fans or lights or act as a conduit for electrical wire is available.



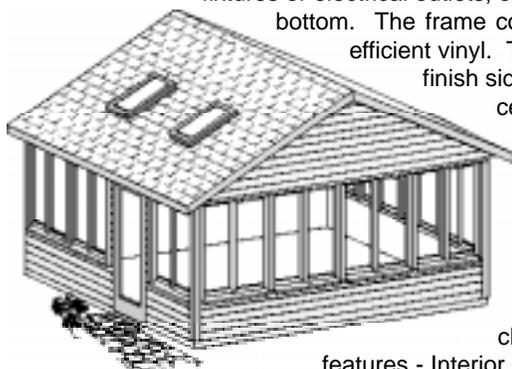
Classic-Vue Wall Panel
Cross Section

ARTISTIC ENCLOSURES INC., 29 Chew Rd., Barto, PA 19504 - (800) 944-8599 www.artisticenclosures.com

roof/wall systems - Modular "SUNBREEZE® Window Walls" are designed to fit under most existing roofs and are strong enough to carry weight making them ideal for porches with existing roofs. Complete roofing system available. The SUNBREEZE Window Wall is a complete structural unit, preengineered, prebuilt, and packaged with all the hardware necessary for assembly into your new room. Standard 4' x 7' interlocking panels are precisely milled for quick, accurate assembly. Once attached, the joining members have the structural integrity of a 3" x 4" post. The interior of each panel is open, allowing access for insulation, plumbing fixtures or electrical outlets, over which you may finish as you choose. Grooves for electrical chases are built-in, top and bottom. The frame construction is premium grade kiln-dried spruce or is available in no-maintenance, energy efficient vinyl. The base wall of each unit is constructed with exterior grade sheathing, ready to accept the finish siding of your choice. All exposed wood surfaces, including the window sashes, are solid red cedar. The units are available as base units (the window wall), corner units, door units and extension panels.

window/door options - removable, dual action, sliding/swing open windows

glass options - Tempered safety glass is available in single-pane or double-pane insulated. Low-E, bronze tint and other glazing available by special order. One-year warranty against glass breakage. Double-pane insulated glass also comes with a ten-year warranty against glass-seal failure and fogging. Solid cedar framed screen inserts are available. Optional "Weather Beater" clear acrylic panels can be installed easily with the turn of a



clip.

features - Interior finishing systems available — drywall, cedar, pine or plybead.

CHAMPION WINDOW MFG. CO., 12121 Champion Way, Cincinnati, OH 45241 - (800) 875-5575 www.championwindow.com
roof/wall systems - The patio rooms are available in baked enameled aluminum or vinyl with an aluminum inner structure for strength. The all aluminum models have thermally-broken frames for year-round use. The vinyl models are not thermally-broken because the vinyl outer skin minimizes sweating during cold weather. They are available with a 4" or 6" thick roof with EPS foam insulation and an aluminum skin and thermal breaks in the roof support members. The knee wall panels are 6" thick and insulated with EPS foam. Available in white or tan finishes.

window/door options - The patio room comes with siding doors and windows that expose screens when opened. The specific numbers of windows and doors depends on the size and design of your patio room. Each one is custom-made for your home.

glass options - shatterproof tempered safety glass with double panes, low-e coating and argon gas filled on vinyl framed units. Aluminum-framed models typically have just double-pane glass, but any glass can be ordered with it.

features - The framing uses a special leveling plate so installation is precise on uneven surfaces. They use adjustable stainless steel rollers on all windows and doors. On the vinyl frames, the connectors hide the screws from view to give a very clean appearance. Hidden raceways are provided to run electrical and phone wires throughout the patio rooms. Uses a 4" or 6" gutters.

CRAFT-BILT MFG. CO., 53 Souderton-Hatfield Pike, Souderton, PA 18964 - (800) 422-8577 www.craftbilt.com

roof/wall systems - "Better living" patio rooms have a seven-ply insulated sandwich panel, made with two outer aluminum skins, four coats of adhesive, and a treated honeycomb (made from nested hexagon cells) or an insulating polystyrene inner core. See page four for an illustration. Typical panels are 3' wide with lengths varying from 8' to 20'. Available in thickness of 3", 4 1/2" and 6". A-frame or studio (pitched) roof construction is optional. The base coat is exterior enamel, roller coated and baked, top coat is a clear protective coating, modified with a wax lubricant. Available in soft white or desert sand finishes.

window/door options - The patio room comes with interlocking sliding doors and windows have positive antitheft handles and sure-lock screens. Weatherstripped triple tracks with hidden weep holes and adjustable stainless steel ball bearing wheels in steel casing. See illustration on the right. Available in aluminum or energy efficient vinyl. Windows and doors are equipped with black aluminum screens.

glass options - shatterproof tempered safety glass • 5/8" inch thick, argon gas filled

features - Each patio room is custom designed to meet your needs and to enhance your home. The patio rooms are virtually maintenance-free with a "No-Mar" two-coat finish — it never needs painting. It is backed by a 15-year manufacturer's warranty. There is a built-in gutter system for a clean roof profile.

