

HOW-TO

How to Install DIY Roller Shutters (Australia)

Below is a generic install procedure that applies to most cut-to-size DIY kits sold in Australia. **The manufacturer's manual for your specific kit takes precedence over this guide.** Bracket spacing, side-channel screws and end-stop positions vary slightly between brands. Read the manual cover-to-cover before drilling anything.

Important. Electrical work: in Australia, only a licensed electrician may connect a motorised shutter to mains power. You can mechanically install an electric kit yourself, but you must book a sparkie to do the wiring and certify the work.

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<https://shutthefrontup.com.au/how-to-install-roller-shutters>

QUICK ANSWER

Installing a DIY roller shutter takes **6-10 hours for your first window** and 3-5 hours per window after that. The basic order is: mark the head box position → fix brackets → install head box → fit side channels → hang the curtain → fit bottom rail and locks → test operation → fit end caps.

Electrical safety: mains-power wiring on electric roller shutters must be performed by a licensed electrician under AS/NZS 3000. You can install the mechanical components yourself, but never connect the motor to mains power without certification.

Bottom line: Work slowly, check level constantly, and never connect electric motors to mains without a licensed electrician.

Who this is for: Confident DIYers installing a cut-to-size roller shutter kit on a single-storey window.

Typical price ranges

Indicative supplied-and-installed pricing across Australia in 2026. Final pricing depends on installer assessment.

ITEM	TYPICAL RANGE	NOTES
Hammer drill	\$80-\$200	corded or cordless, suitable for masonry
Masonry drill bits (6 mm, 8 mm, 10 mm)	\$15-\$40	quality bits last longer
Extension ladder	\$120-\$400	reach the head box position safely
Licensed electrician (electric kits only)	\$120-\$280	per window, includes certification

What changes the price

Wall type

Timber-frame: use 75 mm hex screws into studs. Brick veneer: use 8 mm masonry plugs into the brick course. Solid double-brick: use 10 mm masonry plugs through both leaves. Render adds a patching step after install.

Working at height

Even ground-floor head boxes sit 2.2-2.6 m above the floor. Use a proper extension ladder or platform, not a kitchen chair. Brace the ladder against the wall, not the head box.

One vs two-person install

Small manual shutters can be a one-person job with patience. Anything over 1.8 m wide really wants two people. The curtain is heavy and awkward to hang single-handed.

Weather

Don't install in rain or strong wind. The head box and curtain are awkward at the best of times, dangerous when slippery.

Before you start

- Read the kit's installation manual cover-to-cover.
- Lay all parts out on a soft surface and check the kit is complete.
- Confirm the head box position with pencil marks. Measure twice from the windowsill upward.
- For electric kits: confirm the electrician is booked for the day you finish the mechanical install.
- Have a second person available even if not actively helping. For safety and steadying.

Tools you'll need

- Hammer drill (corded or quality cordless) with masonry and timber bits.
- 1.2 m spirit level.
- Stud finder if your wall is timber-frame.
- Screwdriver set including Phillips and Torx.
- Tape measure marked in millimetres.
- Step ladder or extension ladder, rated for your weight.
- Pencil, masking tape and a clean rag.

Electrical safety (electric kits only)

In Australia, mains-power work must be performed by a licensed electrician under AS/NZS 3000. You can: install the head box, fit the motor into the barrel, fit side channels and the bottom rail. You cannot: connect the motor's mains cable to a power outlet, install a hard-wired switch or chase a cable into a wall. Book a licensed electrician to complete the wiring and provide a Certificate of Electrical Safety (CES) or Certificate of Compliance for Electrical Work (CCEW) depending on your state.

After installation

Operate the shutter through 10-20 full cycles to bed in the mechanism. Re-tighten visible fixings after the first week. Vibration during operation can loosen them. Keep the manufacturer's manual, kit purchase receipt and (for electric) electrician's certificate together in case of future warranty claim.

Checklist before you accept a quote

- ☐ **Read the kit manual first**
Every brand has slightly different bracket spacing.
- ☐ **Check the kit is complete**
Missing parts now mean a long delay later.
- ☐ **Use a level on every component**
A shutter installed even 5 mm out will bind.
- ☐ **Never wire mains yourself**
Australian law requires a licensed electrician.
- ☐ **Test operation before fitting end caps**
End caps are easy to remove; full disassembly is not.
- ☐ **Retain receipts and certificates**
Required for any future warranty claim.

Frequently asked questions

Can I install a roller shutter myself in Australia?

Yes. Manual roller shutters can be fully installed by the homeowner. Electric roller shutters can be mechanically installed by the homeowner but the mains-power wiring must be done by a licensed electrician under AS/NZS 3000.

How long does it take to DIY install a roller shutter?

Expect 6-10 hours for your first window and 3-5 hours per window after that. Larger shutters and rendered walls add time. An electrician will need an additional 30-60 minutes per electric shutter for wiring and certification.

Do I need a permit to install roller shutters in Australia?

For most owner-occupied homes, no permit is required for roller shutters on existing windows. Heritage-listed properties, body-corporate apartments and some local council zones require approval. Check with your local council and (if applicable) body corporate before installing.

What happens if I wire an electric roller shutter myself?

Uncertified electrical work is illegal in every Australian state, voids your home insurance, voids the shutter motor warranty and creates a serious safety risk. Always engage a licensed electrician for the mains-power side of an electric shutter install.

Related reading

How to measure for roller shutters

<https://shutthefrontup.com.au/how-to-measure-for-roller-shutters>

Common DIY mistakes

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

DIY roller shutter cost

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

DIY vs installer

<https://shutthefrontup.com.au/diy-vs-installer-roller-shutters>

Compare installer quotes

<https://shutthefrontup.com.au/quote-compare>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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All prices shown are indicative estimates drawn from marketplace data and change over time. They are not quotes, offers or valuations. Measurements, site conditions, product specification, electrical work, access, location and supplier terms all change the final figure. Only a written quote from a supplier, after inspection and final measurement, is an actual price.

Installation, repair and maintenance work carries real risk. In Australia, mains electrical work must be carried out by a licensed electrician under AS/NZS 3000. Roller shutter tension springs are under high load and can cause serious injury. Do not attempt electrical work, spring work or work at heights unless you are qualified and equipped to do so safely. If you are in any doubt, stop and engage a qualified professional.

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