

# Light & Shade

Issue 3 Spring/Summer 2014

The customer magazine from



bespoke blinds and shutters

**INSIDE  
15-PAGE  
BUYERS'  
GUIDE**

All your questions  
answered



## CONSERVATORY BLINDS

Make the most of entertaining  
with the right shading

## EXPERT ADVICE

Selecting the finest  
pinoleum, pleated,  
Roman or roller blinds

## CASE STUDIES

**26 pages**  
of inspiring real homes



## COVER STORY

# Bring the garden *inside*

Choosing the right blinds to help you  
make the most of the outside world



# THE AUTOMATIC CHOICE

**MOTORISED BLINDS** *easy, convenient & flexible*







GRANTS

**One simple promise.**

**The finest blinds and shutters  
at our keenest prices, installed  
and maintained with the  
*highest levels of customer care...***



# Light & Shade

Issue 3 – Spring/Summer 2014

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**GRANTS**  
bespoke blinds & shutters

SHADES OF BRILLIANCE

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USEFUL TIP

## NOT JUST FOR GARDEN ROOMS

*We specialise in blinds for orangeries and conservatories as well as motorised shading solutions for main living areas*





# Welcome

At Grants Blinds we appreciate the overwhelming 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, providing perfect shading solutions for all kinds of spaces all year round.

We work in all styles of home – large and small, contemporary and traditional – and design bespoke solutions that look great and perform perfectly. We work closely with architects, interior designers, project managers and homeowners to ensure we create a look that is ideal for the space it is designed for.

*We specialise in blinds for orangeries and conservatories – as well as motorised shading solutions in main living areas – and create products to ensure this style of 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. Fitting the right sort of blinds ensures the room can be used whatever the weather.*

An orangery or conservatory is a joy to live with 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, for example – are an increasingly popular addition to the house. Shading is particularly important in this kind of space as these rooms tend to be used throughout the day and into the evening. This means the correct balance of light and shade is vital, especially when the sun is at its brightest or low in the sky.

*And even more control and ease of use is possible with motorised blinds. That's why in this issue we focus on shading systems that can be raised or lowered at the flick of a switch, meaning your conservatory or orangery will always be perfectly comfortable whatever the time of day and whatever the weather.*

Our guide to motorised blinds begins on page 8 and continues with further details within our buyers' guide, from page 36.

*Garus H. Guest*

Proprietor, Grants Bespoke Blinds









## Bringing the outside in

There are few things as enjoyable when the weather brightens than relaxing in a space that unites both inside and outside. Here, Grants fabric Honeycell insulating blinds give the option to cover the entire roof area and extend to the full height of the large-scale windows and sliding doors, including the shaped gable areas of this stunning extension, to allow the glorious urban garden to be enjoyed to the full. Additionally, the roof blinds are made in the 'floating stack' style, meaning they can be stacked at either end or in the middle.

*See the full case study on page 24*



### Easy & convenient

MOTORISED BLINDS make finding the perfect balance between light and shade easy and convenient, allowing window and roof blinds to be raised or lowered at the touch of a button. Indeed, automatic blinds – controlled via a simple-to-use handset – mean you can adjust blinds individually or a large number of blinds at the same time.

Here at Grants we can offer motorised blind systems for every home and every type of room. Motorisation is especially important where there are high roofs or a large number of blinds. But the convenience motorisation offers means even modest rooms with only a few blinds can still benefit.

Motorised blinds ensure you have total control with ease from your favourite armchair – without the need for poles, cords or wands – and, with new regulations in place governing how cords and pulleys are installed and used on a day-to-day basis, automatic shading also represents a safer and tidier option.

Advanced wireless technology means just one touch of the remote control or a wall-mounted control panel allows you to adjust your blinds from anywhere in the conservatory or orangery – or indeed anywhere in the home.

Integration to your home automation systems can also mean blinds can be programmed from anywhere in the world, meaning, for example, that when you return from holiday your conservatory or orangery will be ready for you, perfectly shaded and at the ideal temperature. This, in turn, can mean reduced heating bills.

