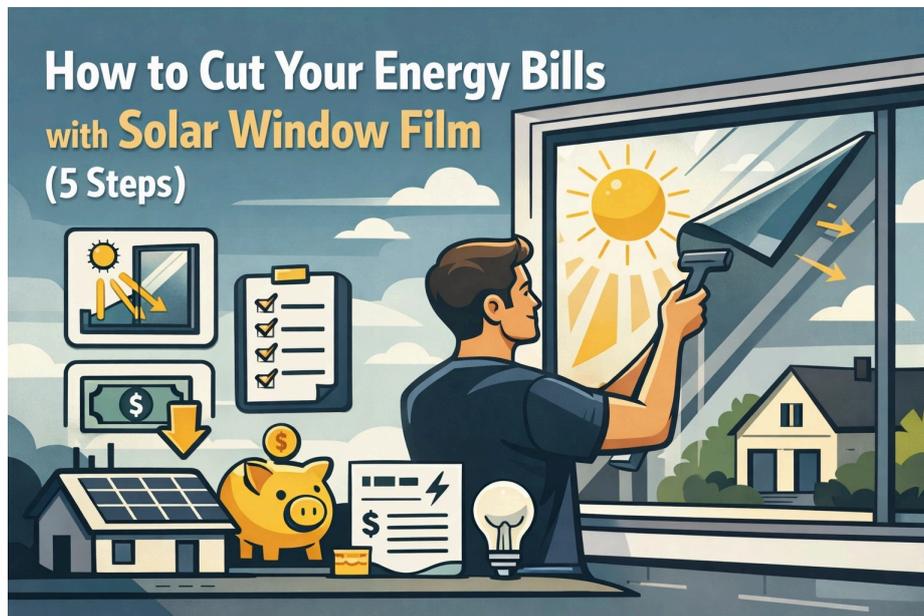


# How to Cut Your Energy Bills with Solar Window Film (5 Steps)



If you're an Omaha homeowner watching your energy bills climb every summer and winter, you're not alone. Our windows might look innocent, but they're actually responsible for up to 30% of your home's heating and cooling costs. The good news? Solar window film can slash those numbers significantly: we're talking 5-30% savings depending on your setup.

Here's the thing: installing solar window film isn't just slapping some tint on your windows and calling it a day. There's a smart way to do it that maximizes your ROI and keeps your HVAC system from working overtime. Let's break down exactly how to cut your energy bills using solar window film in five practical steps.

## Step 1: Assess Your Home's Heat Loss Points

Before you invest in any window film, you need to know where you're bleeding the most energy. Walk through your home and identify which rooms get the hottest in summer or coldest in winter. In Omaha, we deal with both extremes: scorching summers where the AC runs nonstop and brutal winters where the furnace kicks in constantly.

Pay attention to rooms with large windows or glass doors, especially those facing south or west. These are your biggest culprits when it comes to heat gain in summer. In winter, all your windows become potential heat escape routes, but larger glass surfaces lose the most warmth.

Take note of rooms where you notice:

- The temperature feels different from the rest of the house
- You can feel heat radiating from windows on sunny days

- Your HVAC system runs more frequently
- Furniture or flooring shows fading from sun exposure



This assessment tells you where to prioritize your solar film installation for maximum impact. The rooms that make you uncomfortable are costing you the most money.

## Step 2: Choose the Right Solar Film for Omaha's Climate

Not all window films are created equal, and Omaha's four-season climate means you need something that works year-round. This is where quality matters: and why we recommend Madico films for homeowners in our area.

For Omaha's climate, you want either a high-performance ceramic film or a low-emissivity (low-E) film. Here's the difference:

**Ceramic films** excel at blocking heat and UV rays, rejecting 80-90% of solar heat. During those brutal July and August days when temperatures hit the 90s, ceramic film can reduce your indoor temperature by 5-10 degrees. That's huge for your air conditioner's workload.

**Low-E films** are the year-round champions. They block summer heat like ceramic films but also reflect your indoor heat back into your home during winter. When January temperatures drop below zero, that reflective property keeps your heated air inside where it belongs instead of escaping through your windows.

