

GLAZED EXTENSION BUYING GUIDE



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GLASS**

Windows & Conservatories



*Established
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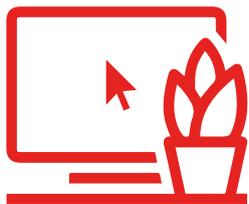


Glazed Extensions Buying Guide

Glazed extensions are one of the best ways to create more space at home and increase its value. With the extra space at your disposal, you can find new ways to use your home too. With a variety of options available, however, it can be difficult to work out exactly what you want from a glazed extension. So, to help you out, we've compiled more than 38 years of installation experience into this handy buying guide. We're confident it's got everything you need to make an informed home extension decision.

WHAT IS YOUR REASON FOR WANTING A GLAZED EXTENSION?

The beauty of modern glazed extensions is that they really can be used for almost anything; gone are the days where a conservatory was just a place to soak up the sun and not much else. However, having an idea of why you want a glazed extension might influence your chosen design choices. Although this list is not extensive, you can find several ideas for how you might use an extension below:



Home office/study

Ideal if you work from home and you're strapped for space, or you just want to create a harmonious environment to get some work done.



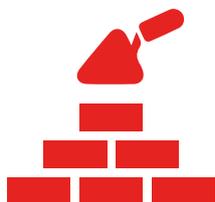
Games Room

Whether this is for you or the kids, a new space to relax and have fun is sure to go down well.



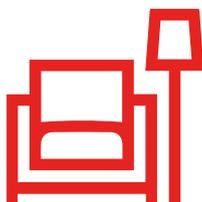
Dining Room

Many relish the opportunity to enjoy their meals whilst basking in the warm glow of the morning and evening sun.



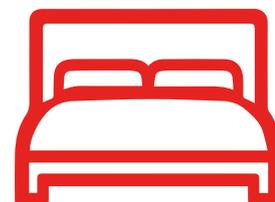
Kitchen Extension

Add an extra part to your existing kitchen or create a new one altogether.



Lounge/Living Area

you could extend your current living room or create a new space for you or someone in your home to relax.



Bedroom

As glazed extensions can feel just like another room in the house, there's no reason why you can't create a new space for someone to rest their head.

Hopefully this has given you some ideas for how you might use a glazed extension. Next, we've looked into the different types of them that are available and their design options to help you find a structure that can aptly meet your extension desires.

WHAT TYPES OF GLAZED EXTENSION ARE THERE?

There are various glazed extensions to choose from and each of them has different aesthetic and practical qualities. Therefore, it's important to learn about them to help decide which is the best option for you.



Lean to

Featuring a single-pitched roof and a rectangle shape, lean to conservatories are considered the most 'simplicistic'. As a result, they're generally the most cost-effective option. Great for fitting into tight spots, their rectangle shape means that they provide the maximum amount of floor space.



Victorian

The 'classic' conservatory shape, Victorian conservatories feature a bay front with either 3 or 5 facets. This ensures natural light can easily flow inside. Combining this with a steeply pitched roof and an ornate design, they absolutely ooze with visual appeal too.

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CONSERVATORIES

Traditionally, conservatories are defined as a room with a glass roof and walls and they were used as a place to soak up the sun or grow plants. However, today's conservatories can be used in numerous ways and their design is also much more flexible. They are available in a wide range of styles, which we've covered below:



Edwardian

With a design that focuses on lightness and airiness, Edwardian conservatories always feel bright and spacious. They have a square or rectangle shape, which allows for maximum use of the floor space, plus a double pitched roof with an apex that is typically ridged.



Gable

The roof on a gable conservatory stays upright instead of sloping back, so they look just like the end of a house. This looks visually stunning, and because of the roof's height, natural light can flow inside and the feeling of space is maximised.

CONSERVATORIES



P-shaped

The combination of a lean to and a Victorian or Edwardian conservatory, if you've got the space in your garden to accommodate a P-shaped conservatory, it's possible to create a versatile living space. Many even choose to use the 2 distinctive parts for different purposes.