Our experienced installation technicians can also create what we call 'climate zones'. This might mean, for example, that you can instantly create a reading corner in one part of the conservatory, where light into the room is carefully balanced, while also benefitting from light flooding into another part of the garden room.

Motorisation, then, is the way forward. A little shade or privacy when you want it. The maximum light into a room when you want to bring the outside in. And all in seconds with no hassle.



## MOTORISED BLINDS



**ALL  
BLINDS  
FULLY  
MOTORISED**





# The automatic choice



## The rewards of planning

This architecturally designed extension to a traditional Hampshire home included large floor-to-ceiling glazing which required the blinds to be unobtrusive when not required. The clients involved Grants from the very earliest stages, meaning careful planning and the integration of all wiring ensured the desired results were achieved. The fully automated blinds can be operated individually or as groups via a remote handset or a wall-mounted panel.



ALL  
BLINDS  
FULLY  
MOTORISED



# Motorised blinds putting you in control

This beautiful space features **fully motorised French Pinoleum blinds** on the windows and within the impressive roof lantern by Vale Garden Houses...

**C**URRENTLY 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.

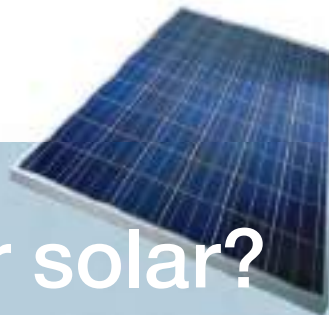
Perhaps because of this – and because it is a true working space – comfort in the kitchen is all important. The kitchen of this Jersey house is a case in point. It's a busy space where everything is designed to work absolutely beautifully.

The 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.

*The house features a centrally controlled audio-visual system and crucially all 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." →



## USEFUL TIP

## Mains, battery or solar?

The technology behind motorised blinds is changing all the time, with new innovations coming on to the market on a regular basis. Among the latest developments are advances in battery operated motor units, which are fully rechargeable overnight once every six months using a device similar to a mobile phone charger. Another recent innovation is solar-powered battery recharging. These units are 'topped up' as long as there is sufficient solar power, but the battery can also be recharged via a standard battery charger if ever needed.





## Automatically better

In keeping with a centrally controlled audio-visual system, the blinds here 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<sup>®</sup> 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.





## motorisation

### the key benefits

- Motorised blinds are not just for conservatories and orangeries – they can be installed in any room in the house
- A range of control units are available, including hand-held remote controls through to wall-mounted panels. These can also be programmed to adjust eating levels, lighting and music to the room
- The cost of motorisation is not prohibitive – typically motorisation adds around 67-100% to the cost of a project.
- The power units that raise or lower motorised blinds are discretely housed within the top housing, meaning they are almost invisible within the decor of the room.
- Motorised blinds can be retro-fitted or planned in detail at the design stage of your garden room build.
- All motorised blinds from Grants are guaranteed for five years.
- Our motorised blinds are available in a wide range of colours and fabrics designed to compliment any interior space.





**ALL  
BLINDS  
FULLY  
MOTORISED**

**CASE STUDY MOTORISATION**

Whichever power source you opt for, motorised blinds from Grants feature discrete power units which do not affect the aesthetics of the room



The house has two orangeries. Both 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 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." ●

## Your guarantee of quality

Our motorised blinds are UK manufactured in our own factory and we offer a complete service from design through to installation. We have been conservatory blind specialists for more than 30 years and all our blinds come with a five-year guarantee.

← The high roof blinds in this elegant kitchen are fully motorised, meaning achieving the correct balance of light and shade is quick and easy. 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.





# Where there's a will...



ALL  
BLINDS  
FULLY  
MOTORISED

## CASE STUDY 1



This was a tricky installation but the Grants **motorised French Pinoleum blinds** within this extension to a 16th century property allow the homeowners to enjoy the landscaped gardens to the full and to control the temperature in the room so it can be used all year round in perfect comfort... →





**Roundweave French Pinoleum**

"I like the fact that this style of blind allows some light in, rather than blocking it out completely. The way the sunlight comes through creates the most beautiful dappled effect on one of the walls and on the limestone floor."



