

Insect Screens for Tilt-and-Turn Windows — Which System Fits Which Frame

European tilt-and-turn windows open inward and have no screen track, so the screen sits on the outside of the sash, held in the frame rebate or on the outer face of the frame. Which system works is decided by the frame profile, not by preference. Use this sheet to match the frame you have to the screens that will fit it.

Step 1 — identify the frame

Offset (rebated) uPVC	Sash face sits proud of the frame face; a visible step between them. The common European PVC profile (e.g. Aluplast, Rehau, Veka).
Offset uPVC with centre seal	As above, with a third gasket on the frame between sash and frame. Fits most systems if the gap between seal and frame is ≥ 10 mm.
Flush uPVC	Sash and frame faces in one plane. Little or no rebate.
Aluminum, thermally broken	Cortizo, Alutech, Alumil, Everest, Schüco. Tight sash-to-frame clearance, EPDM gasket edges, sharp extrusion corners.
Wood / wood-alu clad	Very small sash-to-frame distance.
Any frame with a weather (drip) profile	A protruding rail on the frame face below the sash.

Step 2 — match the system

System	How it holds	Offset uPVC	Offset uPVC + centre seal	Flush uPVC	Aluminum	Wood	Removal / cleaning
Flexible spring-steel frame (FlexScreen)	Sprung into the rebate between sash and frame; optional clip-on spacers	Yes	Yes if ≥ 10 mm seal-to-frame gap	No	No	No	Flex out by hand, seconds
Rigid frame with swivel clips or spring plungers	Sits in the rebate; plungers or swivels bear on the frame	Yes	Usually	No	Sometimes — needs clearance	No	Lift out, no tools
Fixed frame, hooked or screwed to the outer frame face	Aluminum frame on the exterior face; hooks, brackets or screws	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Lift off hooks; screwed versions stay
Hinged (swing) screen	Hinged frame on the exterior; opens outward for access	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Opens; stays on
Retractable roller (vertical)	Cassette above the opening; mesh runs in side channels	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Rolls away when not in use
Pleated / magnetic	Pleated mesh in a slim track, or magnetic strip frame	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Slides open; magnetic lifts off

Notes

- Tilt position: with the screen on the outside, the window tilts and turns normally behind it. Check that the tilted sash top clears the screen frame; on tall sashes a rebate-mounted screen must sit outboard of the tilt arc.
- Mesh: standard fibreglass 18×16 for insects; 20×20 or finer for no-see-ums; solar mesh (up to ~70% shading) on west faces; pet mesh where needed. Finer mesh cuts light and airflow noticeably.
- Sizes: flexible frames are made to order to roughly 55 × 80 in; larger openings go to roller or hinged systems.

- Landmark facades: exterior-face screens are visible from the street; rebate-mounted or roller systems in a matching colour are the usual answer.
- We measure the rebate depth and sash-to-frame clearance before recommending a system. Do not order a rebate screen from a catalogue for an aluminum window.

Alex Glass Construction · 7 Beach Street, Staten Island, NY 10304 · 929-235-1233 · alexglasscorp.com | Frame-compatibility limits for the flexible spring-steel system are the manufacturer's (FlexScreen). Sheet revised September 2026.