

CERBERUS PLUS

LOUVRE KITSET 101 GUIDE

Manual and motorised outdoor louvre roof options



A practical buyer, planning and installation guide for New Zealand outdoor spaces

ADJUSTABLE SHADE | INTERNAL DRAINAGE | LED LIGHTING | CUSTOM OPTIONS

Apollo NZ

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Cerberus Plus at a Glance

The Cerberus Plus Louvre Kitset System is a modular aluminium outdoor roofing solution for decks, patios, courtyards, pool areas, outdoor kitchens and selected commercial spaces. Adjustable louvre blades give you control over sunlight, shade, airflow and rain protection, while the surrounding frame manages water through an integrated drainage system.

Key idea

Open the louvres for sunlight and ventilation, angle them for shade, or close them when overhead rain protection is needed. It remains an outdoor structure, so wind-driven rain can still enter through open sides.

Quick Facts

Component	Specification
Operation	Manual or motorised
Standard height	Approximately 2.5 m
Frame	Powder-coated 6063-T5 aluminium
Standard post	100 x 100 x 2.0 mm
Main beam	120 x 45 x 2.0 mm
Louvre blade	150 x 30 x 1.5 mm
Lighting	Integrated surround LED lighting
Motorised controls	Remote control, Tuya-compatible control and rain sensor
Drainage	Integrated guttering and internal water management
Typical uses	Residential, hospitality, club and outdoor entertaining areas

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Important

Final suitability, engineering, foundations, fixings, drainage, electrical work and any building-consent requirements must be checked for the specific site. Product options and specifications should be confirmed at the time of quotation.

1. How a Louvre Pergola Works

A louvre pergola uses rotating aluminium roof blades rather than a permanently open roof or a fixed sheet roof. Changing the blade angle lets you respond to changing weather and how the outdoor area is being used.

The three main roof positions

Open: Allows more sunlight and vertical airflow into the area.

Angled: Helps create shade while retaining ventilation.

Closed: Forms an overlapping roof surface that directs rainwater into the perimeter gutter system.

When the louvres are closed, water is collected around the roof frame and directed to planned drainage outlets. Good performance depends on correct assembly, accurate alignment, clear gutters and suitable discharge points.

Outdoor weather note

A closed louvre roof provides useful overhead protection, but it should not be treated as a sealed indoor room. Wind, sideways rain, condensation and open sides can still introduce moisture.

2. Where Cerberus Plus Can Be Used

The modular design makes Cerberus Plus suitable for a broad range of outdoor living and commercial applications.

- Residential decks and patios
- Courtyards and townhouse outdoor areas
- Poolside entertaining spaces
- Outdoor kitchens and BBQ areas
- Cafes, restaurants and hospitality seating
- Clubs and community facilities
- Existing timber or steel pergola frames, subject to structural suitability

Projects can also combine different roof treatments. For example, adjustable louvres may be used over an entertaining zone, with fixed daylight panels near house windows or an open frame extension over a garden edge.

3. Manual or Motorised?

Both systems provide adjustable louvres. The right choice generally depends on the pergola size, how often the roof will be operated, electrical access and the level of convenience required.

Feature	Manual	Motorised
Louvre adjustment	Manual mechanism	Electric motor
Power for roof operation	Not required	Required
Remote control	No	Yes
App compatibility	No	Tuya-compatible
Rain sensor	No	Included
Surround LED lighting	Included	Included
Best fit	Smaller or occasionally adjusted areas	Frequently used or larger areas

Manual operation may suit you when:

- The area is relatively compact
- The roof will only be adjusted occasionally
- Electrical access is difficult
- You prefer a simpler mechanical system
- Keeping the initial purchase cost lower is important

Motorised operation may suit you when:

- The pergola will be used frequently
- The roof area is larger
- Convenient remote or app operation is important
- You want automatic rain-sensor operation
- The space includes outdoor dining, cooking or hospitality use

4. Included Features

Integrated surround LED lighting

Surround LED lighting is included with both manual and motorised configurations. It provides practical evening lighting around the roof frame and helps the pergola function as an entertaining area after dark. Electrical connection must be completed correctly and safely.

Rain sensor on motorised systems

Motorised systems include a rain sensor that can signal the louvres to close when rainfall is detected. It is a convenience feature rather than a substitute for normal outdoor care. Furniture, appliances and electronics should still be suitable for outdoor conditions.

Integrated water management

The roof frame incorporates gutters and internal drainage pathways. The final outlet location and connection should be planned before assembly so water is discharged to an appropriate location without creating ponding or erosion.

