

Adding Character To Your Pergola

Once your pergola structure is built there are many fabulous cost effective ways to improve the look and feel of your new pergola, giving it that personal touch. Listed below are some of the most common and popular ways to achieve this.

Decorative corner brackets

Corner brackets are one of the most inexpensive ways to add excellent appeal to your structure. They are available in both single piece and multiple pieces, depending on how fancy the bracket. The mounting of these brackets is simple, just screw them into the corners of your structure where the posts meet your beam. An addition to corner brackets, you can use frieze panels to match. Just ask your local building supplier about this and they will guide you in the right direction.

Finials or gable spires

Finials or also commonly called gable spires can be a simple addition to your pergola, and just screw into place. They are normally used on the top of a pitched roof pergola. Finials come in a very extensive range of lengths and styles. Ask your local building supplier for a brochure on the range.

Trellis roof

If your pergola has no solid or shadecloth roof, you may want to consider using trellis on the roof. This gives a different feel and when using a closed style trellis for the job, gives approximately a 50% blockout of sun, perfect for plants. The only rule for using trellis on the roof of a pergola structure is that the purlins should be a maximum of 600-800mm apart. If the purlins are any further apart, the trellis will eventually sag. Ask your local building supplier about the options available to you.

Balustrading

Balustrading gives a pergola a sense of intimacy. Use either trellis or some other form of balustrading between the pergola posts and leave one or two areas open for access. These days there are many varied styles of capping, handrailing and trellis surrounds to make your balustrading look either colonial, heritage or modern. Ask your local building supplier to show you the options available. Some companies even supply pre-made balustrades and trellis panels, so all you have to do is measure the distance between your posts and once they have been made, screw them into place.

Gable infills

Gable infills are the perfect finish for any pitched roof pergola structure, with varying styles. Speak to your local building supplier about these styles and then decide what you think would be best for your style of structure.