ALL  
BLINDS  
FULLY  
MOTORISED

CASE STUDY CONSERVATORY



WHEN RUTH AND TIM decided they wanted to build an extension, they knew it had to be timber framed so it would be in keeping with their listed property in Surrey, which was built in the 16th century. Although the conservatory was built three years ago, they have only had the blinds installed for around six months.

“We really struggled to find a company that could create blinds for us as there is a purlin that runs the length of the conservatory roof providing very little clearance for blinds,” says Ruth.

“Luckily, when the man from Grants came round, he fully understood the technical side of things and was very knowledgeable. He explained to us how it could work.”

Ruth was thrilled because she had been concerned about the effect strong sunlight might be having on the furniture in the conservatory.

“It was a problem keeping plants alive,” she says, “and there was a real risk of the furniture blistering and pictures becoming ruined.”

They chose Grants’ roundweave French Pinoleum blinds custom painted to their own choice of colour and since they have been installed the plants have thrived and the family have been able to enjoy the room more.

“It’s now a lovely room to read the papers in,” Ruth says. “We’ll often sit and have a cup of coffee in here with Fern, our English Setter.

“We had the garden designed and the conservatory built in such a way as to link the inside with the outside and the blinds have been a great addition.

“I like the fact that this style of blind allows some light in, rather than blocking it out completely.

“The way the sunlight comes through creates the most beautiful dappled effect on one of the walls and on the limestone floor. It is romantic and almost colonial.

“People often comment that the back of the house is very continental in its feel and this room really adds to that feel.

“We keep it full of plants and it is a really enjoyable place to spend time.” ●





# London calling

French Pinoleum roof blinds control perfectly the amount of light entering this stunning rooftop skyroom in London's West End, allowing year-round enjoyment of panoramic views over the capital...





**W**HEN THIS COUPLE moved from a sizeable property in the countryside to their fourth-floor penthouse apartment in the centre of London, they were determined to recreate the beloved garden in an acre of land they had left behind.

The key lay in the property's access to a rooftop skyroom with panoramic views over north London and the West End.

While neighbours seemed content to barely use their skyrooms at all, or to use them merely as storage areas, Roger and Michele resolved to create a green oasis above the skyline – and to make the most of their lofty garden room. The result is a stunning decked area with several planters, a herb garden and views to die for.

Inside, too, the theme continues, with the skyroom space transformed into a chic, understated space complete with kitchen and comfortable relaxation space.

“We moved from a house in the country,” says Roger, “with an acre of gardens and we missed it. Here, we wanted to have some garden space and so the aim was to create a miniature version of what we had in the country on a rooftop in the middle of London – but without the nuisance of having to cut the grass!”

Roger and Michele knew instantly choosing the right shading would be essential if the skyroom were to be used all year round. They opted for Grants roof blinds fitted below the glazing bars.

Roger says: “The blinds have made the room much more



manageable. In the summer it was very hot inside – well over 100° at times. Now – using the blinds to achieve the right balance between light and shade – it is much more comfortable, a pleasant environment in which to read, relax or listen to music.

“The look of the blinds is excellent and they allow us to use the skyroom throughout the year. They have turned the simple conservatory into a room we can really enjoy.

“The light, too, is amazing. From the skyroom we can see the top quartile of the London Eye and on New Year's Eve we were able to watch the fireworks from inside our skyroom.” ●

**For the skyroom, Grants installed flatweave French Pinoleum roof blinds in Porch Grey. The shade compliments beautifully the subtle neutrals of the interior decor and allows the natural lush greens of the rooftop garden to shine through**





"The blinds have made the room much more manageable. Now – using the blinds to achieve the right balance between light and shade – it is much more comfortable, a pleasant environment in which to read, relax or listen to music..."







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# Artist in residence





Artist John Gibbons – a Fellow of the Royal Society of British Sculptors, whose work has been exhibited in major public collections in America, Canada and Europe – had a vision for a glass room intimately linked to the garden outside, the changing light through the day and the heavens at night...

**A**T ONE POINT, sculptor John Gibbons and his partner Jane Clarke were considering moving from their mews house in south-east London because the property was too dark for much of the year, its gloomy ambience too often not conducive to creativity.

