

Aluminum is the most widely used material for entrance and back doors and the use of wood is very limited. Aluminum was used in 88.8 per cent of back doors in 1982 and 96.8 per cent in 1988. The corresponding figures for wooden back doors was 2.4 per cent in 1982 and 0.5 per cent in 1988.

The use of aluminum in entrance doors has increased from 66 per cent of the market in 1982 to 92 per cent in 1988. In contrast, the use of wooden doors dropped from 23 per cent to 6 per cent in the same period.

Solid wooden doors are used increasingly as living room doors and are estimated to account for 5 per cent of all interior doors. The other types of interior doors are wooden or metal.

Window Market

The estimated market size is well in excess of 33 million units. The estimates in Table 7 are based on an average number of 18 windows per dwelling unit, and represent a first, and probably conservative, approximation. More detailed estimates are presented in Chapter 3.

Table 7
Market for Windows in Japan
1982 - 1988
('000 units)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Windows</u>
1982	24 200
1983	23 900
1984	24 600
1985	25 400
1986	27 600
1987	33 200
1988	33 200

Source: K. F. International, Inc.

The most common sliding windows accounted for about 62 per cent of the total window market in 1987. At one time, sliding type windows accounted for nearly 80 per cent of the window market but the trend now is towards using special types of windows. This development reflects changing consumer tastes. Table 8 presents the distribution of demand for different types of windows.