Drainage planning tip

Confirm where each post or outlet will discharge before ordering. Consider deck edges, stormwater connections, paving falls, garden beds and doors below the pergola.

5. Standard and Made-to-Measure Sizing

Common standard configurations generally range from compact 2 x 2 m systems through to larger 6 x 4 m layouts. Made-to-measure options may be available for projects that need different dimensions, subject to structural and manufacturing limits.

Measurements to confirm before quoting

- Overall outside width
- Overall projection from the wall or front beam
- Required finished height
- Deck, slab or footing dimensions
- House gutter, soffit and fascia height
- Door and window opening clearances
- Planned drainage outlet locations
- Installation and lifting access
- Underground or concealed services
- Site wind exposure and coastal conditions

Measure in several places rather than assuming walls, decks or existing frames are perfectly square. For roof-only installations, record the clear internal opening as well as the outside dimensions of the supporting frame.

6. Freestanding, Wall-Mounted or Roof-Only

Freestanding system

A freestanding pergola uses its own supporting posts and can be positioned away from a building. It can work well for garden entertaining areas, poolside spaces, outdoor kitchens and commercial seating zones.

Wall-mounted system

A wall-mounted configuration connects one side of the pergola to a suitable building structure. The wall, cladding, framing, waterproofing, gutter position and fixing method must be assessed before installation.

Roof-only retrofit

A roof-only louvre system may be integrated into an existing timber, aluminium or steel frame. The supporting structure must be strong, square, level and able to carry the roof weight and wind loads. Existing frames should be assessed before the louvre roof is manufactured.

Do not rely on appearance alone

An existing pergola may look substantial but still lack adequate footings, bracing or fixing capacity. Roof-only projects need structural checks and very accurate measurements.

7. Structural Specifications

Component	Specification
Standard height	Approximately 2.5 m
Main beam	120 x 45 x 2.0 mm
Standard column	100 x 100 x 2.0 mm
Louvre blade	150 x 30 x 1.5 mm
Aluminium grade	6063-T5
Standard fixings	304 stainless steel
Optional fixing upgrade	316 stainless steel
Listed wind resistance	Up to 150 km/h, subject to configuration and site requirements
Listed snow load	Up to 120 kg/m ² , subject to configuration and site requirements

Larger post options may be available for selected layouts, including approximately 110 x 110 mm, 120 x 120 mm and 130 x 130 mm. Availability depends on the overall dimensions, structural requirements and selected accessories.

8. Colours and Enclosure Options

Typical frame colours

- Anthracite Grey - RAL 7016 Matt
- Aluminium Grey - RAL 9006 Matt
- White - RAL 9016 Gloss
- Black - RAL 9005 Matt
- Selected custom colours such as Flaxpod, Grey Friars or Ironsand, subject to availability and surcharge

Colour samples should be checked before ordering, particularly when matching joinery, roofing, cladding or nearby powder-coated products. Screen colours and photographs are not exact colour references.

Optional side enclosures

Track blinds: Help reduce wind, glare, low-angle sunlight and light rain while retaining flexibility.

Sliding glass panels: Create a more enclosed outdoor room while maintaining views and natural light.

Vertical louvre walls: Provide privacy, screening and airflow.

Solid aluminium panels: Provide increased privacy and weather screening.

Future enclosures are best considered during the original design because additional weight and wind loads can affect post sizes, footings and fixing requirements.

9. Daylight Panels, Outdoor Kitchens and Flues

Fixed daylight sections

Fixed polycarbonate or laminated-glass sections may be combined with the louvre roof in selected configurations. This can maintain daylight near house windows or doors while retaining adjustable louvres over the main entertaining area.

- Polycarbonate panels may be available in approximately 4-10 mm thicknesses
- Laminated glass may be available at approximately 10.76 mm
- Panel dimensions and structural support depend on the final layout

BBQs, pizza ovens and fireplace flues

Any heat-producing appliance requires careful planning. Suitable roof penetrations or cut-outs may be possible, but clearances, ventilation, waterproofing and fire safety must follow the appliance manufacturer's instructions and applicable regulations.

Plan heat sources early

Do not position a BBQ, fireplace or pizza oven first and attempt to adapt the pergola later. Provide appliance and flue details before the roof layout is finalised.

10. Foundations and Installation

The pergola must be fixed to suitable foundations or an appropriately engineered supporting structure. Pavers, tiles, thin concrete or ordinary deck boards should not automatically be treated as structural foundations.

