

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Don't Let The Sun Keep You Inside



Made In The Shade—With the push of a button, shady relief is at hand.

(NAPSA)—With dreams of lounging in the sun, you've invested thousands of dollars in your new deck or patio. But the sun is much hotter than you had expected, and with fears of skin cancer increasing every day, you find yourself spending more time indoors.

But don't despair. You can enjoy your deck or patio—no matter the temperature—if you install a retractable fabric awning. With the push of a button, cool, shady relief is at hand.

Your personal comfort is just one of the benefits of a retractable awning. The shade from your awning can reduce heat gain inside your home by as much as 77 percent, lowering indoor temperatures by 15 degrees. Not only will you save on your energy bill, but you will also protect valuable draperies, carpet and furniture from fading.

"Most people add an awning to their homes for personal comfort so they can enjoy a deck or patio," said John Dearden, managing partner of Eclipse Awning Systems, a leading national manufacturer. "The additional benefits—reduced energy costs and protecting home furnishings—are advantages that homeowners quickly appreciate just as much."

There has never been a better time to consider a retractable awning. Improvements in materials and design innovations have made retractable awnings longer lasting and more flexible than

ever before. Lateral arms, roller tubes, connecting components and all-weather performance fabrics, such as the Sunbrella brand, are designed for carefree service.

Anyone concerned about sun exposure will be glad to know that Sunbrella fabrics have been recognized by The Skin Cancer Foundation as offering significant levels of sun protection.

Motorization of retractable awnings and associated electronic controls contribute to carefree service. Wind sensors can automatically retract your awning to protect it from high winds, and sun sensors will cause the awning to extend when the sun comes out.

One of the most recent advances in retractable awnings is flexibility for just about any space. Through advanced engineering, an awning can be extended up to 16.5 feet from your home to cover an entire deck or patio. For smaller spaces, such as a town home, retractable awnings can be created that extend as much as 11.5 feet but are only 8 feet wide.

"Anyone considering a retractable awning should do their homework to be sure of getting a quality product," Dearden said. "With the right materials and professional installation, a retractable awning adds comfort and value to your home."

For more information, visit www.eclipseawnings.com.