

MAJOR POINTS TO NOTE TO IMPROVE RAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY AT THE DESIGN STAGE

	WINTER	SUMMER
THERMAL MASS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete slab has better thermal mass than elevated floor systems • Expose mass to sun & heating appliances • Insulate slabs from outside 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shade from sun & allow to cool over night
ORIENTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position living areas on North and utility areas on South 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verandahs on West for summer shading • Wardrobes on west walls enhance insulation performance
WINDOWS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face majority of windows in the NE to NW quadrant, avoiding South where possible • Ensure glass is exposed to North winter sun where possible • Clear glazing best on North; double glazing may be required for insulation value • Timber window frames rate better than standard aluminium frames 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face majority of windows NE to NW, avoiding West where possible • Verandahs and eave extensions on West windows - adjustable shading devices on others • Reflective glazing (Low E coat, Comfort Plus) helpful on West windows
DRAFT SEALING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all windows and doors have weather seals 	Same as winter
CROSS VENTILATION		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Openable windows and doors enable breezes to flow through the house • Smaller openings on windward side and larger on leeward side promote optimal air flow volumes
INSULATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RAL uses triple layer insulation system throughout the shell (demonstrated in excess of R4.0) • Floor insulation (for use with timber or steel floors) gives total R value of 3.25 • Enclosure of sub-floor perimeter can be helpful in certain climates • Insulating internal partition walls between conditioned and unconditioned spaces can be beneficial 	
GENERAL	Ratio of external surfaces, such as windows, compared with floor area has a significant bearing on efficiency. Less windows = better rating.	

Note: each postcode has an applicable climate rating level... Should you require an energy rating in an area where First Rate energy assessment (via Victorian accredited Rater) is not accepted, you will need to check with Council to find out how to obtain the relevant rating required in your area.

NOTES REGARDING BUSHFIRE ATTACK LEVELS

Most States in Australia are now implementing the new bushfire requirements (AS3959-2009). This now means that there are 6 Bushfire Attack Levels (BAL Low, BAL 12.5, BAL 19, BAL 29, BAL 40 and BAL FZ). Please check with your Council whether or not they require a BAL assessment for your building site (in some States this is now mandatory for all building sites).

Our standard Components, and thus our standard pricing, are suitable for BAL Low. We can supply RAL Components suitable for all of the new BAL levels, some adaptations are made for each level and thus our costing varies accordingly.

Should you require costing and specifications for our Components for any of the other levels, please contact us and we will be happy to forward them to you.