

Light & Shade

Issue 1 Spring/Summer 2013

The customer magazine from **GRANTS** bespoke blinds and shutters

INSIDE
15-PAGE
BUYERS'
GUIDE

All your questions
answered

Bring the outside in

How to plan to get the
most of your conservatory
or orangery this spring

UNDER CONTROL

Control light,
shade and
audio-visuals
with Home
Automation

EXPERT ADVICE

How to select the
finest Pinoleum,
pleated or
Roman blinds

NEW SPRING COLOUR PALETTE

Style statement

Make your mark with subtle colours
from our NEW COLLECTIONS

CREATE THE LOOK

with 10 inspirational real-life case studies

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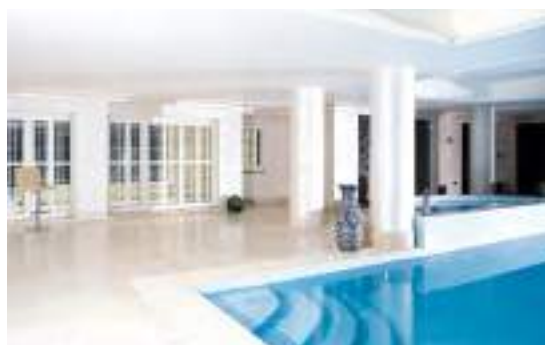
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Light & Shade

Spring/Summer 2013 **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

CASE STUDIES

- 12 **Elegant kitchen with a stunning roof lantern**
- 16 **Light fantastic – a gorgeously airy conservatory**
- 20 **Creating the perfect pool room**
- 22 **The ideal shading for a grand kitchen**
- 24 **Thinking outside the glass box**
- 26 **A delightful conservatory that brings the outside in**
- 28 **A welcoming music room and family space**
- 30 **State-of-the-art design in an old office building**
- 32 **Flexible shading system for a luxury penthouse**
- 34 **In control with motorised blinds**



PRODUCT SPOTLIGHTS



- 38 **French Pinoleum**
- 42 **Pleated blinds**
- 46 **Roman blinds**
- 48 **Roller blinds**
- 50 **Shutters & Venetians**




BUYERS' GUIDE, p54



**GRANTS**
bespoke blinds & shutters

SHADES OF BRILLIANCE

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Published by Leigh House Solutions Ltd trading as Grants Bespoke Blinds & Shutters,
Leigh House, Main Road, Rookley, Isle of Wight, PO38 3NL. Registered business number: 06774291



“ Whether you live in an English country home, a shabby chic cottage or an urban loft apartment Grants Bespoke Blinds has a shading solution to suit your lifestyle ”

Wooden Venetian 50mm width slat finished and painted in Grants Denbeigh





Motorised French Pinoleum roof blinds finished in Grants Chatsworth colour with Solarwood® solar reflective backing.
Link building by Vale Garden Houses



Welcome

At Grants Blinds we know the importance of finishing touches, which is why our attention to detail is second to none. For more than 30 years we have been creating beautiful blinds and stunning shutters, which provide the perfect shading solution.

We work in homes large and small, both contemporary and traditional, and design bespoke solutions that not only look fabulous, but also work perfectly. We work closely with architects, interior designers, project managers and homeowners to ensure we create a look that is both unique and a joy to live with.

Much of our work takes place in orangeries and conservatories and we specialise in using blinds and shading to ensure the room is usable all year round. Often, before installing blinds, people complain that a glass room is simply too warm and bright to enjoy during the height of summer and too cold during the winter months. Fitting the right sort of blinds makes these issues a thing of the past.

An orangery or conservatory is a real delight and a space that links the outside and inside seamlessly – kitchen orangeries or glass rooms which are used as sitting rooms, family room or dining rooms – are an increasingly popular addition to the house and shading is particularly important in spaces like these as these rooms tend to be used throughout the day and into the evening. This means the correct balance of light and shade is even more important.

Grants is with you every step of the way – from our no-obligation home consultations, the planning stage and right through to installation and servicing. Each of our blinds is designed, manufactured and installed by us to ensure everything is absolutely perfect at every stage.

Our customer service, design excellence and after-sales care are second to none, so whether you are at the planning stage of a project or are considering transforming an existing room with the very finest shading, then do get in touch.

Gaius H. Guest

Proprietor, Grants Bespoke Blinds

The finest quality

The very best in customer care

Quality

From the moment you begin talking to us here at Grants you will see that we are passionate about providing great quality products and service. Our aim – with every installation we undertake – is to make sure our clients get the very best solution for their unique situation and we hope that, above all else, our commitment to quality shines through.

Style

Whether you live in an English country home, a shabby chic cottage or an urban loft apartment Grants has a shading solution to suit your space. We continually update our weaves, fabrics, braids and accessories to reflect the changing moods of contemporary style. But we also offer a complete range of classic designs which outlast fashion trends. The natural wood range of pinoleum, for example, is a flexible and enduring design classic. This material can be stained, paint washed, varnished or simply left in its natural state. We also offer a custom-colour service which allows you to paint-match pinoleum blinds, wooden shutters and wooden venetians to ensure a co-ordinated look to your room.

Tradition

Tradition is important to us, which is why our products are manufactured in time-honoured fashion and our service is the good, old-fashioned kind. We're also interested in tradition of another kind – that of historic buildings – and that is why we have a range of products suited perfectly to period properties.

Service

We offer the Platinum Service plan designed to guarantee your blinds stay in the best possible condition for as long as possible. Our ethos is to provide a truly personal service – that's why our customers can call and speak to the business owner at any stage of the project. And our highly popular Platinum Service takes this a stage further, offering exclusive discounts, offers and personalised after-sales care of the very highest standard. Our reputation is very important to us; there's no better recommendation than a satisfied customer and we aim to ensure everyone who comes into contact with us at Grants is happy with the our service.



Endurashade motorised roller blinds fitted using Grants Holland natural fabric



“Our ethos is to provide a truly personal service – that’s why should they wish to our customers can call and speak to the business owner at any stage of the project”

The right shading solution can truly transform a living space

Choosing the right blinds and shutters for a room makes a huge difference to the look and feel of an interior and also to how it can be used. Essentially, good shading puts you in control of the light and heat entering a room. Make the right choice now and your living space can be transformed into a truly welcoming room that can be enjoyed all year round and for years to come.

Blinds and shutters can also make a real style statement and because with Grants products you can choose any colour you want – including paint finishes from respected brands such as Farrow & Ball – you can be sure you will find a style and shade that suit both your personality and the setting within which they will be used. In fact, we even offer a colour-match service so you can guarantee the exact shade you are looking for.

When you have spent a lot of time, effort and money on a space, you want to be able to really enjoy it. The right shading provides the difference between a room that is cosy, temperate and usable and a space that is uncomfortable to be in. That's why at Grants we have a team of experts on hand to advise you on not only what will look good, but also what will work seamlessly to allow you and your family to enjoy each and every room in your home.

Garden rooms in particular tend to extremes. Beautifully crafted blinds will keep these areas cool in the summer and warm and cosy in the colder months. Just as a hot summer's day is often best enjoyed in the shadow of an ancient tree, so the right shading in a conservatory or orangery can make a room so much more comfortable, a space where indoors and outdoors meets in perfect harmony.

Shutters are also becoming increasingly popular as a shading option. Crisper than curtains, they can add a real sense of style and sleek finish to all styles of room. Innovations such as motorisation make blinds easy to use even for the youngest family members and give you complete control of just how much light and heat is allowed into the room.