Madico offers both types with excellent performance ratings. Their films can reflect up to 78% of solar heat while blocking over 99% of harmful UV rays: which not only protects your family but also prevents your furniture, flooring, and artwork from fading.

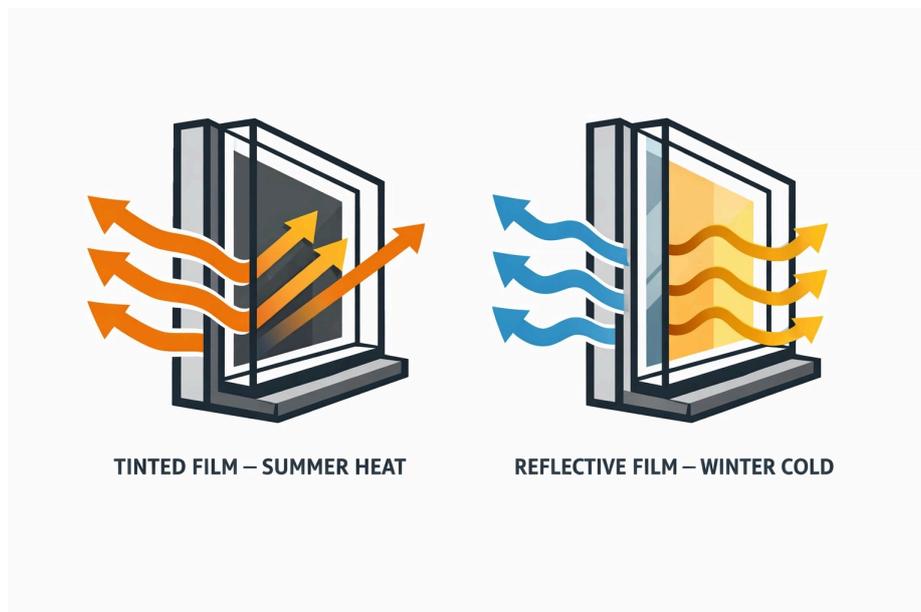
For most Omaha homes, a quality low-E film gives you the best bang for your buck because it tackles both seasons effectively. You're not just reducing cooling costs in summer; you're cutting heating costs in winter too.

### Step 3: Start with Your Biggest Windows First

Here's a practical tip that'll help you maximize savings without breaking the bank upfront: prioritize your largest window areas first.

Windows account for about 25-30% of residential cooling energy use, and larger glass surfaces have the biggest impact on your energy bills. If you've got a big picture window in your living room or sliding glass doors leading to your deck, those should be first on your list.

Think about it this way: a large south-facing window might be bleeding 10 times more energy than a small bathroom window. By tackling the big problem areas first, you'll see noticeable savings right away, and those savings can help fund the rest of your windows over time.



In Omaha homes, we often see the biggest opportunities in:

- Living room picture windows
- Sliding patio doors
- Master bedroom windows (especially west-facing)
- Home office windows
- Sunrooms or three-season rooms

Starting with these high-impact areas means you'll feel the difference immediately. Your HVAC system won't cycle as frequently, and you'll actually be more comfortable in those rooms.

