



**Dickson Development Corporation**  
A Tradition of Innovative Quality Construction

[⊕ Visit our Website](#) [⊕ About Us](#) [⊕ Contact Us](#)



## Building Success 101

*Q: What is an  
"insulated" window?*

A: Modern windows are often referred to as "insulated" because of technology that retards, blocks, or slows the transfer of air through the unit. Most people are familiar with fiberglass or other types of insulation material in a wall cavity. In a window, the "insulation" is a combination of several factors. Most common are windows with at least two panes of glass enclosing a 'dead' airspace between them. The airspace may also be sealed to contain a clear, odorless gas (commonly argon), which is heavier than air and thus an even more effective insulator.

## The Beauty of Natural Light

Walk into any new home and you'll immediately notice a big difference from many older homes: an abundance of natural light. Because of poor thermal performance, windows and glass doors in older homes were necessarily scaled down. Today we are able to take advantage of advanced technologies, a wider range of sizes and styles, and a number of new products and creative applications to capture natural light.

For clients who prefer a modern look, glass walls are certainly possible to maximize natural light. For those preferring traditional housing design, we usually work within historic housing forms to increase interior natural light. Window and door manufacturers have helped this effort by providing a wide variety of products to match traditional house styles.

For example, a roof window (or series of these units) over the center of the kitchen can bring in a tremendous amount of natural light without having an adverse impact on a traditional facade. This is especially true if that room is on the back or side of the house and thus out of view from the street. Unlike skylights, roof windows can open to vent stagnant or hot air and odors. They have a flat design, only slightly raised above the roof finish, which further reduces any intrusive appearance.

For smaller interior rooms, such as a water closet, walk-in shower, or storage area, traditional approaches to bringing in natural light are almost impossible, or at least impractical. Tubular skylights offer a solution. From a small, unobtrusive opening in the roof, light enters a tube lined with mirrors and reflective material that reflect light into the room below. These small devices pour large quantities of light into tight spaces, making them feel more spacious and comfortable. We at Dickson Development have successfully installed these units.

Fixed or operable transom windows may also be used to bring natural light into interior rooms. Set above passage doors to bedrooms and bathrooms or even in interior walls, transom windows can carry natural light from rooms on the outside perimeter into otherwise dark, inner spaces. Sharing the light from the perimeter of the house to interior spaces is very effective and pleasing.

A kitchen backsplash can be used creatively to increase natural light. Glass block or fixed panes of glass may be installed in the space between the countertop and the wall cabinets. Light is brought onto the work surface without sacrificing kitchen cabinets for a large window expanse.

Better yet, one or both inside surfaces of the glass can be permanently laminated with a clear coating that further retards thermal transfer and protects the home interior against solar heat gain and damaging ultraviolet rays.

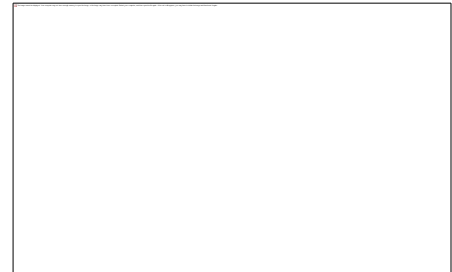
When our clients prefer traditional architectural styles, we assist them with design and product solutions, made easier with the wide array of technologically advanced windows and doors now available. With new products to choose from and some creative design work, our clients are simultaneously able to enjoy their home style of choice and the aesthetic and cost-saving benefits of natural light. For our clients who enjoy a more contemporary style of design, the opportunity for increasing natural lighting in their home has many options.

Call us to discuss how we can assist you in increasing the natural light within your home.

Warm regards,

*Richard*

Richard Dickson  
**Dickson Development Corporation**  
666 Plainsboro Road, Suite 1300  
Plainsboro, NJ 08536  
**(609) 799 0220 - phone**



[info@dicksondevelopment.com](mailto:info@dicksondevelopment.com)  
[www.dicksondevelopment.com](http://www.dicksondevelopment.com)

c. 2009 All rights reserved.

[Click here to subscribe](#) to this newsletter.  
[Click here to unsubscribe](#) from this newsletter.

