

Spanning more than 30 collections in a palette of colors, weaves and openness factors, Phifer's SheerWeave sun control fabrics offer a beautiful and functional solution to managing solar heat and light. Selecting the right fabric for your application can be easy with a simple understanding of the roles color and openness play in determining a fabric's performance.

Introduction to Shading

Light colors, such as white, reflect solar energy away from interior spaces and transmit diffused natural light toward the interior. These colors are excellent for reducing overall solar heat gain, lowering energy costs associated with air-conditioning, and reducing the need for artificial lighting for additional energy savings. Due to high reflectivity, light colors will limit outward views.



Dark colors, such as black, absorb solar heat and light for significant glare reduction. Benefits include improved clarity of electronic devices, diminished eye strain and excellent outward views. While the overall impact on solar heat gain is not as significant with dark colors, this heat will be more evenly distributed into the room, improving comfort and eliminating hot spots created by direct sun light.

Openness factor refers to the tightness of the weave or mesh construction and, combined with color, determines the fabric's overall performance. The more open a fabric the more heat and light will transmit to interior spaces and the more outward views are maintained.

With openness factors ranging from zero to 25 percent, selecting the right combination of color and openness will ensure your goals for energy savings, light management and outward visibility are achieved.



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