Orangeries

Traditionally, orangeries were used to house a range of fruit trees. These were afforded lots of light thanks to lantern roofs, which are still prominent features on many orangeries today. They also have brickwork or Loggia columns built from uPVC instead of glass walls, which enhances their thermal performance, improves privacy, and helps them to feel more homely.

Renowned for their luxury, orangeries can also be built in the same conservatory styles we outlined earlier. So, their designs are very flexible too.



WHAT ROOFING OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR GLAZED EXTENSIONS?

Traditionally, you'd have found conservatories fitted with a glass roof and an orangery with a lantern one. Today, however, conservatories and orangeries can both be fitted with tiled roofs too. The roofing has a huge impact on how a glazed extension looks and feels, so it's essential to know what each of them brings to the table.



Glass Roofs

Glass roofs are the go-to option for those who want to maximise the amount of natural light in a glazed extension. Their features include:

- A fully glazed roof affords uninterrupted views of the sky – perfect for gazing at the stars at night or soaking up the sun during the day.
- Our glass roofs are equipped with Celsius Elite glass. This reflects 3x more solar energy than standard glass, which helps to prevent overheating on hot days and helps keep the conservatory warm on colder ones.
- By blocking out up to 94% of UV rays, it also protects your furniture and fabrics against fading.
- With a U-value of 0.9 W/m²k, the thermal performance of Celsius Elite glass is truly outstanding.
- The sound of rain landing on a glass roof is slightly audible, although many homeowners find this quite soothing.
- Thanks to a self-cleaning coating, most of the dirt and grime that finds its way onto the roof will be washed off by the rain. Therefore, maintenance times are nice and low.



Tiled Roofs

Tiled roofs are the ideal option for those who want their glazed extension to retain qualities that are typical of other rooms in the home. Their features include:

- The internal ceiling is smoothly plastered and can be fitted with recessed spotlights and speakers.
- Tiled roofs virtually eliminate any noise from the wind and rain, so you can relax in peace and quiet.
- Although they let in less light than a glass roof, they can be fitted with glass rooflights. This allows you to highlight certain spots using natural light and increase general light levels.
- Choose from a Tapco, Extralight, Slate and Metroliles along with various colours, blending their look to your existing home as you see fit.
- Not only are they virtually maintenance-free but they're also expected to last for around 50 years!
- Achieving U-values as low as 0.18 W/m²k, their thermal performance is truly outstanding. They combat extreme heat and cold with ease, leaving any glazed extension a comfortable temperature throughout the year.

WHAT ROOFING OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR GLAZED EXTENSIONS?



SkyVista

SkyVista roofs combine lightweight tiles with large glass panels, falling somewhere between a tiled roof and a glass roof. Their features include:

- Virtually maintenance-free tiles and self-cleaning glazing panels, meaning maintenance times are super low.
- Like tiled roofs they are wonderfully insulated, meaning they possess a fantastic thermal performance. Therefore, keeping you nice and cosy when it's cold.
- The glazing panels have solar control properties, preventing your extension from overheating. So, you can stay cool when it's warm outside too.
- Choose from a selection of tile colours to suit your property along with blue and neutral glass.



Lantern Roofs

A lavish roofing solution that traditionally sits on top of an orangery, lantern roofs offer the following benefits:

- Thanks to a minimalist design and slender frames, they let huge quantities of light flow inside, leading to bright, spacious extensions.
- Choose from 6 different colour combinations including Black, Anthracite Grey, Rosewood, and White, adapting their look to suit your needs.
- They are also available in a square or rectangular shape, a selection of architectural designs and either a 20° or 35° fixed pitch, so their design is very flexible.
- The combination of naturally insulating uPVC frames and high-quality glazing, resulting in U-values of 1.0 W/m²k. As a result, they're able to keep extensions feeling comfortable throughout the year.
- Fitted with self-cleaning glass as standard, keeping them clean is an absolute breeze.

WHAT ROOFING OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR GLAZED EXTENSIONS?



