

BUYING GUIDE

Are Roller Shutters Worth It?

"Are they worth it?" is the most googled roller-shutter question in Australia. Here's the unvarnished answer. What they're great at, what they're mediocre at, and the situations where you're better off spending the money on something else.

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<https://shutthefrontup.com.au/are-roller-shutters-worth-it>

QUICK ANSWER

For most Australian homes, roller shutters are worth it on west and north-facing windows where heat is a real problem, in homes with security concerns, and for bedrooms where blackout matters. They're less obviously worth it on south-facing windows or windows that already have effective external shading.

Payback comes from comfort and possible energy savings rather than a guaranteed dollar figure. Cooling-cost results depend on the windows, climate, glazing, orientation and how consistently the shutters are used.

Bottom line: Worth it where heat, security, light or noise is a real problem. Not worth it just for resale value alone.

Who this is for: Homeowners deciding whether to invest in roller shutters at all.

What changes the price

Heat reduction

External shutters can reduce solar heat gain by blocking sun before it reaches the glass. Ask for tested performance and avoid guaranteed room-temperature or power-bill claims.

Security

A closed roller shutter adds a visible physical barrier, but it cannot guarantee that a break-in will be prevented. Compare guides, bottom rail, locking, fixings and emergency egress.

Light control

Excellent. Closed shutters produce true blackout, far better than internal blinds. Useful for bedrooms, nurseries and home theatres.

Noise

Modest. Shutters reduce mid-frequency outside noise by a few decibels but won't turn a busy road quiet. Acoustic glazing is more effective for serious noise reduction.

Bushfire and storm resilience

Bushfire-rated shutters exist for high-risk zones and meet specific Australian Standards. For storm risk, even standard shutters offer meaningful debris protection.

Resale value

Mixed. In hot climates (SA, WA, inland QLD/NSW) shutters are seen as a feature. In cooler southern markets they don't add proportional resale value.

When roller shutters are clearly worth comparing

- Homes with significant unshaded western or northern glass
- Ground-floor or exposed windows where an additional security barrier is wanted
- Bedrooms needing strong room darkening for shift workers or young children
- Bushfire-prone areas where a documented rated system forms part of the required design
- Older homes with poor-performing single-glazed windows

When they're less obviously worth it

- Newer homes with high-spec double-glazing already
- South-facing windows that don't get direct sun
- Homes with extensive verandah/eave coverage already shading the glass
- Strata or heritage properties where external changes are restricted

Alternatives that compete with shutters

For heat: external venetians, awnings, or upgrading to high-performance glazing. For security: alarm systems, security screens, monitored CCTV. For blackout: motorised honeycomb blinds. Shutters often beat the alternatives at the combined job. Heat + security + blackout in one product.

Checklist before you accept a quote

☐ **Identify the actual problem**

Heat? Security? Blackout? Match the shutter spec to the problem.

☐ **Audit your worst windows**

You don't need shutters everywhere, usually 4-6 key windows.

☐ **Consider phasing**

Do the worst-affected rooms first, evaluate the difference, then decide.

☐ **Compare against alternatives**

For some homes, awnings or glazing upgrades are better value.

Frequently asked questions

Do roller shutters actually reduce energy bills?

They may reduce cooling demand by blocking direct sun before it reaches exposed glass. Whole-home bill savings depend on climate, glazing, window area, orientation, use and the rest of the building, so a fixed percentage should not be guaranteed.

Are roller shutters worth it for security?

They can add a useful physical and visual barrier at a window, but no shutter prevents every break-in. Compare the complete specification and use shutters alongside appropriate locks, lighting and other security measures.

Do roller shutters add value to a home?

In hot-climate markets like SA, WA and inland QLD/NSW, yes. They're seen as a feature. In cooler markets the resale uplift is smaller.

Related reading

Roller shutter cost overview

<https://shutthefrontup.com.au/roller-shutter-cost>

Electric vs manual

<https://shutthefrontup.com.au/electric-vs-manual-roller-shutters>

Cheap vs quality shutters

<https://shutthefrontup.com.au/cheap-roller-shutters-vs-quality-shutters>

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