

IMPORTANT INFORMATION IN RELATION TO AUSTRALIANS STANDARDS COMPLIANT BUSHFIRE SHUTTERS

For Bushfire Attack Level 40 (BAL- 40) AS 3959:2009.

The new AS3959:2009 states:

3.7 BUSHFIRE SHUTTERS

Bushfire shutters shall—

- (a) be fixed to the building and be non-removable;
- (b) when in the closed position, have no gap greater than 3 mm between the shutter and the wall, the sill or the head;
- (c) be readily manually operable from either inside or outside;
- (d) protect the entire window assembly or door assembly;
- (e) consist of materials specified in Clauses 5.5.1, 6.5.1, 7.5.1, 8.5.1 and 9.5.1 for the relevant BAL; and
- (f) where perforated, have -
 - (i) uniformly distributed perforations with a maximum aperture of 3 mm when the shutter is providing radiant heat protection or 2 mm when the shutter is also providing ember protection (such as where the openable portion of the window is not screened in accordance with the requirements of the respective BAL); and
 - (ii) a perforated area no greater than 20% of the shutter.

If bushfire shutters are fitted to all external doors then at least one of those shutters shall be operable from the inside to facilitate safe egress from the building.

3.8 TESTING TO AS 1530.8

Where any material, element of construction or system satisfies the test criteria of AS 1530.8.1, for any BAL (BAL—12.5 to BAL—40) and AS 1530.8.2 (BAL—FZ) it satisfies the requirements of that BAL.

If any material, element of construction or system satisfies the test criteria without screening for ember protection, the requirements of this Standard for screening of openable parts of windows or doors shall still apply.

We tailor make these blinds to the windows and doors of any home, shielding these vulnerable areas from radiant heat and direct flame impingement in the event of a bushfire. We install aluminium side channels that guide the blind down the window from an over head pelmet assembly which can be powder coated to any of the colourbond colour range, while the fabric shield (which remains out of sight when not required) is made from a 5 layer aluminized fabric, which in turn reflects off the radiant heat flux and has a degree of protection from direct flame, however for window to ground level we add an extra backing layer of silica fibre and a second layer of aluminized fabric to give the blind the ability of holding back 1500 deg C for short periods, and 1000 deg C as a constant. The fabrics used are incredibly strong and a large impact would be required to tear the fabric as it is backed with a heavy layer of fibreglass matting also. The window behind may break from such an impact, however this screen should remain to become the buildings barrier to hold out embers and the fire front. Other positives are that the occupants in the building cannot be trapped by these screens, as a sharp knife can cut an escape, or enough force to the edges will make an escape hole to crawl out from, unlike security shutter systems. The blinds are deployed manually from inside or out, or electrically by switch if required

Our price matrix is available to assist you with working out what each blind will cost. Simply take measurements of the width X depth or any given window / door and look it up on the chart. Flame impingement blinds are required when installing on windows and doors where burning branches could land against them.

If you have any quires or require further advice please do not hesitate to contact us:

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