Flat Rooflight

When opting for a glazed extension with a flat roof, you can opt to have our stylish flat rooflights fitted, which offer the following features:

- The centre panes used in our flat rooflights are available with a U-value of just 1.1 W/m²k, highlighting their adeptness at reducing heat transfer and creating warmer living spaces.
- The flat roof fitted around the rooflight will have a plastered ceiling, so will feel like another room in your home.
- As they are designed to maximise the amount of natural light that can flow inside, your extension will feel lighter and more spacious.
- Choose from fixed and opening varieties, so you improve ventilation if you wish.
- The glass used is also available with a self-cleaning coating for reduced maintenance times.
- Choose from square, rectangle, circular, and bespoke shaped rooflights, creating a unique visual feature in the process.

WHAT IF I WANT TO REPLACE THE ROOF ON AN EXISTING CONSERVATORY/GLAZED EXTENSION?

If you already have a glazed extension but it's not performing the way it should, one option you should consider is replacing the roof. This is especially true if yours is fitted with a polycarbonate or old glass roof. This is because they are prone to several issues, such as:

- Overheating in the summer and being unbearably cold in the winter.
- Polycarbonate roofs are also particularly noisy when exposed to heavy rain and wind.
- Leakage, which is a strong indicator that your existing conservatory roof needs replacing.



The Benefits of Replacing the Roof

Replacing the roof can turn your existing conservatory/extension into a space that you can use comfortably throughout the year! We recommend opting for a tiled roof; as they are the most efficient roofing solution, they will have the biggest impact on comfort levels in your conservatory. Replacing the roof is also cheaper than knocking down the whole conservatory or extension and rebuilding.

DESIGN OPTIONS FOR GLAZED EXTENSIONS

In addition to the roof and the overall structure, there are numerous other ways that you can customise a glazed extension from Droylsden Glass. In this section, you can find out more about them.



Dwarf walls

This is a short brick wall that goes around the bottom of a conservatory or orangery, making it appear more like a traditional extension. Available in a wide range of brick and stone options, you can also match it to your existing property.

A major benefit of opting for a dwarf wall is that they come with interior window cills, which you can adorn with various decorations of your choosing. As radiators and power points are usually fixed to brickwork, dwarf walls increase the number of placement options for these things too.

Full length glazing panels

Many customers looking to create a sunroom conservatory opt for full length glazing panels instead of a dwarf wall because they allow more light inside. By using them we can create a wall of glass, affording you uninterrupted views of the outside.



Georgian bars

If you'd like to give your windows a more traditional feel, one thing you might do is have them fitted with Georgian bars. These are horizontal and vertical bars that go across the glass part of the window.

DESIGN OPTIONS FOR GLAZED EXTENSIONS



Windows

If opting for full length glazing panels for every wall in your glazed extension, you won't need to worry about windows. However, for those who'd rather something different, windows will make an important part of the design. Choose from:

Casement Windows

Outward-opening windows that are very versatile, casement windows are a reliable option for any application.

Flush Casement Windows

These are operated in the same way as casement windows, but they have window sashes that sit flat with the frames, hence the name.

Tilt and Turn Windows

Opening or tilting inwards, tilt and turn windows allow you to ventilate your extension and clean it from inside.



DESIGN OPTIONS FOR GLAZED EXTENSIONS



Doors

Your chosen doors will impact how you enter and exit your extension and how it looks, so they're an important consideration. We have listed a number of options below but bear in mind that you might choose to use a combination of them for your glazed extension. Select from:



Bifold Doors

The combination of slender frames, large panels of glazing and concertina-style folding, when open, bifold doors leave a wide aperture.



French Doors

A classic design that consists of 2 inward or outward opening doors, French doors are instantly recognisable and good for letting in light and air.



Single Doors

Choose from solid panel or glazed single doors, the latter is better for letting more light flow around the structure.



Sliding Patio Doors

Sliding to the side to allow for smooth entry, sliding patio doors are almost completely glazed, so natural light can flood inside with ease.



