

Window Furnishings – R Values ©

Insulation Factor - R value, is a Fenestration (*means the arrangement of windows in a building*) measure used by Architects to evaluate window coverings and glass factors.

As Window Furnishers, Kiwiblinnd's focus for winter, is primarily with R factors.

R values refer to the insulation factor of a window.

Uncovered windows have an R value factor of between 0.9 and 3.0, depending on the type of glazing.

R values are measured on a scale of up to 5.

An aluminium single glazed window for example, will transmit more cold than a double glazed wooden window, thus providing a lower R value.

BRANZ research shows that up to 40% heat loss can occur through windows.

All window coverings will add to the R value or stop heat loss. Heat loss occurs when the air moves, so the objective is to stop air movement. Window coverings therefore need to create a seal between the cold glass and warm air, as it leaves the room or conversely stops warm air entering a room in summer.

Kiwiblinds will contribute to this objective

The most insulating blind is a Kiwiblinds Thermacell or aka Honeycomb Blind. These work by arresting the air flow by means of the foil lined cellular design. More recently, some pleated fabrics provide effective R value factors.

Kiwiblinds, Thermal-lined Romans are very insulating due to their fixing position. Ie - over the window opening/framework and close to the wall.

Curtains, aka Drapes do not necessarily provide more warmth than blinds but a truly effective option if you have a preference for curtains in a certain room or living area. To provide the best insulation, curtains must be of good quality, be floor length and have the edges reach over the track, which should be affixed to the wall above the window frame.

A floor length, layered curtain without enclosure, on an R value insulation scale of 5, will only be a 2.5 but Thermal-lined Drapes will be a 5. (*Measured on a wooden window - Consumer Magazine*)

Some Other Blind R Values

Honeycombs will increase the R Value up to 4

Most sunscreens will add 2 to the existing R value

A Thermal-backed Blockout Blind fabric will add up to 4 to an R value

Final Overview

- A Sunscreen Roller Blind will increase the insulation factor in colder periods, to its typical R value, while cooling in summer. It transmits daylight when in use, therefore you enjoy a view but your daytime privacy is assured.
- Any Blockout Blind will act in the same way BUT will darken a Room. Ie - no light transmittal.
- All Blinds can be custom installed to take advantage of the situation, according to your tastes and practical needs.
- To discuss your individual needs, book a free consultation with one of our experts now and also enjoy the promotional benefits on offer by Kiwiblinds until 30 June 2016.

The information in this document is a broad view only. Each situation can vary widely as total insulation, architectural aspect, sun position, wind channels all contribute to the individual property's micro climate.