

PRESS CUTTING

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amino
combined marketing solutions

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Space permitting, a conservatory will make a wonderful extension to any home. Not only will it add value, but provide you and your family with the perfect link between outdoors and in, whatever the weather. For keen gardeners, this also means you can visually reap the benefits from all your hard work.

what's the use?

A glass room will immediately give you more living space. But you should consider what its use will be before you go ahead – you don't want to end up with a smaller garden and dead space which is there for the sake of it. Today's uses tend to vary greatly but a conservatory can house an extended kitchen, a dining area, living room, play room and even a bedroom. However, if you're planning on extending your kitchen then internally, plumbing will be an issue whereas a playroom may only require a carpet and some comfy furniture.

style factory

If you live in a traditional home then it makes sense to keep to a style that is sympathetic to your surroundings. Don't forget that if you live in a listed building, you could need planning permission before you make a start. For older properties Victorian or Edwardian styles are popular or even an orangery may suit your tastes. Lean-to versions will suit an older building too. A modern conservatory will work well in both traditional and brand new homes and these are generally bespoke.

Michael Barnes, Managing Director at Apropos says: "The juxtaposition of old and new works if done well and enhances the appeal of the original structure. There are restrictions imposed – planning authorities and building regulations – but these can generally be overcome by the recognition that your glass addition should be sympathetic to its mother structure without attempting to mimic its style."

material world

Budget allowing, wood and glass versions are probably the most stylish materials to use on your conservatory. Look for sustainable woods and consider the warmth factor when choosing your glazing (triple glazing is ideal for a really toasty room). Otherwise, uPVC® style makes a practical, easy-to-maintain choice and is ideal if you have a limited budget. Ask your designer about self-cleaning glass as this will make a great investment, particularly for the roof as this is one of the hardest areas to reach when cleaning, and low-emissivity glass will help keep this space thermally insulated.

right. To keep your conservatory at a perfect temperature, Luxaflex® Duette® and Silhouette blinds could well be the answer. Prices start from £106 for Duette Shades and Silhouette shades start from £197. Tel: 0800 652 7799 or visit www.luxaflex.co.uk below This conservatory has been built in keeping with its traditional property. Expect to pay around £40,000 for a similar version from Apropos Tectonic. Tel: 0161 442 8200 or visit www.apropos-tectonic.com



furniture matters

Barlow Tyrie's Managing Director, David Evans says: "I think that choosing conservatory furniture begins with deciding what you actually want it for. Will it be for an informal area to slouch around in to read the Sunday papers or formal dining? The style of conservatory is also an important factor; ultra modern furniture may not sit comfortably in an elaborate Victorian-style conservatory. Even when you know to what use it will be put, there is a bewildering amount of furniture to choose from, our own wide range of furniture styles caters for most tastes. A light and airy contemporary conservatory can look stunning with modern furniture using a mixture of stainless steel and teak; the lightness of the design accentuating the space it occupies. The more traditional designs can and do create a warm and welcoming atmosphere, but could make the space appear smaller than it is. Whatever furniture is decided upon, it must look right when in position and be functional."