Flush Sash Doors

Built from uPVC, these feature slim sightlines and flush door sashes, for a modern twist on a classic design. They come in French and single door varieties.

DESIGN OPTIONS FOR GLAZED EXTENSIONS



Colours

Regardless of whether you want all the frames on your new extension to match or not, your chosen colour will have a big impact on how well it blends with your existing property. To maximise resale value, we generally recommend trying to make a glazed extension compatible with your existing home. Ultimately, however, this is up to you.

With aluminium and uPVC frames to choose from, the number of colour choices you have is virtually endless. Popular options include White, Anthracite Grey, Chartwell Green and Black. Woodgrain finishes are also available, and these have proven to be a big hit with homeowners. They're applied to uPVC to replicate a number of different woods to the finest detail, making any framing appear as if it built from actual timber.



Interior Design

The interior design of your extension is another important consideration. This will have a big impact on how it looks and how you use it each day. For this, you might think about:

- Lighting
- Flooring
- Plastering
- Heating & electrics
- Blinds and curtains
- Furniture and decorations





What type of glazed extension is best suited to a period home?

For period properties, one of the classic conservatory options such as Victorian, Edwardian or even Gable, is an excellent starting point. Next, you might opt to have a woodgrain finish applied to uPVC frames. As timber is the traditional building material, this will provide it with quaint, classic charm. Other 'traditional' features include flush casement windows with Georgian bars and a set of French doors.



Finding a glazed extension to suit a modernist property

Modernist design tends to focus on minimalism, so slender frames and large areas of glazing, much like you find on aluminium conservatories, are a great starting point. Opting for full-length glazing panels will also help you continue with this modernist trend, and you'll struggle to find a door option more suitable than a set of bifold doors. The understated design of a lean-to conservatory blends well with modernist architecture too.



However...

You're not limited to these options! For example, you could opt for a set of contemporary bifold doors and flush casement windows when adding a glazed extension to a period home, adding a modern twist to the structure. This is just one example but there are numerous ways that you can adhere to a modern or traditional design. If you're unsure how, feel free to get in touch with us here at Droylsden Glass to talk through any of your ideas.



WHAT FRAME MATERIALS ARE USED TO BUILD GLAZED EXTENSIONS?

Here at Droylsden Glass, we use two different frame materials in the construction of our conservatories: uPVC and aluminium. However, we can also use either material when building orangeries and other glazed extensions. So, to help you decide which frame material is right for you, we've looked into their respective characteristics below:



uPVC Frames

- As uPVC is a thermally efficient material and uPVC frames are fitted with several heat-trapping chambers, they help to make any glazed extensions more energy-efficient. This also helps them to stay warm when it's cold outside.
- uPVC is a very versatile material. A huge range of colours, smooth, textured and woodgrain finishes can all be applied to it, making it easy to achieve your desired look. uPVC frames are also available with a different finish for the inside and outside parts of the framing.
- Resistant to warping, chipping and discolouration, uPVC is built to last. As it's super easy to clean, it will also continue to look great for years with the minimum of hassle on your part.
- uPVC is easier to manufacture than aluminium, which helps to make uPVC the more cost-effective option of the two.



Aluminium Frames

- Aluminium is incredibly strong, which means aluminium frames can be built to more slender proportions. This results in more streamlined designs with a larger glass area, so more light can come inside and the view outside is less restricted.
- Sitting between aluminium frames are insulating thermal breaks, which dramatically enhance the material's thermal performance. This leads to warmer interiors.
- With its anti-corrosive layer and incredible strength, aluminium frames will last and last. They're also virtually maintenance-free too.
- Choose from a wealth of ultra-durable powder coated finishes for aluminium frames. This includes numerous colours, smooth and textured finishes, making it possible to create your desired look.

IS DOUBLE GLAZING OR TRIPLE GLAZING THE RIGHT OPTION FOR ME?