DURA-BILT PRODUCTS, PO Box 188, Wellsburg, NY 14894 - (570) 596-2000 www.durabilt.com

roof/wall systems - The interlocking roof panel is available as 2", 3", 4" or 6" thick insulating material that is pressure-bonded between aluminum sheets. Panel colors available are white, cream, walnut-wood grain, gray or blue. Available in 2, 3, or 4-foot increments. The wall consists of 4" thick insulated wall panels, gable ends have thermal barriers.

window/door options - White door and panel frames have built-in thermal barriers. The panels may be stationary or movable. Sliding glass panels have handles with locking latches. Doors have a handle with built-in key operated lock. Window options — horizontal sliding and vertical sliding or vinyl primed vertical sliding. Sliding or swinging door options are available. Window wall panel options — horizontal sliding, vertical sliding or awning. Each sliding panel and door has a sliding screen panel with a locking latch. Screen rooms are available.

glass options - double panes of insulated glass, separated by dead air space

features - The all-season or three-season patio rooms are custom designed to meet your specific needs. The rooms are shipped as painted, precut and drilled components. Stationary or operational skylight units with three layers of transparent acrylic with a slight tint are available. It is factory installed in the roof panels. Options include colonial grids for glass panels can be added. See illustrations with information on page four.

FOUR SEASONS SUNROOMS, 5005 Veterans Memorial, Holbrook, NY 1174 - (800) 368-7732 www.fourseasonssunrooms.com

roof/wall systems - The "Weatherlock II" foam-filled roof panels for the "Series 230 Patio Rooms" have an integral double drainage system. The "Krystal Kote" finish resists surface damage and provides insulation values up to R-20. Available in 3" or 4" thickness. Choice of bronze, white or sandtone finish. Aluminum, stucco, and centrex wall styles available.

window/door options - Choose from swing out doors or single or quad four panel sliding patio doors with rollers on the top and bottom. Doors and sliding windows have heavy duty security locks, thermal breaks and dual interlocks to prevent air infiltration. Standard glass transom and kickpanels available. Screens available for all windows and doors.

glass options - Premium MC² Wonderglass (multi-coat double glazed glass) — double glazed with argon gas filling and dual seal silicone with PIB primary seal • low-E • single glazing with clear or Azurlite solar control glass.

features - "SmartDeck" is an insulated flooring system with an optional aluminum underskin with an insulation value of R-28. Optional insulated skylights with solar control glass, glass trapezoids, roof shingles or H beams are available. Several purchasing options include — turn key installation, customer participation or complete do-it-yourself kits. Integral extruded gutters with leaf screens and downspouts. A built-in electrical raceway system can be added.

KAY HOME PRODUCTS, 90 McMillen Rd., Antioch, IL 60002 - (800) 626-5296 www.kayhomeproducts.com

roof/wall systems - These are screened rooms that are made of rustproof fiberglass screens and have patented cable retainers that assure solid construction. The roof is three-ply vinyl that resists mildew. The metal frame has a baked-on finish (in white or chestnut) to resist fading and oxidation. The roof grommets prevent water pocketing and sagging.

window/door options - The units are available with a swing out door or one or two sliding doors (Patio Mate only).

features - The "Casita" is available as a round (90 or 162 sq. ft.) or a square (134 sq. ft.) unit. It comes 90% preassembled and sets up in minutes. The "Patio-Mate" anchors to cement or wood decks ranging in size from 88 to 221 sq. ft. The roof is detachable for easy maintenance and winter storage. The vinyl roof is available in gray or almond. A snap-on aluminum threshold is available that stabilizes and protects the door frame and guards against tripping. It can be painted to match the frame finish. Step-by-step installation instructions are included with the kits. Translucent polyethylene privacy panels are available that install quickly and easily and offer extra privacy when desired.

