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Keep in touch with earth building in NZ with this national body. Quarterly magazine, contacts and advice \$NZ55 in NZ and \$NZ65 outside NZ. PO Box 1452, Whangarei NZ

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Bits & bobs...



Letting in the light

Clerestory windows are generally situated above head height, usually (but not always) facing north. They allow natural light to enter a building. An eave overhang can be used to provide summer shading for northerly clerestories while east and westerly ones may require louvres or blinds.

While they may differ in size, shape and design, the clerestory window is a valuable asset in the passive solar design toolbox. In any situation, they are effective for cross ventilation and allowing the release of hot air. On narrow blocks with limited northerly solar access, they can provide summer light and winter heat if well designed. In situations where a superb view demands southerly glazing, they allow northerly solar access.

◆ Your Home Technical Manual (www.yourhome.gov.au)

4.3 Orientation: Design and position openings to control air flow. Use clerestory windows, roof ventilators, and vents in ridges, eaves and ceilings to create convection currents to cool the house in absence of breezes.

4.4 Shading: Position openable clerestory windows to face north with overhanging eaves to exclude summer sun.

4.6 Passive cooling: Provide hot air ventilation at ceiling level for all rooms with spinaways (*whirlybirds*), shaded opening clerestory windows or ridge vents.

