Do-It-Yourself

Bird-window Collision Deterrent Methods and Relative Costs*

*Rough estimates; highly variable because of window sizes and configuration.
We used a 36" high x 48" wide window for our calculations.

BirdSavers (www.birdsavers.com)
Easy to install, long lasting, and highly effective. Simple and easy to make yourself. The BirdSavers website gives directions to build your own, or order them from Acopian BirdSavers. Approximately $2.98 materials cost* or **25 cents per Sq. Ft.** if you build your own or $2.50 a sq. ft. if you buy them premade.

ABC BirdTape (http://www.abcbirdtape.org/)
Translucent tape, easily applied, easily removed. Lasts up to four years on outside surface. Space 4" apart if applied vertically or 2" apart if applied horizontally. Approximately $4.15 materials cost* or **34 cents per Sq. Ft.** in the 4" vertical pattern.

Feather Friendly Bird Do-it-Yourself Tape
(www.conveniencegroup.com/featherfriendly/feather-friendly/)
Highly-effective 'Do-It-Yourself' Kit is now available from Feather Friendly® Technologies. Simple to install. Included instructions have you apply tape horizontally in a 2" x 2" pattern, but applying vertically using the 2" x 4" spacing seems effective and reduces material cost. Approximately $5.00 materials cost* or **40 cents per Sq. Ft.,** if you use a 2" high x 4" wide pattern.

CollidEscape) (www.collidescape.org)
This window film creates a solid appearance from the outside, but allows views from the inside and reduces glare and cooling costs while protecting birds. Available in plain white, stock colors, or you can have any image you want printed onto it. This is the type of material used for advertising on buses, etc.
Approximate $39 - $79 materials cost* or **$3.25 - $6.60 per Sq. Ft.**

Blinds
Blinds are found in many homes and they can often be used to discourage birds from flying into windows. When blinds are left partially open a striped pattern is often visible from outside the window. The striped pattern can discourage collisions on windows that appear transparent or slightly reflective by creating the appearance of a series of barriers.

Curtains and Shades
Curtains and shades can be used to discourage collisions on windows that appear transparent from the outside by simply closing them. When closed birds can no longer see through the windows so they no longer look transparent. Curtains and shades cannot reduce the formation of reflections on windows however, and in some cases closing them may actually enhance the formation of reflections. They are best used therefore on windows where collisions are almost exclusively being caused by the appearance of transparency.

Tempera Paint
Non-toxic tempera paint can be applied to the outer surface of a window to effectively eliminate both the appearance of transparency and the formation of reflections on a window. Because it is relatively inexpensive and easy to remove it can be used to collision proof windows in situations where more permanent or more expensive solutions may not be viable.

Screens (https://www.birdscreen.com/Index.htm)
Fiberglass screening can also be mounted in front of windows to prevent bird collisions. If the screening is mounted at least 5 inches or more in front of the glass with enough tension it will allow most birds that fly into it to bounce off without suffering the fatal or life threatening injuries that could result from impacting the hard glass surface directly. Screening is less effective when used on larger windows that require it to be stretched past the point where it can be maintained with enough tension to remain in a fairly rigid position. **Approximately $24 – $36 material cost* or $1.83 – .69 cents per Sq. Ft.**

For more information

Acopian Center for Ornithology: http://aco.muhlenberg.edu
Fatal Light Awareness Program (FLAP): www.flap.org
National Audubon Society: www.audubon.org
American Bird Conservancy: http://abcbirds.org

Designed and produced by the **Bird-Window Collision Group** (BWWG), a collaboration between The Acopian Center for Ornithology, Muhlenberg College, Lehigh Valley Audubon Society, Wyncote Audubon Society, and Audubon Pennsylvania.