Finally, the addition of bespoke blinds or shutters from Grants can add value to your property, helping to create a home that is a joy to live with.

Our guide to individual products begins on page 36
Our comprehensive buyers' guide begins on page 54



French Pinoleum roof blinds with Solarwood® solar reflective finish and finished in Grants Chatsworth colour with matching



Active backing
window blinds

Light fantastic bathes this classic kitchen

This beautiful space features fully motorised **French Pinoleum blinds** on the windows and within the impressive roof lantern by Vale Garden Houses. Finished in Grants Chatsworth to complement the overall décor, together they work wonderfully within the imposing proportions and classic design of this kitchen...

CURRENTLY THERE IS A REAL TREND towards glass in the kitchen. Whether this is a kitchen built in an orangery, a kitchen with a roof lantern, bi-fold doors or French windows, the idea is to allow as much natural light in as possible and to make the room an airy space in which to work. However, it is vital to ensure the right shading is used to maintain an environment that is comfortable at all times.

The kitchen has seen perhaps the greatest change of all rooms in recent years. It has changed from being a place simply to prepare food to somewhere which is lived in by the whole family. As it has evolved into a multi-purpose space, it has become among the most important rooms in the house and the one which most money is spent on.

Perhaps because of this – and because it is a true working space – comfort in the kitchen is all important. The kitchen of this Jersey house is a case in point. It's a busy space where everything is designed to work absolutely beautifully.

The Mercury 1200 range cooker is a good example. Its pedigree means everything is designed to the standards required by a professional chef. From the 5kW burner through to its stunning stainless steel looks, it is everything those who love to cook could want.

This feeling of light and space is enhanced by the use of whites and pale muted tones. The dark marble sets off the white of the

kitchen beautifully, giving it a stunning monochrome finish and the cabinetry in the kitchen is built with the user in mind and this really is a kitchen which has a place for everything.

The soft lines and curves of the units lend themselves perfectly to this very airy space, which has a stunning roof lantern and large glass doors on to a courtyard with a distinctly Roman feel.

The use of so much glass in a room can make it a fabulous space, but also one that can get very hot when the sun is shining. That's why the final choice of shading was all important here. The owner

chose French Pinoleum blinds, which are as beautiful as they are practical. They are all finished in the subtle Grants Chatsworth with Solarwood® reflective backing and are fully retractable, allowing in maximum light when required.

In keeping with the house's centrally controlled audio-visual

system, the blinds can be operated at a press of a button either through the wall-mounted audio-visual control panel or via a remote control handset. The roof blinds have been seamlessly fitted below the glazing bars allowing several panels within the roof lantern to be covered with one blind. A wooden cornice was then fitted so the blinds would be covered when fully retracted.

The homeowner says: "Working with Grants Blinds made things incredibly easy. They were on hand every step of the way to provide advice and make suggestions on the very best way to create shading that looked fabulous and worked perfectly."

“Grants were on hand every step of the way to provide advice and make suggestions on the very best way to create shading that looked fabulous and worked perfectly”







Light fantastic

In keeping with the centrally controlled audio-visual system, the blinds can be operated either through a wall-mounted audio-visual control panel or via a remote control handset at a press of a button and have been fully integrated into the structure. The roof blinds have been discretely fitted below the glazing bars, allowing several panels within the roof lantern to be covered with one blind and have the advantage of Solarwood® solar reflective backing to increase the performance of the blind.

A wooden cornice was then fitted so the blinds would be covered when fully retracted



Bringing the outside in



This Vale Garden Houses orangerie features **French Pinoleum blinds** within the roof lantern and matching blinds on all windows. Finished in Chatsworth pale cream with Solarwood® solar reflective backing, every blind is motorised and concealed when closed behind a wooden pelmet supplied by the client... →



THERE ARE FEW THINGS AS GLORIOUS as gazing out over a landscaped garden taking in a manicured lawn and seeing a slight breeze ripple over the blue water of a perfectly proportioned swimming pool. And, if you can do all of these things from a gorgeous orangery, then it just gets better.

The island setting of this beautiful house, newly built in grand Georgian style, couldn't be more perfect and the attention to detail is truly outstanding, so when its owners decided they wanted blinds of a similar standard to the build, Grants was the obvious choice.

The house has two orangeries, both built by Vale Garden Houses, and the owner chose motorised French Pinoleum Blinds in Chatsworth, a subtle, pale cream for both. The main orangery (below), which is just off the kitchen, is used as an informal dining and sitting room while the second orangery (pictured left) is used as a pool room, a space that truly links the interior with the garden. Complete with a bar and sitting area, family and guests can enjoy the shade and a long, cool drink while looking out over the pool and garden.

Both orangeries benefit from motorisation and the entire house has an audio visual control system, which allows blinds to be opened and closed, lights to be dimmed and music to be piped at the touch of a button on the wall.

This was a whole house project for Grants and it was the

company's attention to even the smallest of details that ensured the shading was perfectly in keeping with the beautiful architecture and interior design of the house, while also working seamlessly.

The owner of this stunning Channel Islands home said: "The main orangery is a room we use a lot for different activities as there is a dining area as well as a sitting area with sofas.

"Keeping the temperature at the right level is vitally important if the room is to be able to be used all year round. We also use it at different times of day, so without proper shading it would be impossible to sit in comfortably.

"We chose French Pinoleum blinds for the main orangery as well as the pool room orangery, because they look fantastic and are really sympathetic to the classic nature of the architecture.

"We have continued the theme through into the kitchen and it makes this whole area of the house feel very cohesive." ●

“The French Pinoleum looks fantastic and is sympathetic to the classic nature of the architecture”



In the swim with the perfect pool room

When Ameeta and Ashwan embarked on a whole house project they carefully considered the issue of shading. Their well-proportioned house is designed with ergonomics in mind and this desire to create a space that is great to look at and lovely to live in has been extended to the windows, ensuring they are dressed in the most appropriate manner...

Perhaps one of the greatest luxuries of modern life is a pool of one's own. This pool room – housed in the basement of a stunning modern property in Wentworth – is a brilliant example of just how stunning this kind of space can be made to look.

The pool room is part of a whole house project and is made up of the pool area, a whirlpool bath, changing rooms, shower area and an-air conditioned exercise room, all centered around an inviting azure swimming pool.

Ameeta and Ashwan wanted shading solutions that were in keeping with the luxurious feel of the room and chose Grants shutters for both the smaller window and the large expanse of glass doors.

Shutters are perfect for this kind of room as they allow you to easily control the amount of light and heat coming into the room. Often, on a sunny day it is really lovely to have the doors fully open and warm air and sunshine flooding in. Because the shutters are fully retractable this is very easy to do.

This room offers a perfect example of how carefully chosen shutters can afford a room a really polished finish and can work brilliantly with the muted tones used here to create a really stunning place to relax.

Ameeta says: "We chose shutters for the pool room partly because of privacy issues, but mainly because we thought they enhanced the look of the room, giving it a really unified feel. We opted for white as it went perfectly with the scheme of the room and kept it feeling light and airy." ●





“ We chose shutters for the pool room partly because of privacy issues, but mainly because we thought they enhanced the look of the room, giving it a really unified feel ”

CASE STUDY # 4

THE CLIVE CHRISTIAN KITCHEN in Ameeta and Ashwan's house is built around a stunning marble island unit, complete with an exquisite single piece marble top. While a beautiful setting, it is also a hard working room and details such as the silver leaf accents are offset against a durable, polished wooden floor and state-of-the-art appliances.

