

Insect Screens Fact Sheet

Insect screens for windows are normally supplied fitted to the frame by the window manufacturer; they can be easily removed to allow for cleaning access. Made from either aluminium or fibreglass mesh they provide a reasonably long term maintenance free service.

Optionally available are retractable roller insect screens, these bring the benefit of being easily removed when the window is closed to provide an unobstructed view, however as they have moving parts, they do require a degree of care when operating and need occasional lubrication.

Door Screens can be more troublesome and care is needed when considering which type to use.

If you are using a sliding door and space allows then a complimentary sliding screen is the answer. Plaza Aluminium Doors offer a super quality screen using the same size frame section as in their door. Compare this to the budget priced sliding doors around and you will immediately see the benefits.

Out swinging wood doors (French Doors) and windows can be supplied with in-swinging screens with wooden frames. Custom made these are a very traditional way to provide protection. This can be done in reverse, but they look less attractive.

Sometimes these options don't suit the application; here consideration can be given to a roller retractable screen, where the screen retracts when not needed into a small cassette box fitted to the door frame. There are some size limitations here, normally the maximum width is 3 to 4 feet (twice this for a pair of doors) depending upon the door height. If they are fitted to an in swinging door, they can be OK if operated with care; however we have experienced problems using them on out swinging doors, as the screen frame and running gear can become damaged or buried in the floor and wall plaster during installation. On out swinging doors, they really need to be installed as a secondary operation, just prior to project completion.

If you have a rental property and need something more robust, consider a simple hanging screen, incorporating weights to hold in position and magnets to hold the screen opening flaps in place. These are not visually as neat as they remain permanently in place; however they are more robust in use.

Finally, for wide opening such as bi-folding doors, there are two options to consider. Either vertical motorized roller screen, or there are some new horizontal roller retractable systems coming onto the market. Checkout La Cantina's website (in our door and window section) for more details on their new 24 feet wide system.

If you don't like any of these suggestions and hate the idea of screens, check out the "Bug DeFence" exterior misting system on our website.