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Meta Title: Cold Near the Door? It Might Be the Frame, Not the Glass

Meta Description: If your doorway feels cold in winter or strangely warm in summer, the issue may not be a draft. Here's what could be happening and how to describe it clearly.

The Comfort Clue Hiding in Your Door Frame

You can have a beautiful doorway and still hate standing near it. Comfort doesn't care how good it looks. It cares what the perimeter is doing.

It's that temperature shift you feel before you even think about it, a cool line along the floor, a shoulder chill when you pass too close. In winter, **the frame can feel sharp-cold under your fingertips**. In summer, it's oddly warm. Not the whole room. Just that zone.

And sometimes, it doesn't even feel like air is moving. **It feels like the room is quietly nudging you back a step.**

What You're Feeling Might Not Be Air

Two different problems can feel almost identical, which is why they're often confused.

- **Air leakage:** you feel movement.
- **Temperature transfer:** the air is still, but the area near the frame feels noticeably colder or warmer.

Same complaint. Very different fixes.

The Frame's Job and Where It Can Go Wrong

Aluminum is durable and precise, which is why it's widely used in doors and window systems. But thermally, it conducts heat very well. **That means outdoor temperatures can travel through the frame and show up on the interior surface**, especially around the perimeter where people actually sit, walk, and live.

Without an insulating barrier inside the frame, cold winter air or summer heat can transfer directly through the metal.

In a thermally broken system, a non-conductive barrier separates the interior and exterior portions of the frame. That separation reduces how much temperature passes through, **helping prevent that winter "cold stripe" feeling or the summer hot-touch effect.**

It's not always the glass. Often, it's the edge.

Spot the Pattern

Instead of focusing on one uncomfortable moment, **look for what repeats:**

- The discomfort shows up on the coldest nights or the sunniest afternoons
- Curtains don't move, but you still feel a cold "pull" near the frame

- Condensation appears in a clean line along the frame edge or corners
- The room feels normal, until you're sitting or standing right next to the doorway

If it's airflow, you'll usually notice movement, whistling, or fluttering. If it's temperature transfer, it's quieter. And subtler.

What to Say So You Don't Get the Wrong Fix

If you lead with the word "draft," **the conversation often defaults to weatherstripping**. Try describing what you actually notice instead:

- "The interior frame surface feels much colder or hotter than nearby finishes."
- "Comfort drops near the perimeter even when everything's closed."
- "We're trying to reduce heat and cold transfer through the frame."

If you want a little more context on why that frame detail matters, the [heat-transfer difference between door materials is worth knowing](#).

One Simple Step Before You Call Anyone

Before reaching out to an installer, **note two things**:

- When it feels worst (cold mornings, windy nights, the sunny side in summer)
- Where it's most noticeable (which room, which edge, which side)

That's enough to help identify whether the issue is airflow or temperature transfer, without turning this into a full-time research project.

Comfort problems aren't always dramatic. Sometimes they're subtle. And sometimes the fix isn't in the glass. It's in the frame.