With large double doors leading on to the garden, the kitchen is light and airy, but on very sunny days this can lead to it becoming too bright and too hot. Shutters seemed the perfect solution as they are durable and eminently practical while also being lovely to look at.

Grants created a folding shutter system for the kitchen, which runs along a top and bottom track and will ensure the shutters continue to work perfectly over a long period of time. A decorative, sunburst-shaped feature was added over the doors, which can be fully open, fully closed or open to degrees as required.

Designed to complement the kitchen completely, the shutters have been painted in a white finish and this crisp colour is the perfect foil for the more ornate silver detailing and the rich darkness of the wooden floor.

The lighting has been cleverly considered and recessed ceiling lights allow for a more subdued ambience in the evening, which is perfect for when the shutters are closed.

Ameeta said: "We chose Grants shutters for our kitchen because we wanted something of excellent quality and we also needed an exact made to measure service.

"Our shutters are great – they keep the kitchen warm when it is cold outside and cool it down when it gets too warm.

"We wanted something that blended seamlessly with the kitchen, but still looked special in its own right. The shutters are used for décor and for privacy.

"We're really pleased with the shutters and with the service provided by Grants. Their made-to-measure service was faultless and they were exceptionally helpful." ●



When open (above) the Grants shutters in this impressive kitchen let light flood in and create a bright and airy working space. Closed or partially closed (left) they turn the kitchen into a warm and more intimate space



“ We wanted shutters that blended seamlessly with the kitchen but looked special in their own right ”



Such an elegant shading solution

A kitchen built to this standard needed a brilliant shading solution that was as beautiful as it was practical. That's why the couple living here decided to fit stunning made-to-measure shutters...



“ The level of craftsmanship was fantastic and the process was quick and easy ”

Thinking outside the box

The 'glass box' conservatory at David and Bettina's London home needed an ingenious shading solution to transform it into a comfortable family space. The answer was a clever bonded fixing rail that allowed for bespoke **French Pinoleum blinds** with a solar reflective backing...

WHEN DAVID AND BETTINA first viewed their home in Totteridge in North West London they weren't that excited about the glass room extension. The period house is opposite a leafy green and the glass room overlooks a mature garden complete with a swimming pool. Although the glass room wasn't initially a selling point for the couple, they now spend most of their time in it and much of this is down to the fact they have chosen the ideal shading, which makes the room great to live in all year round.

The glass room was an interesting project for Grants as there were no natural fixing points available for blinds and the couple were finding the room impossible to spend much time in as it was simply too bright and too hot to sit in comfortably.

Grants Installation Manager Dave Lacy – the couple's dedicated project manager – says: "We realised early on that specialist project management was required because of the lack of fixing points. That meant we attended the site and oversaw the project from start to finish. We commissioned a glass bonding expert to affix our continuous fixing rail to the structure to allow both the window blinds and the roof blinds to be installed."

Bettina says: "Grants were great. The level of craftsmanship was fantastic and they were very easy to work with. The process was quick and easy and Grants were delightful to deal with."

During the no-obligation home advisory consultation between David, Bettina and Dave from Grants, it was decided that French Pinoleum Blinds with solar reflective lining made most sense. The classically styled blinds – finished in Grants' Chapel Grey paint – offered the perfect link between the traditional style of the main house and the much more contemporary feel of the glass room. The solar reflective backing would ensure the temperature in the room could be kept at a comfortable level

which would in turn mean the family could enjoy the room throughout the day. The treatment would also ensure a cosy space even in the colder months.

"Now that we've had blinds fitted," Bettina adds, "we spend a lot of time in here. Before, it was simply too bright – even the tiniest bit of sun made it impossible to read and you actually needed to wear sunglasses. The blinds are great because they give it a much more sheltered and cosier feel. They have made it more of a room to live in, rather than what felt like an outdoor space."

To keep the right balance in the room, roof blinds were installed to fit within the glazing bars and the window blinds were fitted in front of the glazing. This solution gives the room a much cosier feel and the blinds soften and finish the look.

Bettina says: "One of the things I love about the blinds is that they are not overpowering to look at. They don't block out the outside in the way a normal curtain would. Instead they blend into the room and complement the structure. The solar reflective coating is brilliant as it keeps the room temperature exactly as we like it."

"The blinds have turned it from a glass box into a really usable room. We now use it for watching TV, eating as a family and spending time with the children." ●





“Grants were exceptional to deal with from beginning to end”

A room with a view



LOUIS AND SHIRLEY'S PROPERTY in the Home Counties benefits from a huge orangery by Glasshouses by Jeremy Uglow. It's a truly all purpose room, used for relaxing, entertaining, eating and gazing out over the beautiful mature garden.

The couple decided to have blinds fitted some time after the orangery was built. "We loved sitting in there," Louis says, "but we found the heat became oppressive and we were worried that intense sunshine would cause the furniture to fade."

A beautiful room, which is incredibly large for an orangery, the space is broken up into a dining area and a number of seating areas with sofas (pictured below), allowing the couple to entertain family and friends in an informal manner. The dining area can seat 24 and the sitting areas 14, meaning they are perfect for get-togethers.

The installed blinds – French Pinoleum roof blinds in a Flatweave fabric and finished in the colour Farmhouse Door with Solar Reflective lining for maximum heat and glare reduction and increased insulation performance– completely changed the way the couple viewed and used the room as they were able to enjoy it whatever the weather.

"Once the blinds were installed," says Louis, "we were able to use the orangery at any time, rather than having to wait for the weather to cool down. We chose the flat weave blinds as they seemed the most natural."

"We also chose motorisation as we wanted the blinds to be easy to operate. This is done in four separate sections and a fifth one that operates them altogether, meaning the blinds are really easy to control."



During the winter, the lined blinds keep in valuable warmth, on sunnier days, they provide welcome shade, with the couple able to open or close various sections of the blinds. Above, there is a natural canopy of trees – which are lit with an uplighter – so the view through the roof is also rather spectacular.

The couple are thrilled with the amount of versatility offered by the blinds and are highly praising of Grants.

"We found Grants were exceptional to deal with from beginning to end and everything went incredibly smoothly," Louis says. ●

Louis and Shirley's substantial and impressive orangery is surrounded by mature gardens offering sensational views. To make the most of it, they turned to Grants for **motorised French Pinoleum roof blinds** with Solarwood® solar reflective backing and finished in Grants' popular Farmhouse Door colour...

Music to their ears

Howard and Bev wanted to extend their family home with a dedicated music room and decided to do this with the addition of two separate orangeries. They are thrilled with the results...

HAVING HAD A CONSERVATORY in a previous house, Howard and Bev, who live in North West London, knew they wanted to have a fully motorised system and were keen to include the wiring during the construction phase. The orangeries were built by Breckenridge and Grants worked alongside to ensure the structure and blinds worked together in a coherent fashion.

"The main orangery is used as a music room for our 13-year-old daughter," Bev says. "She has private lessons at home, as well as at school, and is sitting her exams at the moment."

"It makes a real difference for her having somewhere away from her siblings where she can practice. When the room isn't being used for music, it is a grown-up space where we can entertain or just relax with a glass of wine."

It is terribly important to protect delicate musical instruments, such as pianos, from harsh light, which is why blinds are vital in protecting them from harmful UV light and the damage it can cause, as well as extremes of temperature.

