

# AT HOME RIGHT NOW



## CONTENT

<b>04</b>	<b>Respecting the past</b>
04	The mechanical joint
06	Planning and conservation
07	Every detail counts
<b>08</b>	<b>Ready for the future</b>
08	Insulating and weatherproof
09	Window Energy Ratings and U-values
09	Durability
09	Recyclability
<b>10</b>	<b>Perfectly at home today</b>
10	Installation
11	Operation and aftercare
11	Tilt-open facility
11	Cleaning and maintenance
<b>12</b>	<b>Quality assured</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Specification</b>
12	Features
12	Thermal performance
12	Materials
13	Options
13	Dimensions
<b>12</b>	<b>Support and advice</b>

## RESPECTING THE PAST

We can't deny that traditional timber sash windows are a thing of beauty. The craftsmen's skills are evident in the smallest details, in the curve of a Georgian bar, in the grace of a sash horn and in the near-invisible joints in a frame.

But although we admire and respect the woodworker's art, there's no avoiding the fact that timber is expensive, and it can be troublesome in windows. That's why most homes today have moved over to the energy efficiency, long life and easy-care qualities of PVC-U for their glazing.

Now, there is a way to respect the traditions of the past and enjoy the advances that make homes warm and secure. The mechanically jointed Vertical Slider from Spectus is virtually indistinguishable in appearance from a timber sliding sash. What's more it's reliable, affordable and very practical.

### **The mechanical joint**

In timber window frames, the corners are made by creating a mortise and tenon joint. Don't worry about the words too much – simply imagine one side with a peg and the other with a slot. When the joint is put together well, there's a thin vertical line on the frame, and the whole is either screwed or glued together.

When PVC-U windows appeared, it became the norm for the corners to be welded with a mitre type joint. Again, don't worry about the jargon – it's the diagonal you'll see in the corners of frames. It's strong, weatherproof

and effective, but the 'weld-line' is a big giveaway that it's a PVC-U frame. With sash windows, the true period aesthetic demands the look of a timber-type joint.

Naturally, we've solved the problem.

Our PVC-U frames can have mechanically jointed corners on both the sliding sashes and the outer frame. No more obvious diagonal welds, just a neat vertical joint that's just as effective as a weld but which replicates, exactly, the appearance of a timber joint.



### Planning and conservation

In the past, planners have often refused applications to replace timber sashes with a PVC-U alternative. This has left many people with a dilemma – face the considerable expense of new timber sashes or continue living with the draughts, poor insulation, broken sash cords and maintenance burden of their old windows. In some cases, it's led to properties that look run down and which do nothing to enhance the special character of a conservation area.

The Spectus Vertical Slider is the answer, and planning authorities are realising it. More and more approvals are granted when they hear it's a Spectus sliding sash. Planners respect our faithful recreation of the traditional style and appreciate our use of easy to maintain, energy-efficient and recyclable materials.



### Every detail counts

Unlike some PVC-U sliding sash windows, ours doesn't ignore the finer details. We've developed ancillaries that ensure every installation can be perfectly finished. Our textured foils are available in period colours and we use traditional hardware. We've made sure our proportions are accurate, that our windows can be adapted to suit properties from different eras, and that our smallest sash windows look every bit as refined as our largest. Georgian bars can be milled for a precise fit, sash horns really are part of the sash, and every part of the system has the crucial ovolo shape.



## READY FOR THE FUTURE

Our Vertical Sliders fully respect the history and heritage of our architecture, but they're bang up to date in terms of performance.

At Spectus, we believe that elegance and comfort can go together. We believe that homeowners want style, but we know they also want peace-of-mind and security. We know that people care about our planet and our precious resources. Spectus Vertical Sliders, for all their period charm, are built to exacting, 21st-century standards and are fully prepared for tomorrow's challenges.