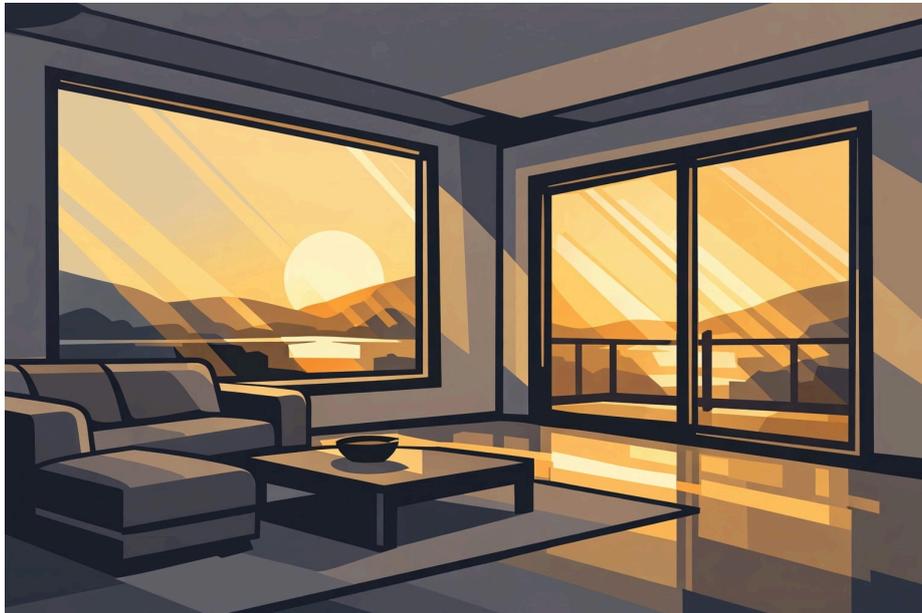
## Step 4: Get Professional Installation

Look, we get it: DIY projects are tempting, especially when you're trying to save money. But solar window film installation is one area where professional application pays for itself.

Here's why: improperly installed film creates air bubbles, peeling edges, and inconsistent coverage that ruins both the appearance and the performance. A professional installer knows how to properly prepare your windows, apply the film without defects, and ensure it bonds correctly for long-term durability.

Well-installed solar film from a pro can reduce indoor temperatures by 5-10 degrees on hot days. Poor installation? You might get half that benefit, or the film might fail within a year or two.

Professional installation also typically comes with a warranty. Madico backs their films with solid warranties, but those often require professional installation to remain valid. If something goes wrong with a DIY job, you're on your own.



At Tint Advantage, we've installed thousands of square feet of solar film in Omaha homes. We know how to handle different window types, work around existing trim, and ensure your film performs at peak efficiency. The small upfront cost of professional installation protects your larger investment in the film itself.

## Step 5: Track Your Savings and Optimize Your HVAC Use

Once your solar film is installed, you should start seeing results in your first full billing cycle. But here's where you can squeeze even more savings out of your investment: by adjusting how you use your HVAC system.

Keep an eye on your energy bills month by month. Most homeowners see their savings clearly within the first season. In summer, you should notice your AC running less frequently or for shorter periods. In winter, your furnace shouldn't kick in as often.

Here's the key: because your windows now reject heat more effectively, you can often adjust your thermostat by a degree or two and still feel comfortable. Raising your AC setting by just 2 degrees in summer can cut cooling costs by another 5-10%. In winter, you might be able to lower your heat setting slightly without sacrificing comfort.

Track these patterns:

- Compare this summer's bills to last summer's
- Note how often your HVAC cycles throughout the day
- Pay attention to room comfort levels versus thermostat settings
- Document any maintenance savings on your HVAC system



Most property owners see complete payback on their solar film investment within 3-5 years. After that, it's pure savings year after year. Plus, your HVAC system will last longer because it's not working as hard, which means fewer repairs and delayed replacement costs.

The bonus benefits keep adding up too: reduced glare on your TV screens, protected furniture and flooring from UV damage, and more consistent temperatures throughout your home.

## **Start Saving on Your Omaha Energy Bills Today**

Solar window film isn't magic, but it's pretty close when you see those lower energy bills rolling in. By following these five steps: assessing your heat loss, choosing the right film for Omaha's climate, prioritizing large windows, getting professional installation, and optimizing your HVAC use: you're setting yourself up for maximum savings.

The reality is that with Omaha's temperature extremes, your windows are constantly working against you. Every summer day they're letting heat pour in, and every winter night they're letting warmth escape. Quality solar film like Madico turns that around, making your windows part of the solution instead of the problem.

Ready to see how much you could save? Fill out our free estimate form and we'll assess your home's specific needs. We'll show you exactly which windows to prioritize, recommend the best Madico film for your situation, and give you a clear picture of your potential savings. Let's cut those energy bills together.