
INSPIRE Installation Techniques – HEALTH & SAFETY

The health and safety of the installers and others in the proximity of the install work is of utmost importance. Correct health and safety procedures should be followed at all times, and for the installer, particular attention should be paid to ladder safety and usage of hand and power tools. Any work done at heights should be undertaken from a platform, to enable both hands to be used during the work, and all local laws followed exactly.

Electricity

Electricity can be deadly. Correct procedures should always be followed in regard to using tools requiring electricity. Manufacturer's manuals/guides should be available and will contain correct method of use.

During the normal course of an install, you may also come upon walls, ceilings or even floors that contain hidden cables. It is impossible to know where cables may be concealed, so the use of a commercially available ultrasonic sensor is highly recommended. If you have any doubts as to the location of live wires, seek professional assistance before proceeding.

Utility Pipes

Although rarely dangerous, piercing or breaking water or other utility pipes can cause extensive damage to property and can be very costly to repair. Most commercially available ultrasonic sensors also can detect pipes and timber and metal studs, so are an invaluable tool.

Glass

As shutters are generally placed over windows or doors containing glass, special consideration should always be given. Placement of screws should always give plenty of clearance from the glass in the window, and in the unfortunate situation where glass is cracked or broken it should only be replaced by a professional.

Ladders

Ladder falls are a constant potential hazard when fitting shutters. In many instances, scaffolding or portable work platforms will be safer and a better option, despite any associated costs. Aside from the possibility of severe injury and loss of income, laws regarding working on ladders are clearly defined in government OH&S regulations and standards and should always be strictly enforced. Ladders are generally only able to be used to gain access to a location, and three points of contact must be made with the ladder at all times, making it impossible to do this and perform tasks as well.

