

CONSUMER HOW-TO PROVIDE SHADE FOR YOUR DECK OR PATIO

Awnings are an excellent addition to your home. Besides making your deck or patio more comfortable for you and your guests, awnings also help to cut energy costs.

HISTORY:

The first awnings were used by the ancient Egyptians and Syrians. They were used for shade in markets and over homes. Awnings became popular in North America in the 19th century. In the years following the Civil War, an awning industry developed providing a variety of options for stores and homes. These include operable or retractable awnings.

FUNCTION:

Awnings are used to provide shade and protection from the elements over buildings. They act as a shield from the sun and rain, providing a covered area for children and pet, family meals and relaxation. They also protect furniture, carpets and window treatments from sun damage by shading them when mounted above windows and glass doors.

TYPES:

There are two main types of awnings in use today: motorized and manual. Motorized awnings feature retractable arms that are operated by electricity. The motor is hidden, usually within the roller bar. The arms of the motorized awning open and close as needed when switched on. In contrast, manual awnings are opened by hand. Specific types include aluminum awnings, retractable awnings, lateral arm awnings, drop arm awnings, and solar shade screens.

BENEFITS:

Awnings have many benefits including cooler temperatures and protection from the sun. The temperature under an awning can be as much as twenty degrees cooler than unshaded areas. Houses can also be kept cooler by attaching an awning to the outside of the home. This equates to lower energy consumption and saved money, especially in the hot summer months. Awnings are also low cost, easily adaptable, long lasting, and offer added style and beauty to a building.

CONSIDERATIONS:

In areas of regular high winds or snowfall, awnings can suffer considerable damage while outstretched. Before installing an awning, the home or building owner should consider the weather patterns in his area. If there is danger of high winds, an awning with a built-in wind sensor is a viable option. In areas with severe winter weather, awnings must be taken down when summer is over or kept retracted throughout the winter season. Some companies also offer awnings that are built to withstand these types of conditions. Consult a professional before purchasing an awning to make sure you have chosen the best option for your needs and location.

Enjoy Instant Shade & Comfort All Summer

The Whittington Construction Group



We realize that your home is your personal oasis. That's why Sunesta offers retractable shade systems to expand and enhance your living areas by providing shade when you need it and sun when you want it.



With a Sunesta Retractable Awning, you control the shade. Enjoy your outdoor living area more than ever with the convenience of total shade control. Extend and retract your Sunesta Awning with the turn of a handle or push of a button - it's that simple. Your awning can be extended fully, partially, or retracted depending on the amount of shade you need or how much sun you want.



Save on your utility costs. Our awnings help lower energy costs year-round. On warm days, extend your awning to block the sun from entering your home. Shading your interior will naturally cool your home and reduce air conditioning costs up to 25%. On cold days, you can retract your awning, allowing the sun to help heat your home. In snowy and stormy climates, your Sunesta Awning can be retracted, eliminating the need for expensive awning removal and reinstallation which are necessary for permanent-frame awnings.

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- Up to 15 years on frames
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- Up to 5 years on motor



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