Instead, they opted to extend at the rear of the house and John – who studied at Limerick School of Art and Design, Crawford Municipal School of Art in Cork and at the prestigious Central Saint Martin's College of Art and Design in London – had a clear vision for the kind of space he wanted to create.


“It was Jane’s idea to extend because we like living here. I wanted a room filled with green,” he says. “Creatively, it’s a very important colour and I was looking for a space where the room and the garden were intimately linked, as if seamlessly one and the same.”

John worked with an architect to realise his vision of a glass and aluminium extension with a distinctive reversed lean-to roof. There was, however, one key element that had been overlooked.

“Originally, I planned not to have blinds; I wanted that sense of space and, because I draw inspiration from everything around me, the concept of no blinds was difficult to give up.

“But the space was fearsomely hot at times and the heat was affecting the artwork. We didn’t think it was going to be so powerful.”

First, John and Jane opted for manual detachable pole-operated Honeycell roof blinds in Newmarket Pointing colour. These twin-walled blinds have inherent solar-reduction and insulation properties to manage effectively the amount of heat entering the room. They then added 10 manual side →



The Honeycell blinds bathe the room in a white light, a pure, almost celestial white light. Then, at other times, when they are raised, the room is filled with green from the garden or filled with a warm glow from light reflected from the surrounding buildings







blinds shaped to fit the sloping windows. Working together, the blinds have created the relaxing and inspiring space the couple craved.

“It is almost as if we have two rooms,” John says. “When drawn, the Honeycomb blinds bathe the room in a white light, a pure, almost celestial white light.

“Then, at other times, when they are raised, the room is filled with green from the garden or filled with a warm glow from light reflected from the surrounding buildings.

“Just as, when on the coast, one can lose oneself, spending hours just looking at the sea, so in this room we can sit for hours enjoying light that is always changing, the

stars, the moon – even planes flying overhead.

“The roof blinds frame the view above. It’s an intimate relationship with the heavens and the changing seasons. Of course we are all aware of the weather and the rain outside, but this room allows us to feel part of it, conscious of the light and the sound of the rain on the roof.

“The light is beautiful. We have had friends come round and describe it as a phenomenon, a thing in itself. With the room bathed in light everything is alive.”

To see examples of John Gibbons’ work, visit [www.johngibbons.org.uk](http://www.johngibbons.org.uk)



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# Outside inside

THIS HIGH-QUALITY VICTORIAN-STYLE conservatory by Alitex is the perfect venue for entertaining with family or friends, offering panoramic views of the beautiful garden and the extensive grounds beyond.

Grants' clients divide their time between this property in Hampshire and another in London and like to make the most of the conservatory whenever they can.

The key to that is an arrangement of carefully selected blinds that ensure the garden room is perfectly shaded all year round.

For the roof space, the homeowners opted for 16 flatweave French pinoleum blinds with Solarwood thermal backing, all fitted to operate within the existing glazing bars.

For the windows, they went for the same blinds without a backing. For both the windows and the roof blinds, they chose the colour Haddon Hall, which works beautifully with the orangery's interior paint finish and the couple's choice of dining furniture. ●











# Designed for living

Caroline and Petro redesigned their main living space with two objectives in mind – to create a relaxing family area and a gateway to the garden for their children. They then discovered the right shading was essential too... →









## Complete control

This spacious extension which provided a beautiful living space benefits from fully motorised roller blinds with remote handset control

WHEN CAROLINE AND PETRO found their new house, they knew one thing for certain – they wanted to radically change the downstairs. “It was a five-bedroom house,” says Caroline, “but the kitchen was tiny. We completely redesigned the downstairs to create a living space that is, in part, open plan. We essentially added an L-shape to the back of the house. We also wanted large doors on to the garden and an expanse of glass, so we could link the outdoors with inside and could have that outdoor/indoor dining feel.”

The couple moved in and lived in the house for about six months while they decided what to do about the shading in the new room.

“I briefly considered curtains,” Caroline says, “but I felt they would be wrong in a kitchen.

