

Intended for professional installers and contractors

Quick Installation FAQs

System: Tilt & Turn (Block Frame)

Item: Window – Single Door – Patio Door – French Door (Double Swing / Tilt & Turn Combo)

Material: uPVC – Aluminum

Installation Method: Two Options: Strap Anchors OR Direct Through-Frame Fixing

Rough Opening (R.O.) & Preparation

Question: What is the required clearance?

Answer: The R.O. should be $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 1" larger than the window frame (total width and height) to allow for proper shimming and insulation.

Question: What is the "Critical Warning" before starting?

Answer: Do NOT remove existing windows until you have verified that the new units match the R.O.

Question: Is a Sill Pan mandatory?

Answer: Yes. Because this is a finless block frame, you must install a Sill Pan Flashing (sloped to the exterior) at the bottom of the opening to prevent water intrusion into the wall.

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Installation FAQs (Continued)

Fastening & Spacing (Engineering Specs)

Question: Where do I place the anchors?

Answer:

- Corners:** Place the first anchor or screw a maximum of 6 inches from every corner to ensure frame rigidity.
- Intermediate:** Space the remaining points approximately 16" to 24" apart.

Question: How do I prevent "Frame Bowing" when fastening?

Answer:

- Strap Anchors (Option A):** You must place a shim behind the anchor (between the strap and the stud) before driving the screw.
- Through-Frame (Option B):** You must place a shim (packer) directly between the frame and the wall at every single screw location.

Warning: Tightening a screw without a shim behind it will pull the frame outward, bowing it and jamming the window operation.

Squaring & Leveling (The 1/8" Rule)

Question: What type of shims should I use?

Answer: Use composite or plastic shims only. Do not use wood shims, as they can rot over time.

Question: How do I check for "Square"?

Answer: Measure the diagonals in an "X" pattern. The difference must not exceed 1/8". If the frame is out of square, the Tilt & Turn hardware will not operate smoothly.

Question: Specific for French Doors?

Answer: Ensure the head and sill are perfectly straight to allow the meeting stiles of both door leaves to align correctly.

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Installation FAQs (Continued)

Sealing & Insulation

Question: What kind of foam is allowed?

Answer: Use Low-Expansion Window Foam only.

Warning: Never use High-Expansion foam; it will deform the uPVC frame and jam the sash.

Question: What sealant should I use for the exterior?

Answer: Use the Backer Rod method with Neutral Cure 100% Silicone or high-grade Polyurethane (e.g., OSI QUAD Max).

Warning: Do not use Acid Cure (Acetoxyl) silicone (the kind that smells like vinegar), as it reacts poorly with uPVC.

Question: What about drainage?

Answer: Ensure the weep holes (drainage slots) at the bottom of the frame are not blocked by sealant.

Multiple Units & Heavy Duty Specs

Question: How do I join windows (Mulling)?

Answer: Use the system-specific Coupling Profile and apply a continuous bead of silicone along the joint before connecting.

Question: When is a Static Mullion required?

Answer: For large, oversized, or "giant" window combinations, a Steel-Reinforced Static Mullion (Heavy Duty Tube) is mandatory to maintain stability and wind load resistance.

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Installation FAQs (Continued)

Post-Installation & Handover

Question: When should I remove the protective tape?

Answer: Immediately after installation and finishing. If left in the sun, the tape will bake onto the profile and become impossible to remove.

Question: How do I clean the frames?

Answer: Use wet cloths with warm water and mild detergent. Never use dry cloths to wipe dust, as it will scratch the surface.

Question: What is the final step with the client?

Answer: Demonstrate the Tilt & Turn logic and provide the Care & Maintenance Guide, emphasizing that annual lubrication of the hardware is required.

□ Analogy for Squareness

Think of the window frame as a high-precision gear housing. If the housing is even slightly "tweaked" or out of square (more than that 1/8" limit), the internal gears—the Tilt & Turn hardware—will grind and eventually fail. Always use your shims at every screw point to keep the "housing" perfectly straight so the "gears" can spin freely.

□ Disclaimer:

This installation guide is provided for general reference purposes only. It does not replace professional judgment, local building code requirements, or manufacturer-specific instructions. The manufacturer and seller assume no liability for improper installation.

Professional Installation Notice:

This product is intended to be installed by a qualified and experienced professional installer. DIY installation is not recommended.

Code Compliance:

Installation must comply with all applicable local and state building codes, including IRC, IBC, and IECC requirements, as well as any site-specific conditions.

Installer Responsibility:

The installer is responsible for verifying site conditions, selecting the appropriate installation method, ensuring proper anchoring, insulation, waterproofing, and final performance of the installed unit.

Engineering Review Required:

Oversized units, mulled combinations, or non-standard configurations may require engineering approval prior to installation.

Important – Water Management:

Drainage paths and weep holes must remain unobstructed at all times. Blocking weep holes may result in water intrusion and void performance expectations.

Limitation of Liability:

The manufacturer and distributor shall not be held responsible for damages resulting from improper installation, non-compliance with codes, or failure to follow professional installation practices.

Applies to European-style systems supplied by Elika Windows & Doors.

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