



Suppliers of PVCu Windows, Doors & Conservatories

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When selling conservatories – remember:

Often the sides of conservatories have to be structural to hold the roof up.

There are **NO** structural Pvcu windows or doors produced by any UK fabricators.

Even windows of 600mm width need a lintel in masonry walls.

A 30mm Pvcu sill is 24mm of **AIR** unless you ask for reinforcement.

SNOW is an increase in dead load (& why calculations differ across the UK)

The conservatory roof industry calculates ring beam strengths with a built in deflection allowance of L/125 for polycarbonate & L/175 for glass.

The above means that it is **ACCEPTABLE** for a 3M ring beam to DIP (deflect) by 24mm for polycarbonate & 17mm for glass.

Try telling a consumer that a 24mm dip is acceptable. The normal human eye can see a 2mm difference I level.

This acceptable deflection is why Bi Fold doors will not work in a conservatory unless planned for in loading terms. It is possible to clear span openings with specific parts.

Best practice on all conservatories is to split the frames on every mullion & use a suitable joint. 6mm or 20mm aluminium joints, load bearing post kits, reinforced outer frames & sills are all available options. It is not advised to use the 3mm Pvcu joint.

Door positions can hamper best use of a conservatory (space & building); Edwardian doors are best on the projection facets & don't forget Victorian doors on an angled facet require 'squint' brickwork.

Box gutters should be considered in the same light as ring beams because as well as carrying water they are a ring beam as well. They need support (not screwing to fascia's) just like the ring beam.

When supplied, tie bars are not optional items; they are necessary structural components & must be fitted correctly.

Remembering these points will allow you to successfully build conservatories, which will give you few if any problems.