“We knew we needed something as we moved in over the summer and it was too hot in the kitchen with the sun coming in and, by the winter when the blinds were fitted, it had started to feel quite chilly at times.”

In the end fully motorised Grants roller blinds in Jidda striped fabric proved the answer.

“They are better than we could have imagined,” Petro says. “We can control them all together at a touch of a button, or open and close them individually.”

Caroline agrees: “If we’d chosen manual blinds, we would have had to spend 10 minutes in the morning just opening them. We also like the fact we have a control panel on the wall, as well as a remote handset; it just makes things very easy.”

The couple, who live in Hampshire with their two children, 16 and 11, wanted to create a space where they could come together as a family, but also one that was sleek and modern. Elements such as a porcelain tiled floor, a gloss white kitchen and a lighting system that offers around 65,000 different colours work together to create a space that the couple describe as ‘the central hub, the heart of the home’.

“Everyone goes off and does their own thing, but we all meet up in here several times a day,” says Caroline. “We also entertain in here and we have doors in the sitting room that allow it to open up into this room.

“We chose natural, muted colours for the blinds, but didn’t want to go for a single colour. Instead we chose stripes because it breaks it up a bit.”

“They look great when they’re down, but also open too,” Petro adds. “They look really smart – they frame the window somehow.” ●

## Parallel lines

“We chose natural, muted colours for the blinds, but didn’t want to go for a single colour. Instead we chose stripes because it breaks it up a bit.”





# A shade better...

This beautiful orangery by Vale Garden Houses has been completed with motorised roof blinds fitting below the glazing bars, as well as motorised blinds to all the side windows. Together, they ensure the room is kept cool on those hot summer days and warmer in the winter... →



GEORGE AND ANN'S ARTS & CRAFTS house has been in the family for more than 40 years, but recently the couple decided there was one valuable addition that would make all the difference.

"We have the best of both worlds here," says Ann. "We are very close to Guildford and yet when we look outside it is as if we are in the heart of the country. It was a spot crying out for an orangery, but we didn't get round to doing it until about 18 months ago."

The couple, who have teenage children – decided to turn their dining room into a study and now eat all their meals in the new kitchen orangery.

"It's great," Ann says. "Our two dogs love to find a sunny spot to sleep in during the day and my orchids are thriving. In fact the orangery is brilliant for all sorts of plants."

The couple knew from the start that they would need blinds – the orangery is south facing and, on bright days, would have been subject to fierce daylight streaming in.

"Grants were recommended to us by Vale Garden Houses, who built the orangery. The whole process of both the build and the installation of the blinds ran very smoothly and was far easier than other things we've done with the house."

The shading – motorised roof blinds which extend the length of the large roof lantern and full-length motorised blinds on all windows – are perfectly in keeping with the period nature of the house and give the room a relaxing, pulled-together look.

"I knew from the start that I wanted traditional pinoleum blinds and I'm really happy with the way they look and operate," Ann adds. ●



















# PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

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

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



QUALITY ASSURED



# Made in Britain and crafted to work beautifully

Grants blinds are manufactured in a purpose-built workshop unit on the Isle of Wight. Here, we look at the process for our hugely popular **French Pinoleum blinds** – from taking a customer's order through to delivery and installation...

**G**RANTS has been one of the UK's leading manufacturers of the very highest quality blinds for more than 30 years, first from premises in Winchester and latterly from workshops on the Isle of Wight. The company prides itself on the highest levels of customer care, offering market-leading guarantees and with each order handled personally by a dedicated project manager. While the process is exacting and detailed to ensure every element of every order fits perfectly within a customer's specifications, Grants is also able to respond quickly and efficiently because it manufactures almost every blind itself by hand, meaning it does not have to rely on third party companies to meet delivery dates.

## Handmade by skilled craftsmen

The process for French Pinoleum blinds begins with a run-through of the customer's precise requirements, which always follows a survey from one of the company's fully trained surveyors. Once these are agreed, detailed plans are drawn up with a worksheet containing every one of the complicated calculations needed to make up the blinds.

