



## **How to Save Energy & Money with the Right Window Coverings for Your Calgary & Cochrane Home**

By Kirstin Hogg, Interior Designer & Blinds Specialist

When choosing window coverings for your Cochrane or Calgary home, it is important to consider all the functions of the window covering, including light control, child safety and insulating factors. Up to 50% of your heating and cooling energy can be lost through your windows.

Not all blinds are created equal and there are a few products that are specifically designed to help you save money on your heating and cooling bills.

### **The Most Energy Efficient Window Shades**

The most energy efficient product would be the Honeycomb or otherwise known as the cellular shade. They are designed with an air pocket to trap heat from entering the home, as well as keeping the heat in for the cooler seasons.

### **Reduce Heat Loss up to 40%**

Hunter Douglas has designed a patented “cell within a cell” window shade called the Duette Architella. This product can reduce heat loss up to 40%, thereby reducing your energy bill and keeping you more comfortable in the summer. The Architella has the highest R-value rating of any window covering in the market today. The shades will deflect the heat and also allow you to have a natural glow of light through the shade in the light filtering fabrics.

### **Huge Windows Offer a Great View, But Need Extra Consideration**

Calgary and Cochrane homes have huge windows and the Honeycomb is a perfect product for these large panes of glass. Furthermore, if they are high windows the honeycomb can easily be automated to help you regulate your heating and cooling with the touch of a button.

### **Discover the Advantages of Solar Shades**

Other options of window coverings can also offer some protection on the solar heat gain in your home in the summer. One particular shade would be the solar shade. The solar shade allows you to maintain some view through to the outside of your home while deflecting some of the sun’s heat rays. This is also an excellent product to consider if you want to control the sun’s harmful UV rays with window coverings – you can still see your beautiful view outside with the shades lowered, however you protect your flooring and furniture from fading the in sun’s UV rays.

## **More Things to Consider**

Other factors to consider are exposure to the sun and the color of the fabric. A darker shade will allow a bit more transfer of solar heat gain into the home; however it will provide you with a better view-through. You can also modify the openness of the weave if you have a south west exposure – the tighter the weave, the better the heat control.

Choosing the right window coverings for your Cochrane and Calgary home has proven to help save energy and money, especially when using intelligent technology like Hunter Douglas' PowerView automated blinds.

**For a free consultation on how to improve your Calgary & Area home's window treatments and save energy and money in the process, call Kirstin today at 403.801.6434**

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