Bev adds: "The blinds make all the difference as we can have them open or closed or even part open. It can be very romantic in the evening having the roof blinds partly open and being able to see the moon and the stars. Then, during the colder months, it's great to have them closed as it makes the room really cosy."

The couple had an in-depth consultation with Grants and decided on elegant pleated blinds from the Crushed Ascot range. The larger orangery blinds are finished in Ascot white and the smaller in the Ascot cream. The roof blinds were designed to fit within glass bars, leaving the beautiful wooden structure exposed, and the window blinds were created using a manual cord-tensioned fitting within the main framework. This allowed them to be unobtrusive when the blinds were not required and stacked back.

These cord-tensioned blinds are especially suitable for doors and windows that are frequently in use, which works well for the family as they are often in and out of the garden.

Bev adds: "Grants were great and really helpful at each stage of the process. As soon as we saw the pleated Ascot blinds we knew they were absolutely right for us. The fabric was so thick and the colour just beautiful. They really suited the room. We chose



motorisation [for the roof blinds] because it makes things so much easier. The way the blinds on the doors work is brilliant for us as we like to watch the children and the dog playing in the garden and we like to feel as if we are outside, even though we are actually sitting very comfortably indoors." ●

“The main orangery is used as a music room for our 13-year-old daughter. The blinds work brilliantly for us”





Shading with architectural credentials

When developers completed their complex plans to convert two 1960s flats into one luxury penthouse apartment, they turned to Grants to provide **bespoke shading** for a series of complicated glass features...

THIS PROJECT SAW GRANTS involved in the extensive conversion of two adjacent 1960s top floor flats in separate buildings to create a single luxury penthouse apartment. Key to the project was the addition of an extra floor to both buildings, with these to be surrounded with inclined and horizontal glazing and with a glass walkway linking the two new areas.

The use of so much glass created an architecturally stunning space, but it meant that a comprehensive shading system would be required to ensure the apartments would be useable on a day-to-day basis.

The initial design constraints dictated that the blinds had to be a single unit which would cover the inclined glazing and then – by changing direction – the short areas of horizontal glazing too.

The mounting structure of both the glazing and all fittings and fixtures was required to be stainless steel. The specified blinds would also be required to be housed behind curved plaster forms fitted throughout the glazed areas to conceal the blinds were not required.

Grants' Special Projects Division proposed a roller blind

benefiting from twin rollers which would house both the motor and the drive. The fabric would be cut to fit in with the complex angle shapes for the corner windows. They would run over a rotating roller bar which would support the fabric from the incline to the horizontal.

Importantly, Grants was involved from the first stages in what was to be an architecturally challenging project. Quotations were provided to agreed client specifications and accepted during the earliest consultations, enabling Grants to ensure that the completed shading elements integrated perfectly within the completed design scheme.

In addition to the standard fixed glazing, the new penthouse apartment would feature a number of gullwing opening windows and blinds which complimented the entire scheme were also to be installed on these. The blinds themselves were crafted Sandringham Papyrus colour, a high-performance material which features a solar reflective backing to ensure the maximum light reflection and heat retention. ●



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State-of-the-art shading in the heart of London

Grants joined forces with the architects and the main building contractors to transform an ageing building in London's Tottenham Court Road into high-art office facilities...

THE SITE FOR THIS PROJECT was an old building in London's Tottenham Court Road, where the street façade was to be retained but everything else behind would be replaced to provide modern office facilities.

Among the key elements were additional floors which were added and set back with a large curved glazing area supported on timber glulam beams bringing state-of-the-art design to a period property that had seen better days.

Grants were approached by highly respected architects Collado Collins and the national building contractors, Costain, who had been let down midway through the project by their existing suppliers who were unable to supply shading that worked within the originally agreed budget.

Having surveyed the project and discussed every aspect of it with the architect, Grants' Special Projects Division suggested a bespoke shading solution specifically designed to follow the main curve of the glazing and stack at the head when not required.

The proposals put forward by Grants were based on a fully motorised Endurashade system operating through parallel side channels with the motor itself housed at the head of the blind.

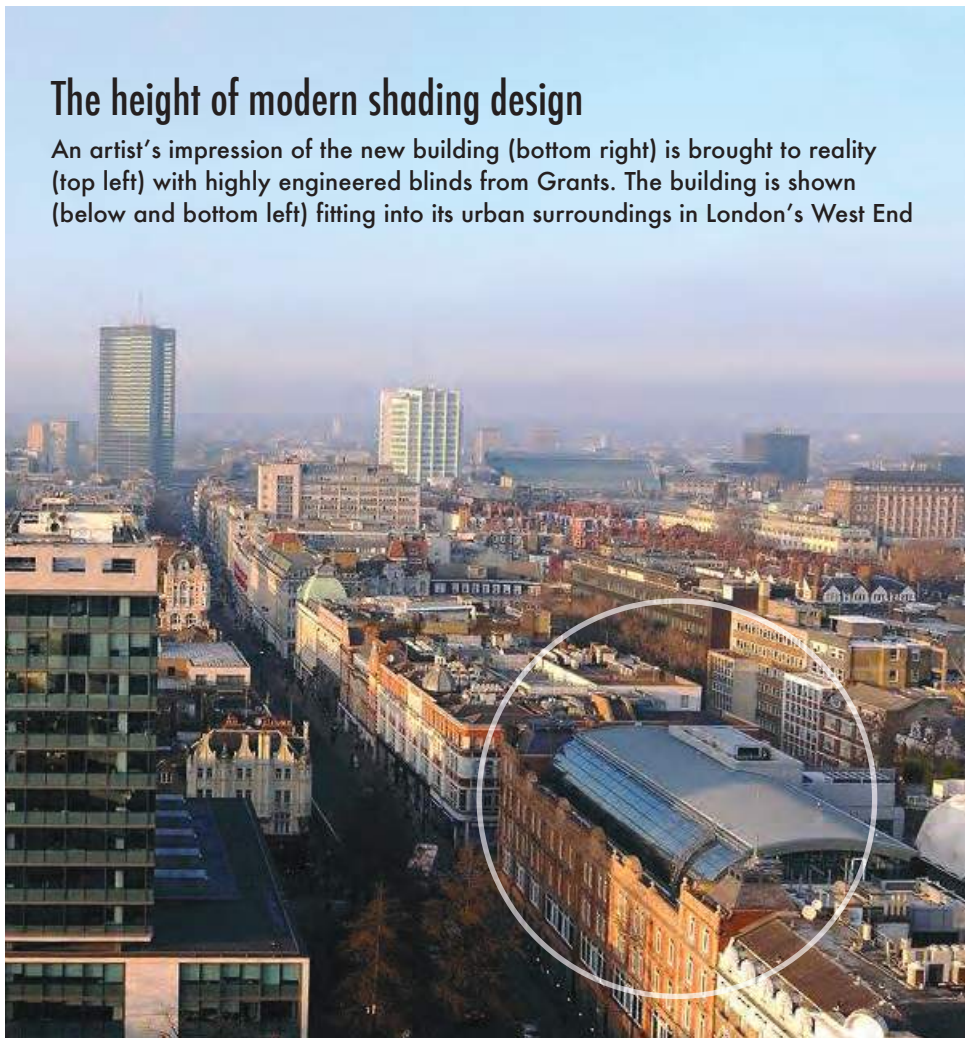
The order was placed by Costain subject to approval of a working prototype crafted at Grants' Isle of Wight workshops. When this full-sized prototype was indeed signed off, the blinds – manufactured using Blenheim 7215 Charcoal material and supported by a steel hardware system finished to match the colour of the overall glazing structure – were commissioned and installed by Grants' project management team. Finally – to ensure the highest levels of aftersales care – an ongoing service contract was put in place for the tenant to ensure the blinds were regularly maintained and kept in good working order. ●





The height of modern shading design

An artist's impression of the new building (bottom right) is brought to reality (top left) with highly engineered blinds from Grants. The building is shown (below and bottom left) fitting into its urban surroundings in London's West End





Motorisation puts you in control

Controlling light and shade can be made easier with fully automated **motorised blinds**. In this delightful drawing room, every single blind can be raised or lowered using a discrete wall-mounted control panel...