The first step is the preparation of the guide rails, with each cut, drilled and prepared for assembly. Next, the customer's material is trimmed to the approximate size and shape before being custom-painted and then cut to precisely the correct dimensions and shape.

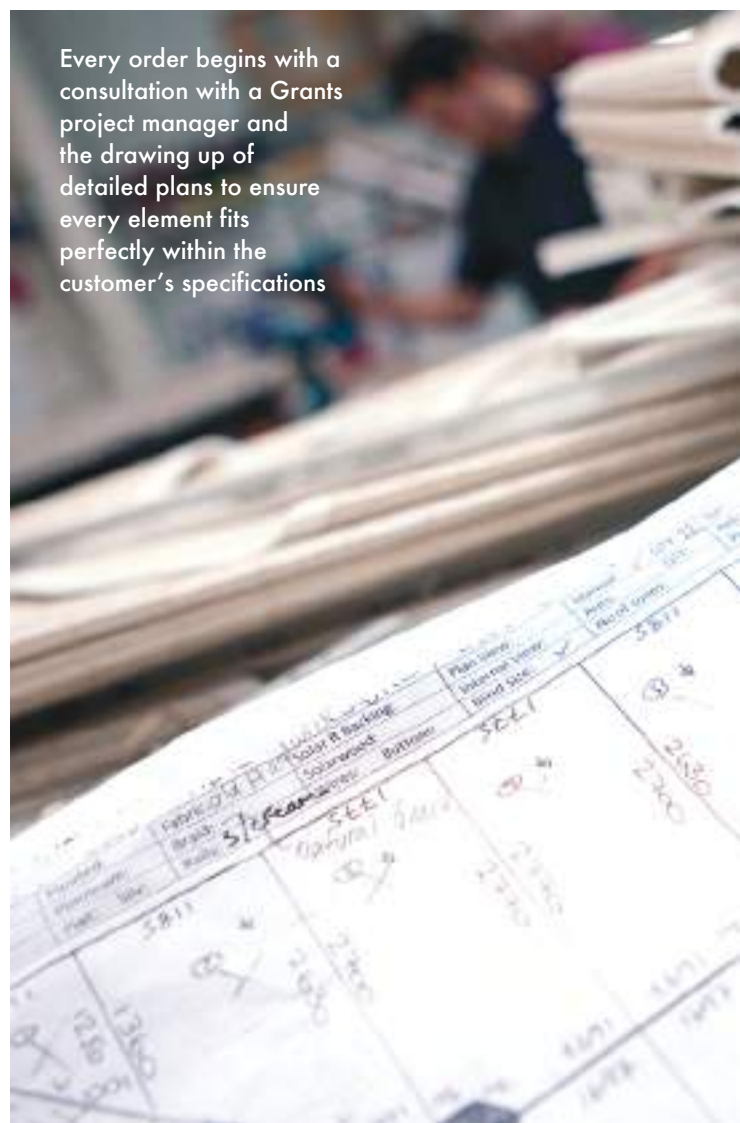
Next, the chosen braiding – which can even be made up from material supplied by the customer or their interior designer or architect – is sewn on by hand with solar reflective backing added if this option has been specified. The blind material is then added to the pre-cut rails and the wires or cords needed for either manual or motorised adjustment are connected before the completed blinds are quality checked and tested. Finally, the customer's order is then packed and shipped to the installer for fitting.

## So many clever options

Blinds from Grants are available in three standard weaves (Flatweave, Roundweave and Wideweave – see *Buyer's Guide*, page 56) but →



Every order begins with a consultation with a Grants project manager and the drawing up of detailed plans to ensure every element fits perfectly within the customer's specifications







Every blind produced by Grants is handmade by skilled craftsmen. Here, braiding in a complementary colour is expertly sewn into place

Left: Grants offers a wide range of pleated blinds in almost countless colour shades



The Grants workshops on the beautiful Isle of Wight, which has been the company's home since 1993



Grants uses paint colours from some of the UK's most respected suppliers, including Farrow & Ball



MADE IN BRITAIN



Grants can not only custom-finish your chosen blinds in any colour of your choice, but can also provide blinds painted in two or more shades

the range of options available can make each installation truly individual and beautifully in keeping with the customer's interior design and colour scheme.