PATIO ENCLOSURES, INC., 720 E. Highland Rd., Macedonia, OH 44056 - (330) 468-0700 www.patioenclosuresinc.com

roof/wall systems - The "Super-Foam Roof System" is available in 3" (R-15) or 6" (R-30) thickness. This optional roof panel is made from one-piece polystyrene foam, sandwiched between aluminum alloy skins and locked together with the added strength of structural I-beams. Custom wood roofs available. The "Comfort-Gard Glass Panel Roof System" allows a flush-mount of glass panels within the roof for a cleaner look. Combines an open sky view with an insulated roof. This design allows the addition of 3' x 3' IG glass panels (argon gas filled units with bronze or azurelite outer lites over Low-e inner lites) to be placed in the "Super Foam Roof Panel." "SheerWeave Solar Shades" are included with all "Comfort-Gard Glass Panels", together filtering up to 75% of the sun's heat without blocking desired light.

window/door options - Sliding doors and windows. The door handles have a specially designed anti-lift bar. It interfaces with the lock making it virtually impossible to jimmy the door open with a screwdriver or credit card.

glass options - 1" insulating glass units, 100% tempered • clear glazing, other choices available

features - The patio rooms are available as three-season or year-round enclosures. Options include — transom glass, glass kneewalls, kneewall or PVC wiring raceways to meet your specific needs. Separate channels for electric, cable TV, telephone and speaker wiring are also available. A snap-in, weather-tight cover allows easy access for new wiring or repair.

PGT INDUSTRIES, PO Box 1529, Nokomis, FL 34274 - (800) 282-6019 www.pgtindustries.com

roof/wall systems - The aluminum "Panel-Lock Roof" standard panels are available in 3" (R value of 12.5), 4" (R value of 16.7) and 6" (R value of 25) thickness. Accommodates studio or gable roofs. Snaps together in the header. The panels have an oriented strand board (OSB) exterior to accommodate shingles. The panels are also available with v-groove ribs. Fixed or vented skylights available. The wall material options include aluminum, fiberglass reinforced plastic or fiberboard. The wall colors available are white, almond, bronze, gray, ivory or woodgrain.

window/door options - Door options include cabana door (see illustration), sliding glass patio door or French door. Aluminum or vinyl window and door options. Window choices — horizontal roller, single-hung, casement, awning, fixed lite. Door hardware available in polished brass, antique brass or silver satin. Screens available for all windows and doors. Special vinyl-glazed vertical four-track windows and doors are available. They are shatterproof, they simply flex and return to their original form. They slide up and down easily to open up 75% of the window for ventilation and views. Windows and doors available with colonial muntins. Screens available.

glass options - clear, bronze, green, azure blue, gray or privacy tint • argon gas fill • low-E • vinyl glazing

features - The "NatureScape Patio Rooms" are available in three-season and all-season models. Custom designed. It is backed by a 10-year warranty. A fan beam on the roof panel is strong enough to hold fans, lights and plants. "ThermaDeck" floor panels are available to add insulation value to the floor. The floor panel consists of two pieces of 1/2" oriented strand board (O.S.B.) laminated to 3 5/8" thick (R Value, 16.4, for 2x4 floor) or 5 5/8" (R Value, 24.6, for 2x6 floor) thick polystyrene foam core. Two and four track screen sliders are available for screening garage doors.

TEXAS ALUMINUM IND., 2900 Patio Dr., Houston, TX 77017 - (800) 231-4009 (713) 946-9000 www.metalsusa.com

roof/wall systems - "Solar III15" roof system has pebble embossed skins on both sides of 3", 3.5", 4" or 6" foam. The panels feature an installer-friendly bull nose lock engineered to eliminate foam breakage and misaligned panels. Panels are available in white and eggshell. Depending on which patio room chosen there are 2" or 3" foam wall systems. Extrusion colors are white or bronze. Can be built with a gable roof.

window/door options - Full view steel clad, patio and French door systems are available. Equipped with positive Cam lock which provides a more attractive look and ease of operation. Windows and doors are equipped with screens. Window options are 3' and 4' horizontal sliders. There is a three-track rolling system that allows for up to 6' wide windows. Single hung, picture windows tempered transoms and sidelites are available.

glass options - single glazed • dual glazed • tempered low-E • low-E squared argon • bronze tint • acrylic

features - A full length flush mount skylight system can be added. Full screen rooms and pool enclosures are available.

THERMAL-GARD, INC., 400 Walnut St., Punxsutawney, PA 15767 - (800) 436-4012 www.thermal-gard.com

roof/wall systems - The roof is available as a studio or A-frame style. The patio rooms are constructed with 3" foam core roof panels and there is 3" wall construction. Available colors are white, beige or brown.

window/door options - Sliding glass doors and windows are available. Comes complete with heavy-duty aluminum screens on all operating windows and doors. There are full-locking door handles. Windows are interlocking with easy-glide steel rollers.

glass options - tempered safety glass • clear or bronze tint

features - The patio room is individually and custom designed to enhance your lifestyle and home. It is backed by a 10-year warranty. Glass kneewalls and glass transoms are available. An optional fixed or operable skylight can be added. The skylight has a bronze finish with an amber acrylic safety dome. The no-mar "Krystal-Koat" finish is virtually maintenance free, inside and out. There is a built-in weep system and the patio room comes with a built-in water drainage system.

