



**Defence  
Homes**

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# Helpful Tips for making Green Permanent Enhancements

**Practical guidance for enhancing your home interiors.**

# Top tips for Green Permanent Enhancements

## Shelving

- Fit shelves in an appropriate position away from door openings and at a suitable height so they don't cause a hazard.
- Use a stud finder or tap the wall to listen for any pipes or wires before drilling.
- Make sure brackets are strong enough to hold the weight of the shelf and its items.
- Use a spirit level to check straightness of any shelving prior to drilling and fitting.
- If a shelf requires removal, have Polyfilla ready to fill in remaining holes.
- Don't overcrowd walls.

## Curtain Poles, blinds & shutters

- Fit curtain poles as close to the track height as possible.
- If fitting to the outside of the recess, add a wooden plinth between the pole and the wall to add extra strength.
- Use a spirit level to ensure pole or blind is straight.
- Ensure all brackets are used to give the blind its strength.
- Don't drill into the window frame as this can damage the window.
- Don't remove the track already in place.

## Coat Hooks

- Fit coat hooks to the back of doors or walls at a convenient and safe height.
- Use a stud finder or tap the wall to listen for any pipes or wires before drilling.
- Ensure rawl plugs and screws are of a sufficient length so that it can hold the weight.
- Use all included fittings to ensure stability of hook / hooks.
- Don't overcrowd walls.

# Top tips for green permanent enhancements

## Battery Operated Doorbells

- Only fit battery-operated doorbells.
- Use adhesive pads or spiral fixings that will not penetrate the wall installation
- Purchase from suitable and reputable doorbell companies, such as Ring or Yale. These are available to purchase online or in home improvement stores.
- Don't hard wire doorbells into the electrics.

## Landscaping

- Decorate with flowers and plants according to family's wishes
- Be careful to avoid any invasive plants in your garden (e.g. buddleia, Virginia creeper and ivy)
- Don't plant shrubs or trees that will substantially grow and cause future issues (e.g. blocking light or roots damaging pipes/buildings)
- Stick to only pruning trees, please don't cut down or fell any existing trees.

## Battery Operated House Alarms

- Only fit battery or Wi-Fi operated house alarms. Small screws can be used to fit the alarm to the outside wall.
- Purchase from reputable house alarm companies, such as Ring or Yale. These are available to purchase online or in home improvement stores.
- Don't hardwire house alarms into the electrics.