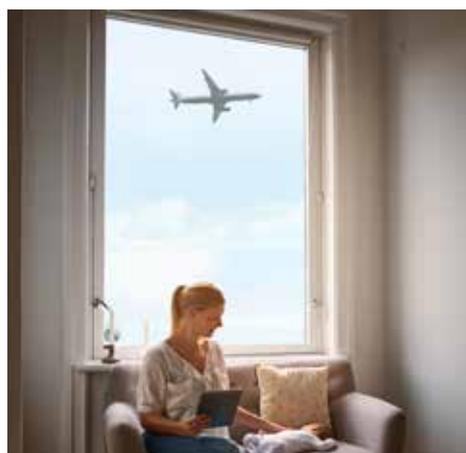
Most homeowners tend to opt for double glazing for their glazed extension. Although it's more than adequate for most people, you might prefer triple glazing instead. So, we've compared the two together to help you decide which is best for your needs.



Double glazing vs Triple Glazing

- Although modern double glazing is great at retaining heat, leading to warm, cosy extensions, triple glazing does have the edge. This means it should save you slightly more on energy costs during the colder months.
- Due to having 3 panes over 2, there is a smaller temperature difference between the inside and outside with triple glazing. Therefore, it deals with condensation better.
- However, triple glazing allows less heat to seep through as a result of solar gain, so you will lose some natural warmth on sunny days. Therefore, if your proposed extension is south-facing or exposed to lots of sunlight, double glazing might be the better option.
- Double glazing is incredibly difficult to break. However, as triple has 3 panes of glass instead of 2, it is even harder to smash.
- Triple glazing is better at reducing the amount of outside noise coming inside, which means it's often used in locations near busy roads or underneath flight paths. However, double glazing will be capable of creating a quiet, relaxing space in most applications.

Double glazing is more cost-effective and, ultimately, the differences in performance between it and triple will not make too much difference for UK homes. The improvement in sound reduction will probably be the most noticeable, although you might choose acoustic glazing for this instead (more about this below).