THE WINDOWS IN THIS delightfully welcoming drawing room look on to classically landscaped gardens, providing a wonderful link with the natural world outside. Situated on the island of Jersey, however, the house also often finds itself bathed in sunshine and without blinds the room could be uncomfortably warm.

Achieving the ideal balance between light and shade is made easier, however, because every blind in this room can be operated remotely at the flick of a switch. The room benefits from a fully integrated automation system which can be controlled either by a hand-held remote control or via a convenient wall-mounted computer panel. The system even allows control via a mobile phone which can be operated from almost anywhere in the world.

Simple settings make it possible to fully retract all or any of the blinds, to fully close them or to stop them at any point in the window's overall depth. This level of control means any blind can always be in the optimum position either to maximise light entering the room or to provide accurate levels of shading.

The motorised blinds – shown here in Holland Cream – also

retract behind a curtain pelmet so as to be completely out of view when not required. The system installed in this property takes automation a step further. Alongside controlling the blind settings, the control panel is, in turn, able to control the lighting levels, the heating in the room and music which can be played throughout the house.

The homeowner says: "When building a new house from scratch, you can make it as user-friendly as possible and there is no need to compromise on any aspect. That's why we chose to install an AV system, which allows us to control many elements of the room from a simple control panel on the wall.

"Not only can we adjust the lighting to exactly the right level and choose which music to play at the touch of a button, but we can also control the blinds.

"This makes perfect sense as the natural light allowed in through the windows and roof lanterns can be co-ordinated to work perfectly with the lighting system, ensuring that it is at exactly the right level.

For more on motorised blinds, see our buyers' guide on page 64

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PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

Your guide to the full range of shading solutions available in our collections

- FRENCH PINOLEUM
- PLEATED BLINDS
- ROLLER BLINDS
- FABRIC ROMAN BLINDS
- WOODEN SHUTTERS
- WOODEN VENETIANS



French Pinoleum

TRADITIONAL FRENCH PINOLEUM blinds have a rich heritage and – fully updated for modern living – now offer enhanced insulation. Popular in garden rooms, conservatories, orangeries and other large spaces, French pinoleum has been used as a versatile shading material for more than 100 years. Today, the material is woven using narrow strips of carefully prepared wood, with all timber being procured from sustainable sources. As a natural insulator, pinoleum



has excellent shading properties while it also allows delicately filtered light through the weave, helping create a relaxed colonial feel. French pinoleum from Grants stays looking good and can be painted or stained in any colour. Straightforward to install, it requires fewer support wires and, as a semi-rigid material, it is ideal for roof blinds. French pinoleum from Grants also features matching or complementary braided edges to further help protect the French Pinoleum material.

- ▲ An early advertisement evoking the heritage of French Pinoleum. Grants' materials are supplied by a Paris company which has been manufacturing pinoleum for more than 100 years



- ◀ Creating that quintessential English chic, this Vale Garden Houses orangery benefits from muted tones and clever shading through roof blinds fitted beneath the glazing bars

- ▲ French Pinoleum roof lantern in an AGA orangery kitchen by The English Glasshouse



- ▲ This beautiful example features French Pinoleum in a striking lime green, showing that this versatile product is available in any colour choice to complement your interior design scheme



French Pinoleum blinds fitting individually have been custom-painted in the colour String to fit within this Marston & Langer Conservatory

Inset image shows how some of the blinds stack back neatly when not required

French Pinoleum



This conservatory from Vale Garden Houses features French Pinoleum blinds in a custom-painted green to match the overall structure



These custom-painted blinds are finished with a contrasting painted border, turning shabby chic into something altogether more classical





Abstract use of alternating colours set off these pleated blinds which are fitted below the glazing bars in the roof but within the window beads around the room. These blinds open with doors and windows

Pleated blinds

SOMETIMES LESS IS MORE and it isn't about standing out, but about blending in and this is where pleated blinds score so highly. They provide excellent shading, while maintaining a low profile through their discrete appearance. Lovely to look at and brilliantly practical, they bring real modernity to a conservatory, orangery or glass room and Grants have a wealth of experience in designing and installing Pleated blinds for complex roof shapes. A neat 20mm rail system can be fitted within window beading close to the glass and this style of blind is out of sight when not in use. With more than 200 options available in a wide range of colourways, Pleated blinds are great for doors and windows which are often opened and with a vast array of options, there really is a pleated blind to suit every style of room, door and window. They can be made to be top stack, bottom stack, floating stack or as a day/night blind configuration. The blinds shown (left) benefit from manual cord tension technology with no loose cords and are available in voile, semi-transparent, opaque and blackout material choices.



- ◀ Cord-tensioned manually operated roof and side blinds fitted within the wooden structure on the roof and side windows. All binds made using Cowdray Park solar reflective material
- ▼ Cord-tensioned blinds fitting between the glazing bars and made using Cowdray Park solar reflective in White Emulsion





Pleated blinds made using Cowdray Park Solar Reflective material and sitting between the glazing bars in this refreshing oak conservatory

Pleated blinds



◀ Slim 20mm pleated blinds are fitted within this Amdega conservatory. The rails have been custom-painted to match the conservatory colour exactly. When retracted the window blinds leave the feature arched glazing fretwork fully exposed

◀ Blinds fitting between the glazing bars help reduce glare and heat in this busy family kitchen

▼ The clever shading solution for the interior of this luxury yacht required fully retractable blinds custom made to fit irregular shapes. Cord-tensioned blinds with top and bottom rails are especially suitable for use on boats



▲ Blinds fitted within the wooden structure and made using Warm Palette No 23 colour from the Ascot collection. Window blinds can be top- or bottom-stacking



This stunning architect-designed interior sees a conventional Roman roof blind system coupled with an SPS Wintergarden roof system made with matching Balmoral Bark material. There are no support wires when blind is retracted



Roman blinds

TIMELESS AND DISTINCTIVE, fabric Roman blinds add a soft, distinctive style to any interior. Not only for windows, Roman blinds can look fantastic fitted in a conservatory, orangery or roof lantern. They look particularly stunning when used with the same blinds on the windows, making a real style statement and giving the room a complete uniform look. Romans can be made by either using one of the wide range of standard fabrics especially suitable for garden room situations or, alternatively, can be made using clients' own material, subject to confirmation by Grants of the fabric's suitability.

SPS Roman style Wintergarden System

Romans are available as standard roof blinds with stainless steel support wires. As an alternative Grants also offers its SPS Wintergarden system, which can cover up to 36m² from one motor and can have no support wires when the blind is retracted.