Possible supporting surfaces

- Reinforced concrete slabs of suitable thickness
- Engineered concrete footings
- Timber decks with verified framing and additional support
- Existing structural frames assessed for the required loads

Before installation, confirm:

1. The base or supporting structure is level and capable of taking the loads.
2. Post and anchor locations are clear of underground services.
3. The pergola can be securely anchored for local wind conditions.
4. Water has an appropriate discharge route.
5. Electrical supply is available for lights and motorised systems.
6. The finished roof height clears doors, windows, gutters and soffits.
7. Installation access and safe lifting arrangements are available.
8. Any engineering, landlord, body-corporate or council requirements have been checked.

Is it a DIY kitset?

Cerberus Plus is supplied as a kitset, but larger projects require accurate assembly, safe lifting and correct anchoring. Installation may involve multiple people, access equipment, power tools, weatherproofing and professional electrical work. Many owners choose experienced assembly contractors.

11. Maintenance

Aluminium louvre systems are relatively low maintenance, but regular care helps protect the finish and keeps the roof operating correctly.

- Remove leaves and debris from roof gutters
- Keep drainage outlets clear
- Wash salt, dirt and airborne contamination from the frame
- Clean more frequently in coastal or industrial environments
- Inspect visible fixings and seals
- Keep blind or glass tracks clear
- Test the remote, motor and rain sensor
- Check that louvres open, close and align evenly

Coastal care

Salt deposits should be washed off regularly. A 316 stainless-steel fixing upgrade may be appropriate for demanding coastal locations, but it does not remove the need for cleaning and maintenance.

12. Is Cerberus Plus Right for Your Project?

Cerberus Plus may be a good fit when you want a practical aluminium louvre system with a choice of manual or motorised operation and the flexibility to add lighting, privacy or weather-control options.

- You want adjustable sunlight, shade and airflow
- You prefer an aluminium structure with integrated drainage
- You need standard or made-to-measure dimensions
- You want remote and app operation on a motorised model
- You may add blinds, glass or wall panels
- You are considering a roof-only retrofit
- You want a residential or selected commercial outdoor solution

13. Pre-Order Checklist

- ☐ Overall width, projection and height confirmed
- ☐ Freestanding, wall-mounted or roof-only layout chosen
- ☐ Manual or motorised operation selected
- ☐ Electrical supply and electrician requirements checked
- ☐ Drainage route and outlet positions planned
- ☐ Foundation or deck structure assessed
- ☐ Wind exposure and coastal conditions identified
- ☐ Frame colour confirmed from an actual sample where possible
- ☐ Blinds, glass, walls and future accessories considered
- ☐ BBQ, fireplace, pizza oven or flue requirements provided
- ☐ Site access and lifting method considered
- ☐ Council, engineering or property approvals investigated

14. Frequently Asked Questions

Does the closed roof make the area completely waterproof?

No outdoor louvre structure should be described as a sealed room. Closed blades and internal drainage provide overhead rain protection, but wind-driven rain can enter through open sides and around surrounding structures.

Can side enclosures be added later?

Potentially. Track blinds, sliding glass, louvre walls and solid panels may be available, subject to compatibility. Planning them early is recommended because they affect structural loads and fixing requirements.

Can it attach to an existing house?

A wall-mounted layout may be possible, but the wall framing, cladding, waterproofing, soffits, gutter and fixing points must be assessed.

Can it be installed on an existing deck?

Possibly. The deck framing and foundations must support the pergola and resist wind uplift. Additional posts, beams, blocking or footings may be required.

Can the system be customised?

Made-to-measure sizing, larger posts, roof-only layouts, fixed daylight inserts and side-enclosure options may be available.

Is it suitable for coastal areas?

Powder-coated aluminium is commonly used in coastal environments, but regular washing is essential. Fixing upgrades and project-specific advice may be appropriate.

Final Thoughts

The Cerberus Plus Louvre Kitset System offers a flexible way to create a more useful outdoor space. Its adjustable roof, integrated drainage, surround lighting and manual or motorised options allow the system to be configured for a compact deck, outdoor kitchen, pool area or larger hospitality setting.

The best results come from careful planning. Accurate measurements, suitable foundations, drainage, electrical access, wind exposure and future enclosure options should all be addressed before the system is ordered.

Next step

Prepare a simple site sketch showing the house wall, overall dimensions, finished height, doors, windows, gutters, post locations and drainage direction. Include photographs from each side of the proposed area.

Product Information

Cerberus Plus Louvre Kitset System - manual and motorised options [View the product page on Apollo NZ](#)

Disclaimer: This guide is general product and planning information. Final specifications, availability, pricing, warranties and engineering requirements should be confirmed in writing for the individual project. Installation and electrical work must comply with applicable requirements.