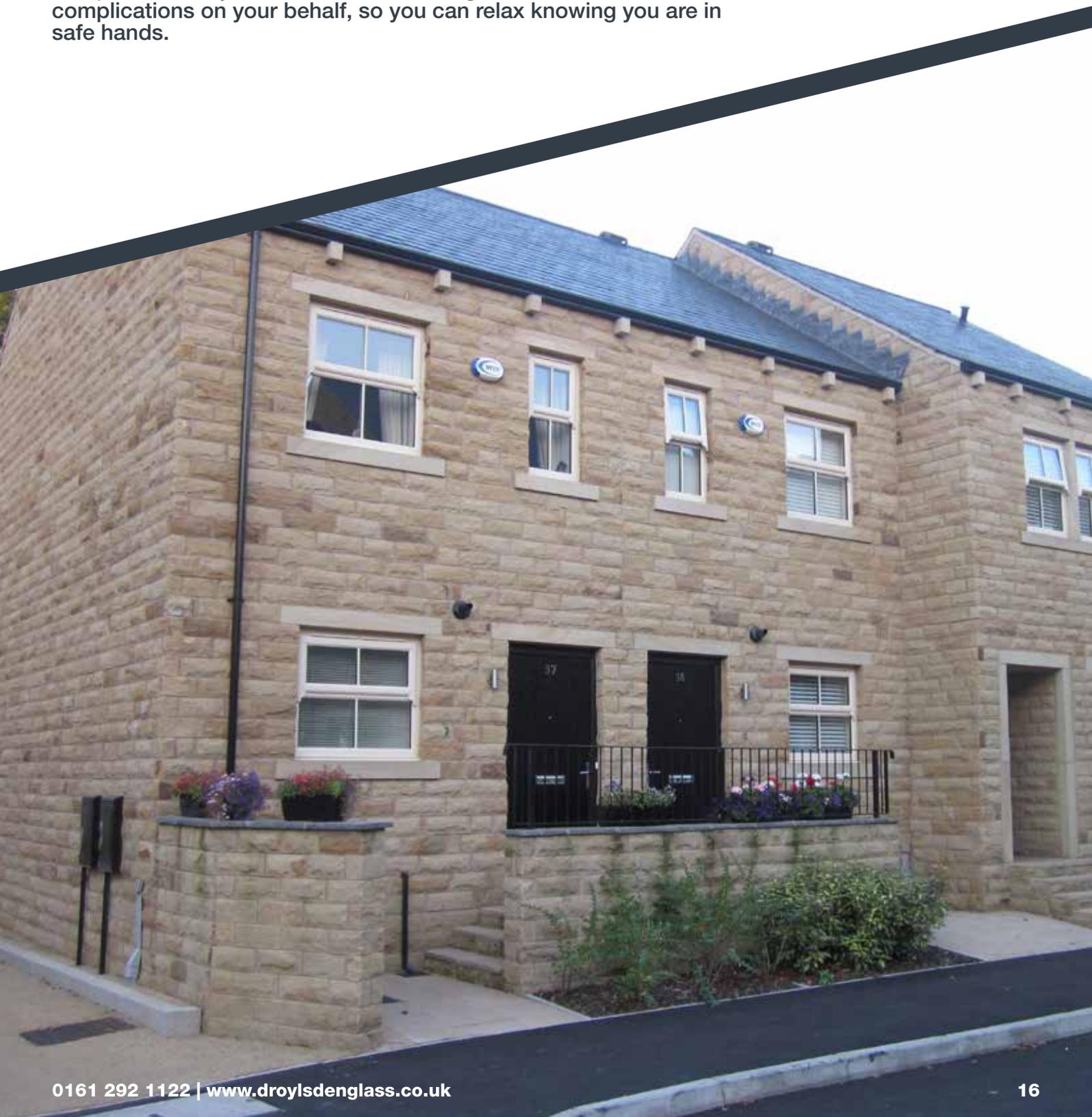
Acoustic Glazing

Another option that we're proud to offer here at Droylsden Glass is acoustic glazing. It looks just like a single pane of glass, although it is much thicker, and this increased density makes it much better at absorbing sound. It's made by combining two layers of annealed glass that have a special type of sound-absorbing plastic between them, and it can reduce outside noise levels by more than 50dB!

It can be fitted to double and triple glazed windows. However, if your sole purpose is to create a quiet glazed extension in a noisy area, having it fitted to double glazing should be fine.

WILL I NEED PLANNING PERMISSION AND/OR BUILDING CONTROL APPROVAL FOR MY GLAZED EXTENSION?

There is a chance that planning permission and building control approval will be required for your glazed extension. However, we at Droylsden Glass have more than 40 years' experience of dealing with the complexities of planning permission rules and Building Regulations for all types of glazed extensions. And although these rules are constantly changing, making an already complicated subject even more confusing, we can deal with all those complications on your behalf, so you can relax knowing you are in safe hands.



HOW LONG ARE GLAZED EXTENSIONS GUARANTEED FOR?

Every glazed extension fitted by Droylsden Glass is guaranteed for 10 years. Our guarantees are also insurance backed, which basically means that, in the event that we cease trading or go into liquidation, you will still have cover.

PAYING FOR YOUR NEW EXTENSION

By card, cash, cheque or bank transfer, you can pay for a new extension in whatever way you please. Although, if you'd prefer not to pay the whole amount in one lump sum, we also offer a selection of finance options that you can take advantage of.

Finance options available from us

- Up to 5 years interest-free credit*
- Buy now pay later*

Finance is subject to application and status. If you have a poor credit history, however, finance might not be available to you.



UP TO

5 YEARS
INTEREST
FREE
CREDIT*

BUY NOW
PAY LATER*





FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

Adding a glazed extension to your home will provide more living space and has the potential to increase your property's value. Due to the flexibility of their designs, it's also possible to create a unique structure that fits beautifully onto your home and meets all your practical requirements. However, we want you to be fully confident in your purchase, so if you can't find any information you need in this guide, please feel free to get in touch with us for our expert advice. You can call us on **0161 292 1122** or contact us via email on **info@droylsdenglass.co.uk**.

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