TRACO SKYTECH SYSTEMS, 2400 Broadway St., Red Oak, IA 51566 - (712) 623-3665 www.traco.com

roof / wall systems - The roof system comes complete with hidden internal gutters. The 4" (optional 6") foam panel is energy efficient. It has an embossed aluminum skin on both sides that is factory bonded to the insulating core. Acrylic baked enamel in white or sandstone. Choose a kneewall with windows or full glass wall for an unobstructed view.

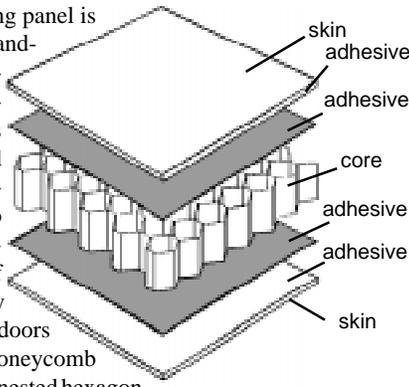
window/door options - Windows and doors are equipped with full screens. Window options — sliders. Door options — sliding or swing doors with closures.

glass options - tempered safety glass • clear • insulated low-E argon filled glass • Heat Mirror • tinted

features - Custom designed. Optional skylights. "Mirage" system is an aluminum/glass window/wall folding system. Aluminum frames available with white or bronze finish. Complete with clear or bronze, low-E double insulated and safety tempered glass, dual weather seals and a thermally broken frame. Hardware is flush, it locks at the top and the bottom for maximum security. The trolley system takes less than 12 pounds of force to open an average system. Can be manufactured up to 70 feet long with screens included. "Mirage 2" is a folding screen system. This can be used with the folding wall or independently. See page four for details.

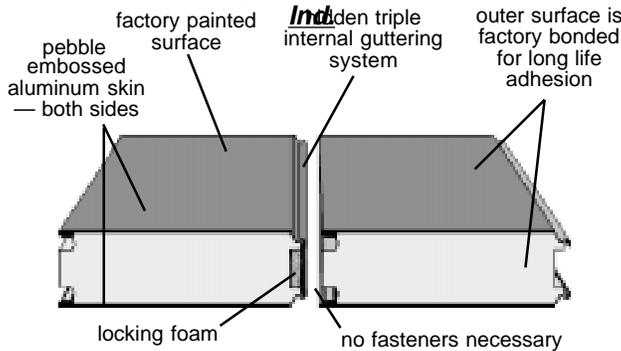
Panelcraft Honeycomb Building Panel by Craft-Bilt

The honeycomb building panel is a seven-ply insulated sandwich panel, manufactured with two outer aluminum skins, four coats of a special adhesive, and a treated honeycomb inner core. It is used to build a strong, fully engineered wall and roof system ideal for a variety of applications, both indoors and outdoors. The honeycomb inner core is made from nested hexagon cells similar in appearance to the honeycomb of bees.



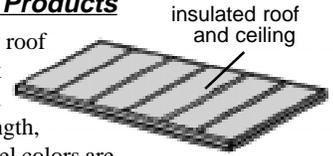
- Tested to be completely fire-safe.
- Impregnated with a professionally tested formula of phenolic resin.
- Ten-year manufacturer's warranty against delamination, chipping, peeling or failure due to weather conditions, insects or fungi.
- Strong, insulates against noise, weather and sun.

Solar III15 Roof System from Texas Aluminum

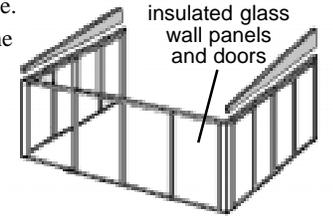


All-Season Rooms by Dura-bilt Products

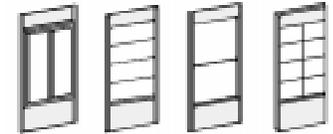
Insulated Roof and Ceiling — The standard roof forms an insulated ceiling for the room. The thick insulating material is pressure-bonded between seamless sheets of aluminum for greater strength, rigidity, durability, and is maintenance free. Panel colors are — white, cream, walnut-wood grain, gray or blue.



