



## *Concentrated Sunlight Causing Siding Distortion*

It's described as "melted" siding or "solar distortion" and is caused by concentrated sunlight reflected from "low-e" windows (energy efficient double pane). The siding thickness, color, or "quality" of the siding are not factors in whether the siding is affected. Concentrated reflected sunlight has caused distortion on light and dark siding, and even the thickest and most expensive profiles. This siding distortion is rare and is not related to a deficiency in the product.

Energy efficient windows (double pane) can concentrate and reflect solar energy to specific areas of the siding depending on the angle. This inherent reflective quality is the designed purpose of these windows. However, the byproduct of this reflective design can cause this unavoidable "phenomenon" of distorting vinyl siding. The newer "low-e" windows are installed on nearly every new home today. However, only a very small percentage of the millions of houses with vinyl siding is affected by this concentrated sunlight

A very narrow set of conditions needs to come together to cause the problem. If your windows are replaced or the builder (either on your home or your neighbor's home) used the ones that are more likely to concentrate the sunlight, or if something that blocked sunlight is removed this "phenomenon" can occur. Even if you met these conditions, the direction of the reflective UV rays would still need to be concentrated on your siding.

Effective solutions must involve preventing the windows from concentrating the reflection, or by intercepting or diffusing the beam before it strikes the siding. There are many preventative products on the market that you can apply to your own windows (e.g. screens or films). This may require some cooperation with your neighbor, since it is often a window from a near-by structure that is causing the issue.

Technical Services Team

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