Soft and distinctive... colour co-ordinated Roman blinds made using Balmoral Flax material in a light and airy orangery by Vale Garden Houses





Neat manually operated roller window blinds have been installed on the windows of this Glasshouses by Jeremy Uglow Orangery

Roller blinds

IF YOU ARE TRYING TO CREATE a simple, minimalist style or want shading that blends seamlessly into a more complicated interior, then it is well worth considering roller blinds. Using the Endrashade Roller system they work beautifully alongside other window dressings, such as ornate curtains and are perfect for AV integration. Of course, it's not just windows for which roller blinds provide a solution, they can also be used in roof space. Grants' roller blinds are brilliant for large, architectural projects – as well as smaller domestic ones – and come in a series of high performance materials including

Blenheim – *screen material with excellent shading properties*

Cheltenham – *with Solar Reflective backing*

Sandringham – *high-performance material for roof blinds especially*



Avoiding the use of traditional cords and pulleys, this modern office has state-of-the-art Lutron blinds with Ultra Quiet motors housed within the blinds, providing programmed blind alignment and a no-risk safety factor. Recommended for the home and office



Shutters & Venetian blinds

SHUTTERS OFFER A BRILLIANT long-term window shading solution. They are available in a number of styles and formats, meaning real versatility. Shutters are a great option for those looking to create a crisp, stylish finish and colourways can be used to blend in with the décor or as an accent in the room. Available in full height, half height and café style – lower half panels only. Shutters work brilliantly in gables, semi circular and sloping head windows as well as on doors and windows that are often in use. And don't forget that we also offer a complete range of Venetian blinds too.



▲ The beauty of reflected light is illustrated here in traditional surroundings with shutters in Denbeigh

◀ This luxury London apartment features invisible tilt shutters painted in Chapel Grey and wider 84mm louvres



▲ Shutters have been added to this intricate and impressive roof lantern, showing just how versatile they can be

▼ Stained wooden shutters provide the correct amount of light and shade in this artist's studio





BUYERS' GUIDE

Everything you need to know about selecting the finest blinds and shutters

- OUR CREDENTIALS
- PLANNING YOUR PROJECT
- MOTORISED BLINDS
- FRENCH PINOLEUM BLINDS
- PLEATED BLINDS
- ROLLER BLINDS
- ROMAN BLINDS
- WOODEN SHUTTERS
- WOODEN VENETIAN BLINDS
- HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

WHY CHOOSE GRANTS

Grants is a family run business with more than 30 years' experience. We operate a complete nationwide service from design to installation.

The service starts as soon as you give us a call. We appreciate that the building of an orangery or conservatory is often a realisation of a dream; we want to be part of that dream.

Here are just some of the reasons why we are the market leaders in quality, style and tradition...



We manufacture a complete product range in our own workshops in the UK



All Grants Blinds come with a FIVE-YEAR guarantee



All wood used in our blinds/shutters is FSC-approved from sustainable sources

PLUS

- We offer a 5-year service contract to all clients
- Free independent advice is a phone call away
- Our brilliant new website is now live at www.grantsblinds.com

PLAN YOUR PROJECT

The addition of extra living space is often the realisation of a dream coming true. However, making sure you have considered fully which is the right shading system is essential to ensure the new space works as well as you had hoped and that it represents a suitable return on your investment.

Flooring, lighting and heating usually find their way into the planing process, but the question of blinds or shutters will often be left until after the project is complete. The disadvantage of this is that your choices for shading can be much more limited at this later stage.

Think, instead, of blinds as part of the structure. This is especially important, for example, in the case of an orangery where getting power to the lantern roof area can be almost impossible once the building and decoration work is complete.

These are just some of the ways in which we can make the whole process go perfectly...

- *We offer a free no-obligation advisory visit*
- *We are on call to offer free independent advice*
- *We provide a detailed proposal from your drawings or plans*
- *Wiring diagrams/blind layouts are provided for every project*
- *We have a full range of sample materials*
- *We liaise closely with architects and designers*
- *We provide integrated project management*

Don't delay It's the early bird that catches the worm

It's never too soon to be talking to Grants about your project. Our team can offer advice on the most appropriate blinds or shutters even before construction begins, for example, on a new conservatory. In this way we can help ensure your chosen shading fully integrates with your project. And it gets better: we offer price incentives to clients who place their order prior to construction

Terms and conditions apply



Environmental statement

Caring for the environment is important to Grants, which is why we ensure that everything we make is designed to last. Wherever possible we manufacture in Britain. In fact, 90% of our products are made in our own Isle of Wight workshop – and all power used in that workshop is generated by solar panels on the roof. All wood used in Grants' products is derived from FSC-approved sources and is fully sustainable, and waste product is, wherever possible, recycled. More than half of everything we manufacture is created using natural raw materials. But that's not all, using blinds and shutters in your home can help with insulation, meaning you use less energy as the heat is kept in the room. This will help reduce your energy bills and the impact on the environment.

Safety first

Safety is always uppermost in our minds here at Grants, which is why we recommend motorised or cord-tensioned blinds with no loose cords, particularly in homes where there are small children. Should blinds be fitted with such loose cords or chains, we always advise that they be secured on a cord cleat when not in use.

Platinum Service



To find out more about the range of benefits, simply call us on

0800 652 2190

The Platinum Service is our popular aftersales package. Key features include:

- **FREE annual maintenance service for the first five years with an option to extend**
- **Full, all-inclusive five-year guarantee**
- **FREE service call-outs for five years**
- **Dedicated telephone line for priority aftercare service**
- **Membership privileges such as FREE Solarwood® reflective backing**
- **50% OFF upgrades to solar/UV reflective lining**



▲ Motorisation systems from Grants use the very latest technology to ensure reliability, ease of use and convenience

◀ Custom-painted French Pinoleum roof blinds and cord-tensioned pleated window blinds

Sound advice

If you're considering an audio-visual system for the home as well as motorised blinds then talk to Grants at the earliest opportunity. Coordinating at the start can save a lot of time and money and you'll be sure to create a system that works brilliantly.



Perfect shading at the touch of a button

Motorised blinds make life simple and easy and offer complete control. In seconds – and at the touch of a button – you can operate your blinds, seamlessly adjusting the amount of light coming into a room.

Motorisation technology is developing all the time and Grants uses the very latest technology, working closely with our supplier, – electronics, whose products are renowned for their reliability and ease of use.

Blinds can be operated individually or in groups and Grants' motorised products are so easy to use, allowing everyone – from the youngest child to those with mobility problems – to operate the blinds themselves.

Most home installations use a low-voltage, 24-volt supply which is safe and easy to install. Transformers will need to be housed nearby, ideally within a cupboard or in an adjacent room.

Wiring diagrams specific to each project are provided where required, especially when wiring is to be totally concealed during construction.

Grants is with you every step of the way. Our clients usually take responsibility for providing the mains power source (via a fused spur) to the transformer position. We do the rest.

Grants' motorised system are supplied as 'stand alone' units, but can also be integrated into advanced home audio-visual automation systems.



Auto correct

In terms of keeping your blinds in the very best condition, motorisation is a must-have because the automated process ensures the blinds are opened in the correct fashion with no risk of human error.