Grants can supply blinds painted in colours from a wide range of shades from respected suppliers, including Farrow & Ball. But the company can also finish blinds in any colour specified by a customer or interior designer and can even provide blinds in multiple shades or colours.

A number of specialist performance-enhancing features are also available, including treatments or backings that can reduce the amount of heat entering a room or

improve the heat-retention properties of the blind to ensure a cosy room throughout the year. Others – such as innovative Solarwood® reflective lining – can help reduce dramatically the amount of UV glare entering a room.

Grants 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.*





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Call 01865 741144 | [sales@hinesofoxford.com](mailto:sales@hinesofoxford.com)

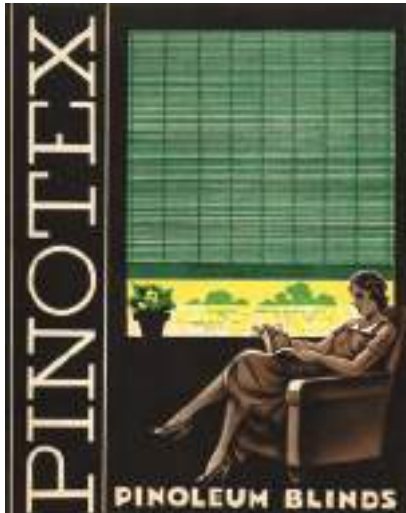






## French Pinoleum

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




- ◀ Solarwood® reflective backing on roof blinds improves their performance in reducing solar heat gain

- ▲ These roof and window blinds from Grants are wideweave French Pinoleum custom-painted to match the walls



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





French Pinoleum blinds with solar reflective lining and finished in Grants' Chapel Grey paint provide the perfect link between the traditional style of the main house and the much more contemporary feel of the glass room



## French Pinoleum



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



These roof and window blinds from Grants are Flatweave French Pinoleum in Chatsworth pale cream









- ◀ Single pleated blinds fit neatly between the bars and out of sight when not required

## Pleated/Honeycell 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 can benefit from manual cord tension technology – with no loose cords – and are available in voile, semi-transparent, opaque and blackout material choices.



- ◀ Cord tensioned single pleated blinds fit neatly to the glazing beads of the windows and matching motorised blinds between the roof glazing bars.

- ▼ 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/Honeycell blinds



Ascot material in No7 Pale Palette ►



▲ 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 36m<sup>2</sup> 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**









## 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 Endurashade 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*









## 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
- ROMAN BLINDS
- ROLLER 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**

- **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](http://www.grantsblinds.com)**



### **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.

## 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





## CUSTOMER CARE



When you choose shading from Grants you know you're buying the very best in both quality and style.

Now we're including a service that continues that tradition and offers the very highest levels of customer care.

### *It's called the* **Platinum Service**

*The Platinum Service is a new way for you to benefit from being a Grants customer.*

*Whether you're finishing a new conservatory, adding style with our wooden plantation shutters or creating external shade with an awning or two, you'll enjoy a host of exclusive added advantages...*



Key features of our new aftersales package include:

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



**Simply  
call us on  
0800  
652 2190**  
to learn more about  
the full range of  
benefits





Single pleated blinds fit neatly between the bars and out of sight when not required



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



French Pinoleum blinds fitted within the roof glazing bars.  
Bottom: blinds fitted below the roof glazing bars



These motorised roller blinds can be operated singly or as a group

## 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.



## MOTORISED BLINDS

### 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.



*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.*

### 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.

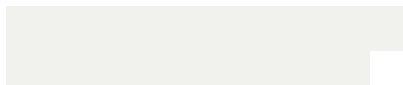


# GENUINE FRENCH PINOLEUM WEAVE & COLOUR CHOICES

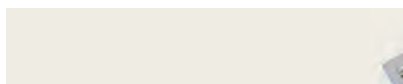
## FLATWEAVE (4MM WIDE FLAT SLAT)



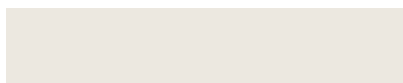
NATURAL



DENBEIGH \*



BURLINGS' CREAM



CHATSWORTH \*



OLD HARDWICK \*



HADDON HALL \*



FARMHOUSE DOOR \*



PARSLEY HAY \*



DOVEDALE



DECLAN STONE



CHAPEL GREY



PORCH GRAY

\* denotes a price advantage colour

## ROUNDWEAVE (2MM ROUND STICK)



NATURAL

### Custom finishing options



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.



