

Overhead Protection For External Doors

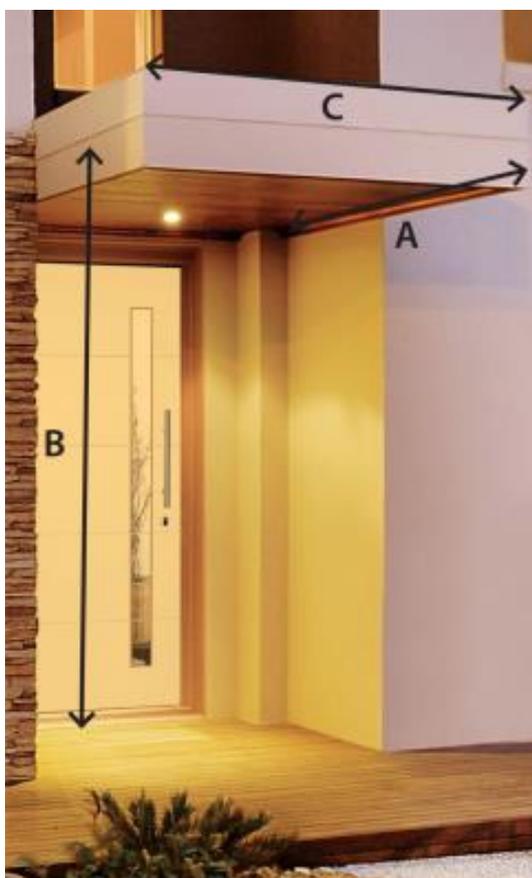
The protection of your door is a major factor in its ongoing maintenance requirements and longevity. To adequately protect your door and extend its life several factors must be considered.

- Door type
- Climatic conditions
- Exposure
- Colour choice
- Use of a security or other protective door

Only doors specifically designed as external/entry doors should be used in external applications. Using the incorrect door type can compromise the security, durability and performance of the door when exposed to sun, rain, wind, heat, and cold.

Even with an external/entry door, most applications will require some sort of overhead protection to minimise performance problems such as rapid finish deterioration, colour fading, wood splitting, warping, panel shrinkage, wood joint separation, and water penetration between panels, frame and glass.

The table below indicates the most appropriate overhead protection depending on the house location and the direction the door faces. Select the climate zone the house is located in, then the direction that the door faces. The formula will then define the depth (A) for the overhead awning based on the height (B) from the base of the door to the underside of the awning. The minimum width of the overhead protection should be no less than the door frame width.



Climate	Door Direction			
	North	South	East	West
Coastal	$A = 1/2 B$	$A = B$	$A = 1/2 B$	$A = B$
Tropical	$A = B$	$A = B$	$A = B$	$A = B$
Arid	$A = B$	$A = 1/2 B$	$A = B$	$A = 1/2 B$
Mild	$A = 1/2 B$	$A = 1/2 B$	$A = 1/2 B$	$A = B$

The finished colour of external doors can also impact ongoing performance and maintenance. In general, dark colours absorb more heat than lighter colours which can accelerate door deterioration, colour fading, and can cause warping, sticking or other performance problems.

Using a security door or another type of secondary door can provide additional protection for external doors depending on the material used. In hot climates, the material should not allow heat to build up between the two doors as this could cause substantial damage