### Insulating and weatherproof

With fuel bills constantly rising, energy efficiency is essential. Our Vertical Sliders have 24mm double glazing as standard and woolpile strips to prevent drafts. The frames and sashes are multichambered, using the power of air as an insulator to stop warmth escaping. We can even add recycled thermal inserts, tucking them inside the frame for invisible – but effective – extra protection against the cold. Our unobtrusive gaskets are developed to last a long, long time, and we've even got a dedicated weather bar that's ideal for more exposed locations.



### Window Energy Ratings and U-values\*

WER up to Band A+  
U-values as low as 1.3W/m<sup>2</sup>K

\* Performance will vary depending upon window, configuration and IGU construction.

### Durability

Because resources are precious, building things to last makes sense. The Spectus Vertical Slider is produced using the best materials and to extraordinary standards. The frames are tough, impact resistant and have the ability to endure the constantly changing British weather year after year without complaint while still retaining their immaculate appearance.

### Recyclability

PVC-U is recyclable, over and over again, without any deterioration in performance. We use recycled materials within our frames and to provide extra insulation. Where we use new materials, we source them responsibly. Despite the traditional style of these sash windows, we're working to today's high environmental standards.

## PERFECTLY AT HOME TODAY

Our Vertical Sliders respect the heritage of traditional windows and deliver the most advanced levels of performance, but they're also very practical and easy to live with, right now.

They insulate, they're secure, and they have the safety features you need. They're simple to care for and a doddle to operate. There's a choice of 28 beautiful, foiled finishes, including several that replicate the appearance of painted wood.

### Installation

We've matched the dimensions of a timber box sash. With the same front-to-back depth, installation is straightforward. Add our precision manufacturing and superb engineering, and you've got a frame that's easy to fit and no trouble once it's in place.



### Operation and aftercare

Instead of fighting with weights, pulleys and broken sash cords, Spectus Vertical Sliders use reliable spiral balance mechanisms. Use the sash lifts or pull rings to move the sash just as far as you want, and it will stay in position. If there are children at home, add safety restrictors which limit the amount the sashes can move. To ensure the sash is safely closed, simply engage the neat snail cam mechanism.



### Tilt-open facility

Because resources are precious, building things to last our Vertical Sliders have a handy tilt-open feature to both sashes. It makes cleaning the exterior glass from indoors easy.



### Cleaning and maintenance

Timber frames take a lot of looking after – sanding, painting, wood preservatives – even so, they still rot, warp and stick.

To look after a Spectus Vertical Slider, simply wash the frames with soapy water, using a soft cloth and then dry them. Ensure drainage channels and pile seals are free of debris and lubricate the sliding mechanism with a bit of beeswax polish. Add a drop of light machine oil to the hardware. Job done.

## QUALITY ASSURED



The traditional style of the mechanically jointed Vertical Slider is backed up by an impressive list of accreditations.

- Kitemarked to BS EN 12608 and PAS 24
- British Board of Agrément approved
- Produced entirely in the UK under an ISO 9001 quality management system
- Secured by Design accredited
- Compliant with Building Regulations
- 10-year guarantee.

## SPECIFICATION



### Features

- Mechanically jointed outer frame and sash
- Ovolo styling throughout
- Pile sealed sash and outer frame
- Reliable spiral balance mechanisms for easy operation
- Tilt inwards facility to both sashes
- Matching ancillaries, end caps and cills.

### Thermal performance

- WER to Band A+
- U-value to 1.3W/m<sup>2</sup>K
- Optional recycled thermal inserts
- 24mm double glazing as standard.

### Materials

- Easy-care PVC-U
- Low-line, long-life gaskets
- Steel and aluminium reinforcements.

### Options

- Up to 28 colours
- Trickle vents
- Large and small sash profiles
- Deep bottom rail
- Run through sash horns
- Weather bar
- High-security hardware
- Travel stops for child safety.

### Dimensions

- 128mm outer frame – matches box sash dimensions
- Maximum sizes are upto 1600mm wide by 3000mm high.

## SUPPORT AND ADVICE



If you'd like to learn more about the mechanically jointed Vertical Slider or need advice from our experts, just get in touch.

Call us on 01952 283344  
or email [hello@spectus.co.uk](mailto:hello@spectus.co.uk)