KEY FEATURES

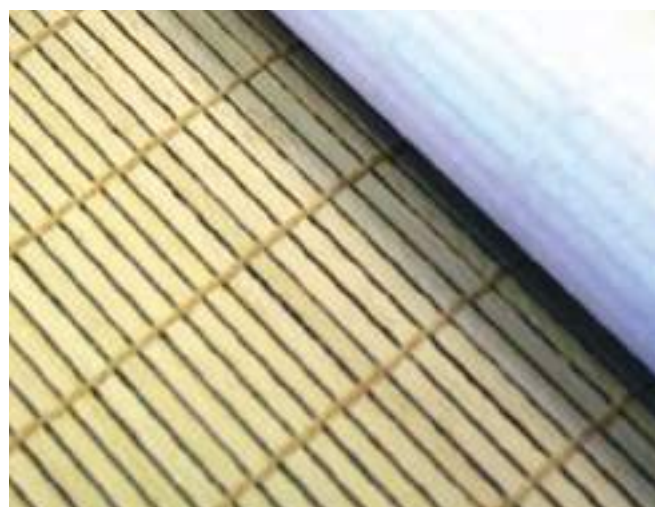
- *Made from fully sustainable resources*
- *Filtered light through the weave can create a pleasing and relaxing ambience*
- *Material is soft and relaxed offering a gently effective shading solution*
- *Roman as standard; roll-up window blind option also available*
- *Ideal for use within roof lanterns*
- *Ideal for window blinds*
- *Excellent solar heat reduction properties*
- *Wide range of colour choices available*
- *Available with lining as an optional extra, offering greater privacy*
- *Wide range of bespoke designs and borders possible through individual commissions*

Solar reflective backing options



Solarwood®

Solarwood is our own carefully engineered reflective backing. It increases the reflection of heat, glare and UV transmissions while allowing the soft light effect of the weave to continue to filter through.



Reflective lining

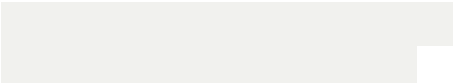
The solar reflective lining option provides maximum glare, solar heat gain and insulation efficiencies. The high-performance lining is attached discreetly to the reverse side of the blinds. Providing additional privacy, this option is also recommended in rooms used year round or where excessive heat in a room is an issue.

GENUINE FRENCH PINOLEUM WEAVE & COLOUR CHOICES

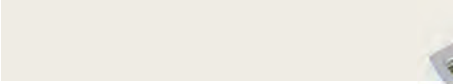
FLATWEAVE (4MM WIDE FLAT SLAT)



NATURAL



DENBEIGH



BURLINGS' CREAM



CHATSWORTH



OLD HARDWICK



HADDON HALL



FARMHOUSE DOOR



PARSLEY HAY



DOVEDALE



DECLAN STONE

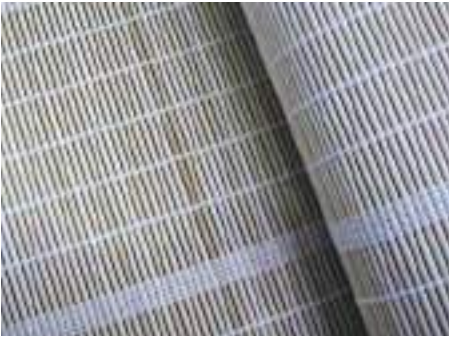


CHAPEL GREY



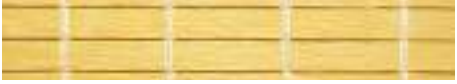
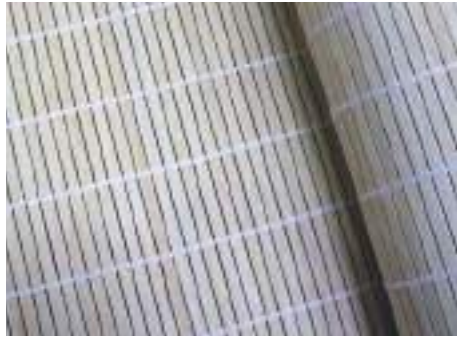
PORCH GRAY

ROUNDWEAVE (2MM ROUND STICK)



NATURAL

WIDEWEAVE (6MM WIDE FLAT SLAT)



NATURAL

Custom finishing options



Pinoleum weaves can be painted to match or complement your design. Roundweave and Wideweave come in Natural as standard, but are usually custom finished – painted in one of our own standard colours or using shades from any recognised paint supplier.

Please note: while every care is taken to ensure all colours shown in this brochure are accurate, they are only as close as the printing process will allow. Shades shown may also vary slightly from one product range to another, such as between Pinoleum blinds and shutter finishes

Braid and headrail colour options



All blinds have braided edges in a choice of Natural, White or Beige as standard, with other colours available on request. The headrails to blinds from Grants come in standard colours of White, Old Cream or Brown, but can be custom-painted to match your design.

BEIGE 100% ACRYLIC BRAIDING

Operation choices



Window blinds come with the choice of manually operated cords or chains (brass or chrome) or fully motorised. Roof blinds come with the choice of either a manually operated rod or fully motorised.



KEY FEATURES

- *Pleated blinds fits in where other blinds stand out*
- *Made from 100% man-made fibres which will never rot*
- *Concertina-type operation is neat and functional*
- *Pleated blinds offer a contemporary solution*
- *Ideal for use within roof lanterns*
- *Ideal for window blinds*
- *Excellent solar heat reduction properties*
- *Wide range of colour choices available from voile to blackout*
- *Available with lining as an optional extra, offering greater privacy*
- *Can be operated manually or via full motorisation*



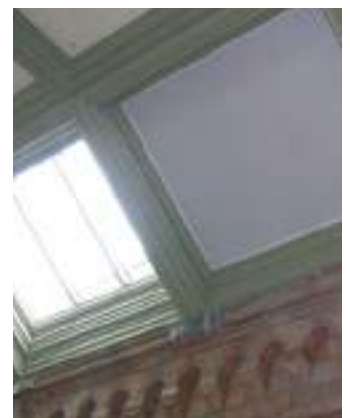
Honeycell Blind in
Newmarket opaque



20mm single pleated blind
in Ascot material



Cord-tensioned window
blind fitting within glazing
bead and opening with
the window



Blind made using
Newmarket FR Blackout
material with side
channels for maximum
light exclusion

What's your colour?

The tables on the right show just a small number of the huge selection of colours and fabric materials available through the Grants. If you have a specific colour scheme in mind for your interior space, then we can help. Samples are available on request.

PLEATED BLINDS – FABRIC MATERIAL & COLOUR CHOICES

SEMI-TRANSPARENT

HENLEY



White Linen



Full Cream



Grey Pebble



Smooth Slate



Sun Meadow



Red Wine



Black Tulip

ROYAL WINDSOR



No2



No4



No6



No10

BLACKOUT

NEWMARKET



Pointing



White Sand



Coffee



Lead Piping



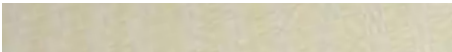
Charcoal

OPAQUE

CHELTENHAM



Denbeigh



Burling's Cream



Chatsworth



Haddon Hall



Farmhouse Door



Hobbs Green

ASCOT



No7 – Pale Palette



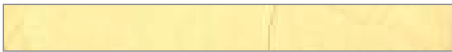
No22 – Warm Palette



No18 – Warm Palette



No23 – Warm Palette



No19 – Warm Palette



No24 – Warm Palette



No5 – Natural Palette



No4 – Natural Palette



No6 – Natural Palette



No1 – Natural Palette



No2 – Natural Palette



No10 – Pastel Palette

COWDRAY PARK



New Emulsion



Muslin



Warm Haze



Perfume



Natural



Blossom



Daffodil



Fresh Peach



Real Orange



Dead Beige



Roasted Coffee



Old Silver



Old Pewter



Drawing Room Blue



Apple Sauce



Jet Black

The Whites Collection

Grants also offers a range of beautiful semi-transparent pleated blind fabrics within its Whites Collection, including Polka Dot, Shadows and Striped Shirt



