

PRESS CUTTING

Period house: March 2008

Circulation: 41,000

Rate card: £384.00

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structure if costs or circumstances change. Making a structure larger further down the line is less likely to be viewed favourably.”

However, if you want to simply add a conservatory and you don't exceed the 50-70 cubic m limit on your property and meet the other criteria that includes it being sited on ground level, that half the wall area is windows and the floor area does not exceed 30m squared, then you won't need permission. Areas do vary so it's always best to check with your local authority before commencing the build.

Sympathetic styling

The key to styling is to take a good look at the design and era your home was built in. Then, with the help of the designers, come up with a structure with an architectural style that complements the original building. David Salisbury of David Salisbury Conservatories adds: “I am a firm believer in quality, not quantity and you should not compromise the construction and materials used.”

In a listed building, ideally the opening of the

Left Blinds are an integral part of your conservatory all year round. Pinoleum blinds' prices depend on the size of your conservatory from Thomas Sanderson. Tel: 0800 051 5404 or visit www.thomassanderson.com

Below left Traditional country cottage-style properties can look equally at home with a conservatory. Vale Garden Houses offer a bespoke service with prices starting from around £29,300.

Below This conservatory provides the perfect sun-trap for its owners. This bespoke aluminium and glass structure is priced from £12,000 from Apropos Tectonic. Tel: 0161 342 8200 or visit www.apropos-tectonic.com



“Use a company which has the reputation and years of experience in designing for period properties.”

Lisa Morton, Director of Vale Garden Houses.

TOP TIPS ON CREATING THE PERFECT CONSERVATORY:

Lisa Morton, Director of Vale Garden Houses gives us her advice for a period property.

- It is of primary importance that your conservatory's design is sympathetic to the existing property in terms of architectural detailing. With this in mind, don't mix architectural periods i.e. putting a Victorian conservatory on a Georgian house.
- For some properties, where to put your new room is not so obvious. A conservatory can create a stunning feature on an otherwise unattractive aspect of the house, perhaps embellishing a plain and featureless wall or replacing unsightly outbuildings etc.
- It has been considered by many to put a very modern glazed structure onto a period house. Bear in mind that a contemporary approach is not to everyone's taste and a modern conservatory may be considered an eyesore to some when considering a house purchase, should you need to move.
- A conservatory can be positioned on north, south, east and west elevations and will work equally on either if designed correctly.
- Conservatories make beautiful plant rooms, but in order for them to be a success, adequate air movement must be achieved throughout the room to prolong the life of double glazed units and eliminate build up of moisture fungus.

