

# PRESS CUTTING

House Beautiful: May 2007

Circulation: 195,450

Rate card: £2158

**amino**  
combined marketing solutions



1 Gable-ended T-shape, from around £15,000, Ultraframe  
 2 Edwardian, from £10,000, Everest  
 3 Regency, from around £10,000, Anglian Home Improvements  
 4 Victorian, from around £10,000, Anglian Home Improvements  
 5 Cartright, from £12,000, Apropos



**Gable**  
 This usually refers to the style of the roof, the front panel of which stays upright rather than leaning back to the centre.

## GLAZING OPTIONS

The type of glass you choose will affect the cosiness of your conservatory. They generally have to be built using toughened or safety glass. Double-glazed units maintain a constant temperature, and low-E (low emissivity) glass like Pilkington K lets sun in but stops warmth escaping. This can reduce heat loss by up to 45 per cent, which is good news for your heating bills and the environment. Solar control glass can help reflect the sun away from the roof,



## Choose your frame

The type of materials used in the frame have a big impact on the overall cost.

• **PVC-U**  
 As it's relatively cheap, strong and requires little or no maintenance, this is the most popular choice. It's usually white but is also available in woodgrain styles for a

more traditional look. However, it's not very ecofriendly and is not usually allowed on listed buildings or in conservation areas.

• **ALUMINIUM**  
 Aluminium is more expensive but it's a strong material. It's often combined with PVC-u and used for conservatory roofs.

• **HARDWOOD**  
 At around 30-50 per cent more than PVC-u, this is the costly option. Beautiful for traditional designs, it's ideal for listed buildings and conservation areas. If sustainable wood is used, it's ecofriendly, too. Just remember that timber needs repainting or re-varnishing every few years.

ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO STYLE, SIZE AND PLANNING

making it easier to keep the temperature pleasant all year round. Conservatory company K2 has Celsius Performance Glass, while Pilkington has Activ Blue, which is self-cleaning, making it ideal for hard-to-reach areas like the roof. Ian Davis, Director General of the Federation of Master Builders says, "Transparent coated glass helps ensure that unwanted glare is kept to a minimum, whilst excessive solar heat is deflected away. It also reflects heat from inside the home back into the property, making it good for colder, north-facing conservatories."

## TEMPERATURE CONTROL

One of the main worries with a conservatory is keeping the temperature comfortable. North-facing rooms will get less sun and be colder in the winter, so consider heated flooring (try DEVI for good options). South-facing rooms will be much warmer, so ventilation

should be a high priority. For all conservatories, it's a good idea to fit blinds to provide shade on sunny days and extra insulation during winter. Try Luxaflex, Appal Conservatory Blinds, Thomas Sanderson or Grants Bespoke Blinds for a good selection.

## SECURITY

A glass room has the potential to be a magnet for burglars. Hugo Tugman, founder of Architectyourhome, says, "Doors that open outwards are much more difficult to break than doors that open inwards. However, if the lock can be broken this is academic." Make sure you have good locks on all doors and windows, and if you're going away, draw the blinds. Choose ventilators that only open one way, and if you leave windows open then make sure they are too high and small for easy access, and lockable in an open position.

FOR STORE DETAILS SEE 'WHERE TO BUY' PAGE AT BACK OF ISSUE