Make a statement with solid wooden shutters

They provide a luxury long-term shading solution for even the plainest of windows, offering excellent privacy and light control performance. Be aware, however, that their success is dependent not only on their quality but on the skill of those installing them



Shutters templated to fit semi-circular window



Tier-on tier shutters in a Natural custom finish



Roof shutters with Sliding Door option

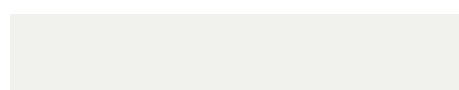


Café-style wood-stained half height shutters

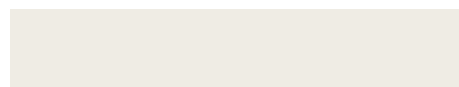
KEY FEATURES

- *Made from fully sustainable resources*
- *Excellent as fixed shutters with opening louvres within roof blinds*
- *Concertina-type operation is neat and functional*
- *Pleated blinds offer a contemporary solution*
- *Ideal for window blinds*
- *Especially suitable for gables or arched windows*
- *Excellent solar heat reduction properties*
- *Provide excellent screening and privacy*
- *Wide range of styles available from the traditional to the contemporary*
- *Wide range of colour choices available*
- *Can be painted or stained to match any colour (see below)*

COLOUR CHOICES FOR SHUTTERS & VENETIAN BLINDS



DENBEIGH



BURLINGS' CREAM



CHATSWORTH



OLD HARDWICK



HADDON HALL



FARMHOUSE DOOR



PARSLEY HAY



DOVEDALE



DECLAN STONE



CHAPEL GREY



PORCH GRAY

SHUTTER OPERATING SYSTEMS



INVISIBLE OPERATION



WAND OPERATION

SHUTTER SLAT/LOUVRES OPTIONS

Both are available in a range of standard widths. Also, special commissions can be undertaken on request to suit personal requirements

CUSTOM FINISHES



CUSTOM-PAINTED VENETIAN BLIND

Shutters and Venetian blinds are available in any of the colours shown above, but can also be custom finished – painted in one of our own standard colours or using shades from any recognised paint supplier.

ROMAN BLINDS

Roman blinds provide a softer-touch solution and are the perfect choice when your interior design calls for a beautiful and versatile fabric finish

KEY FEATURES

- *Ideal for window blinds*
- *Can be used within certain roof shapes*
- *Excellent solar heat reduction properties particularly when combined with reflective backings*
- *Excellent insulation properties particularly when twinned with reflective backings*
- *Provide excellent screening and privacy*
- *Offer a softer look, with gentle folds and a more relaxed style of furnishing*
- *Wide range of styles available from the traditional to the contemporary*
- *Wide range of colour choices available from voile to blackout*



SPS-motorised Roman style Wintergarden system on the roof – with no side wires – and motorised fabric Roman blinds on the windows in the same Balmoral bark material



Wintergarden System roof blind working horizontally and also vertically in this architect-designed orangery

SPS Installation System

The Wintergarden system operates through the use of support rods within parallel side channels of the fabric. It means that no visible support wires are required and the system is perfect for areas of up to 36m². The system also works well with French Pinoleum.

JUST A SMALL SELECTION OF THE WIDE RANGE OF FABRIC

As well as any of these fabrics, you can opt to use your own material

CHELTENHAM



YOUR OWN MATERIAL



DENBEIGH



BURLING'S CREAM



CHATSWORTH



HADDON HALL



OLD HARDWICK



HOBBS GREEN

BALMORAL



BARK



CLAY



FLAX



WOOL

ROLLER BLINDS

Roman blinds are simple and minimalist and work well with other furnishings such as curtains

KEY FEATURES

- *The simplest blind solution and an excellent accompaniment to other furnishings, such as curtains, which have a more contemporary style*
- *Ideal for windows and within certain roof shapes*
- *Excellent solar heat reduction properties particularly when backed with reflective backings*
- *Excellent insulation properties particularly when twinned with reflective backings*
- *Wide range of styles available from the traditional to the contemporary*
- *Wide range of colours available from voile to blackout*



Motorised roller blinds provide the extra shading needed



Motorised roller blinds within a lean-to conservatory



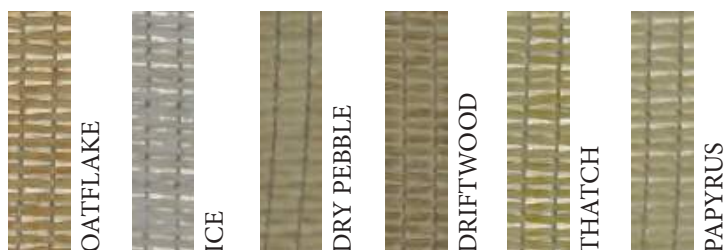
Roller blinds can control perfectly the amount of light entering a room



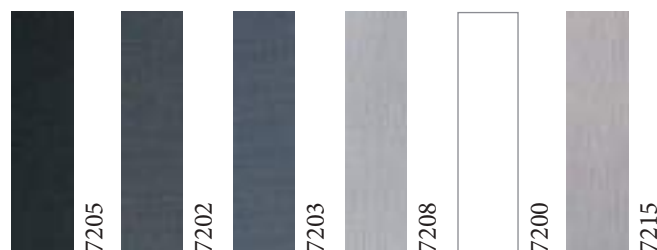
Fully motorised heavy duty roof roller blinds

OPTIONS FOR BOTH ROMAN BLINDS *and* ROLLER BLINDS

SANDRINGHAM



BLENHEIM





Let us help you complete your interior space

We can arrange for samples to be sent to you and will happily quote from your outline plans to give you a realistic price guide for your blinds or shutters.

So, for the very finest bespoke blinds and shutters and the highest levels of customer service, simply call us on

0800 652 2190

NEW-LOOK WEBSITE AT
www.grantsblinds.com

“ Just to thank you for the splendid blinds that were installed today. I'm so happy, as well as Stephanie and my granddaughters. The colour is perfect, so refined, and it protects us from the sun at last with such a delicate tint. Bravo and from all my heart thank you! ”



GRAND entertainment

the real acoustic YAMAHA grand piano that plays to you

truly inspirational beauty and sound just as if your favourite performer was **playing live in your room**

The YAMAHA disklavier® combines a century of traditional piano craftsmanship with the very latest in digital technology enabling **vocal and orchestral** accompaniment combined with **real acoustic piano playing**



Live internet streaming, smart key tuition, play & record facility, USB, silent piano with headphones option
The E3 disklavier® grand piano can also be played using central control or iPhone & iPad applications



Disklavier Info

International shipping and installation

Free brochure
and more information contact us

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www.coachhousepianos.co.uk

info@coachhousepianos.co.uk



PREMIUM YAMAHA CENTRE



CONSERVATORY DINING SPACE

by Mabel Gray, 2013



Together we can create a work of art

Your vision and our blinds and shutters can produce a beautiful living space



And with our exclusive **PLATINUM SERVICE** you can protect your investment and benefit from price incentives, offers and after-sales care of the very highest standard

To find out more about the range of benefits, simply call us on **0800 652 2190**



SHADES OF BRILLIANCE