

Windbreak & Shade Netting- A Guide for Installation & Use

[Windbreak](#) and [shade](#) netting is a tight-mesh fabric designed to block a percentage of sunlight and wind from causing damage to plants or livestock. It's normally manufactured with polyethylene flat-tape fibres which are strong, durable but crucially flexible. Its effectiveness is normally measured as 2 percentages. For example, QVS shade and windbreak netting blocks 50% of wind and 60% of light, offering an excellent level of protection. With knitted eyelets on each side it's easy enough to attach to a frame with cable ties clamps. And with its double lock-stitch technology it's tear proof, and will not fray when cut to your desired size. QVS shade and windbreak netting is also UV stabilised, which means it's more resistant to the damaging effect of the sun's powerful rays.

Wind can be incredibly destructive to a field of crops, damaging wide areas of vegetation with very little warning. This is especially prevalent in wide, flat areas of the country, which ironically tend to be the most fertile. A protective barrier of netting surrounding the area is a versatile, low cost alternative to a hedgerow, and will assist in a healthy harvest. However unlike a hedgerow, it will allow a much higher percentage of natural light through ensuring that your crops have everything they need to flourish, without the risk of them wilting in the heat. Shade and windbreak netting is also perfect as an additional barrier against any potentially destructive wildlife that may be in the area.

Some crops flourish in shady conditions. Lettuce, spinach and broccoli are prime examples of vegetables that thrive in areas with short periods of sunlight or constant dappled shade. Shade netting is an excellent method of ensuring that they have perfect conditions for growth. For the smaller scale producer, or for those who wish to grow year round, shade netting can be used in greenhouses and cold frames to ensure a healthy year round crop or allow for an earlier or later harvest. Netting can also be attached to existing fences to create a more comfortable environment for livestock.

For domestic purposes, shade and windbreak netting can be used to create a more comfortable environment on patios or seated areas. It will reduce heat and wind levels making a much more pleasant area. This has the added benefit of reducing sound intrusion, perfect for those who live near busy roads. Most netting is also available in a range of neutral colours to avoid creating an eyesore.

As with all varieties of netting, ensure the product is secured to a frame with appropriate fixings. Cable ties are easy enough to use; weatherproof clamps, ball bungees and hook ties are available at an additional cost. If you are additionally using the netting as a repellent for wildlife, then you may wish to peg down with appropriate anchor pegs to help stop animals from passing underneath. Shade and windbreak netting can also be used in conjunction with other types of netting, depending on your requirements.