## IN DETAIL PLEATED BLINDS



### 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*
- *Wide range of high performance materials with specialist solar reflective backing*
- *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



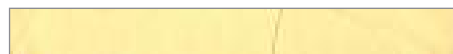
No22 – Warm Palette



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*



## 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



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 36m<sup>2</sup>. 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 in a lean-to conservatory



Motorised roller blinds provide the extra shading needed



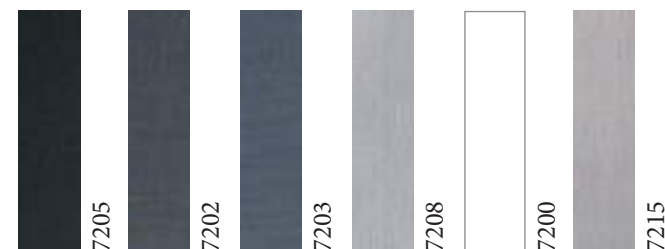
Fully motorised heavy duty roof roller blinds

## OPTIONS FOR BOTH ROMAN BLINDS *and* ROLLER BLINDS

### SANDRINGHAM



### BLENHEIM





## 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

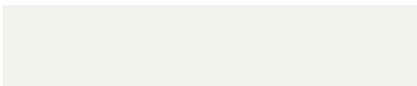


"We chose shutters for the pool room, partly because of privacy issues, but mainly they enhanced the look of the room"

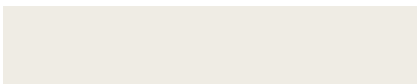
## KEY FEATURES

- Made from fully sustainable resources
- Excellent as fixed shutters with opening louvres within roof blinds
- Concertina-type operation is neat and functional
- 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.



## 30 REASONS TO CHOOSE GRANTS



- 1** We're a family business established over 30 years
- 2** Pinoleum, Pleated, Roman and Roller blinds
- 3** Complete range of shutters and Venetian blinds
- 4** Over 95% of our blinds made in our UK workshops
- 5** 50% of our products are from natural raw materials
- 6** All blinds come with a 5-year guarantee
- 7** All wood used is from sustainable sources
- 8** FREE advice is just a phone call away
- 9** Dedicated project manager for every customer
- 10** FREE no-obligation home appraisal visits
- 11** Manual and motorised options available
- 12** Full range of free product samples available
- 13** Blinds available in any colour and any fabric
- 14** Choice of Natural, White or Beige braided edges
- 15** Customer option to supply own braiding material
- 16** Headrails in one of four colours or custom-painted
- 17** Option of energy efficient Solar Reflective backings
- 18** Range of energy-saving blind options
- 19** FREE advice on blinds providing extra insulation
- 20** Wiring diagrams/blind layouts always provided
- 21** FREE customer magazine
- 22** Option of Platinum Service extended care plan
- 23** Expertise in conservatory/orangery shading
- 24** Close liaison with interior designers and architects
- 25** Online gallery of real-life case studies
- 26** Speedy delivery from UK workshop
- 27** No project considered too small or too large
- 28** Shading solutions available for any interior space
- 29** FREE quote from customers' outline plans
- 30** Fast, friendly service



#### CONSERVATORY DINING SPACE

*by Mabel Gray, 2014*

## 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

[www.grantsblinds.com](http://www.grantsblinds.com)





# Window Cills and Skirting

*...for the finest garden rooms*



Contact Decora Mouldings to transform your garden room, orangery or conservatory with a luxurious and maintenance-free window cill and skirting. Handmade in England.

T: 01452 307 700 E: [sales@decoramouldings.com](mailto:sales@decoramouldings.com) [www.decoramouldings.com](http://www.decoramouldings.com)