Insulated Glass Wall Panels and Doors — The sliding glass wall panels and doors have double panes of insulated glass, separated by dead air space. The white door and panel frames have built-in thermal barriers. Panels may be stationary or movable — gliding on ball bearing rollers from fully closed to any desired open position. Sliding glass panels have convenient handles with locking latches. Door(s) have handle with built-in key operated lock.

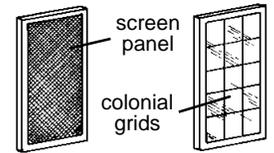


Screen Panels — Each sliding panel and door has a sliding screen panel with locking latch.



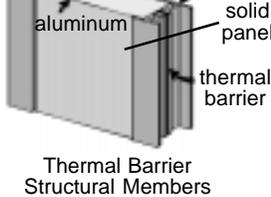
Window Options

Colonial Grids — White colonial grids for the glass panels are available as an integral part of the panel only at time of order as an optional extra.



Choice of Windows in Factory Assembled Modules

— Horizontal sliding window, awning type window, vertical sliding window, vertical sliding window with vinyl pane (clear or dark vinyl).



Thermal Barrier Structural Members

Thermal Barrier Structural Members — The aluminum structural members (vertical I-beams • wall floor channel • corner columns • headers • roof girders) all have integral thermal barriers.

Solid Wall Panels and Gable Ends — The durable insulated panel construction is used in the solid insulated wall panels and insulated gable ends.

Mirage — Folding Glass Walls by Traco Skytech Systems

Framing — All aluminum with minimum wall thickness .080. Sill members to have positive water control. System to be 100% thermally broken. Adjustable head can accommodate tolerance of +1/4" and -1/2".

Glazing — All glass to be 7/8" overall thickness. 1/8" clear/bronze tinted safety tempered. 5/8" black air spacer, dual sealed. 1/8" clear safety tempered with low-E on #3 surface. Other tints and make ups available.

Finish — Standard finish to be PPG Duracron White or Quaker Bronze. Other finishes available.

Gaskets & Seals — All glazing to be separated from aluminum frame by a custom extruded

silicone compatible rubber glazing channel. All other seals to be custom extruded silicone compatible rubber gaskets. System to incorporate dual weather seals.

Fasteners — All fasteners are stainless steel.

Locking System — Cast flush bolts.

Trolley System — Custom manufactured utilizing fully sealed bearings with nylon rollers.

Hinges — Custom extruded aluminum hinges utilizing a stainless steel security hinge pin which cannot be removed from the exterior.

Screen Panels — Aluminum extruded frame with a minimum profile of 1", with adjustable roller assembly, plastic handles, bug strip and fiberglass screen.

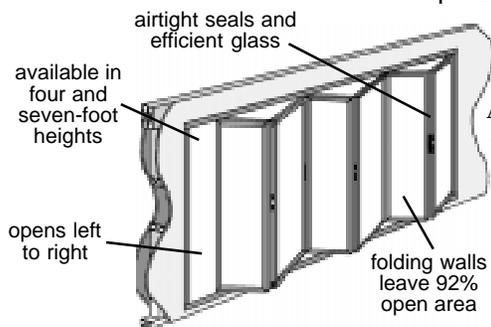
Testing — Mirage door test to AAMA 501-83

A) Air infiltration ASTM E-283 — .61 CFM/FT @ 6.24 PSF.

B) Static water resistance ASTM E-331 3 PSF.

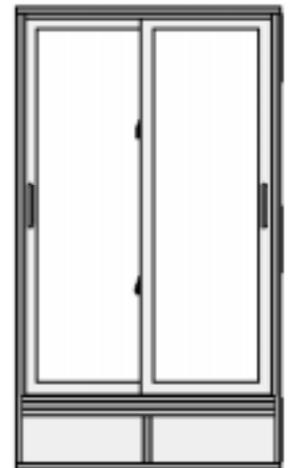
C) Uniform design load ASTM E-330 30 PSF.

D) Forced entry test — 300 lbs.



Sunbreeze Window Wall Unit from Artistic Enclosures Inc.

- Fully tempered safety glass, six times stronger than ordinary window glass
- Interior solid cedar or vinyl window sash
- Removable sliding windows for cleaning glass or converting to a screenroom
- Full size insect screen (exterior)
- Recessed hand pulls
- Two locks on window for security and weather tightness
- Reinforced window sill
- Full 4-inch wall thickness
- Built-in wire chase
- Custom-dried premium-grade spruce frame milled to 1/32" tolerance
- Structural, load bearing frame to carry your header and roof
- Alignment splines for fitting



- into groove on adjacent unit
- Single pane or insulating glass options
- No maintenance window jamb
- Easy glide track system
- Solid cedar trim package