

Zipscreen Measuring Guide

Cassette or Bracket Mounted

Please Note: These instructions should be read thoroughly before installing.

About This Guide

This measuring guide provides step-by-step instructions for measuring Zipscreens, including both **Cassette** or **Bracket Mounted** models. It has been designed for **qualified installers** and **competent DIY users** who are familiar with basic building practices and safe tool operation. Information is current at the time of printing and may change without notice.

Important Notice:

Betta Blinds and Awnings accepts no responsibility for damage or injury caused by improper installation. Ensure the installation surface is structurally sound and suitable for fixing. Always adhere to local building and safety codes.

General Safety

- Measuring must be carried out by a competent person.
- Always use personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Keep the work area clear and stable.
- Use ladders and tools safely

Tools Checklist

- Metal tape measure (best)
- Pen + paper (or phone notes)
- Laser Level – If Revel Fit
- Spirit level
- Step ladder (if needed)
- A helper for wide openings (recommended)

General Measuring Tips

- **When fixing to brickwork, never place screws into mortar joints.** If your fixing point lands on a mortar line, move to the next brick up or across.
- Use a **good quality metal tape** and measure to the **nearest millimetre (mm)**.
- **Measure every opening**—even if they look the same. Posts and walls are often out of square.
- Always check for **obstructions** that could affect operation or installation, e.g. downpipes, gutters, air-conditioners, outward-opening windows, door handles, beams, etc.
- Always write sizes as **WIDTH x DROP** (e.g. **3080mm x 2470mm**).
- Take your time: **measure, double-check, then measure again.**
- For large sizes, refer to the **Betta Blinds pricing guide** to confirm the awning can be manufactured and remains within warranty guidelines.

Awnings manufactured outside Betta recommendations are not covered under warranty.

Fit Options

Zipscreens can be fitted in different ways depending on the surface and situation:

- 1) **Face Fit (Outside Fit)** – Face fit is a common installation method for Zipscreens. The awning is mounted on the face of the wall, above and wider than the opening
- 2) **Reveal Fit (Inside Fit)** – Used when fitting between posts, brick pillars, or within an opening. **Reveal fit is suitable for this product**, provided there is enough reveal depth for the cassette/brackets and clearances.

Face Fit (Outside Fit) – Measuring Steps

Step 1: Measure the Width (most critical)

- Measure across the **top of the window/opening**, where the awning will be installed
- Allow for the Zipscreen side channels, noting the channel width can vary by **±10mm** depending on the mounting/fitting method. As a guide, allow **55mm (±10mm) each side** of the opening, if space permits
- This helps improve fabric coverage.
- Take **three (3) width measurements: top, middle, bottom**

Note: As a rule of thumb, allow at least **55mm (±10mm) past each side of the opening** to accommodate the width of the Zipscreen **extrusions**.

You can extend further if there are no obstacles, but keep in mind that extending too far may cause the fabric to rub on the structure.



$2900 + 55 (\pm 10\text{mm}) + 55 (\pm 10\text{mm}) = 3010\text{mm} (\pm 20\text{mm})$

Face Fit Example Width (Window)

Opening width (inside opening): **2900mm**

Face fit width = $2900 + 55 (\pm 10\text{mm}) + 55 (\pm 10\text{mm}) = 3010\text{mm} (\pm 20\text{mm})$

Key Reminder

We require **width measured from outside-to-outside of the cassette or bracket**. Please provide all measurements to the **nearest millimetre** to ensure the best fit.

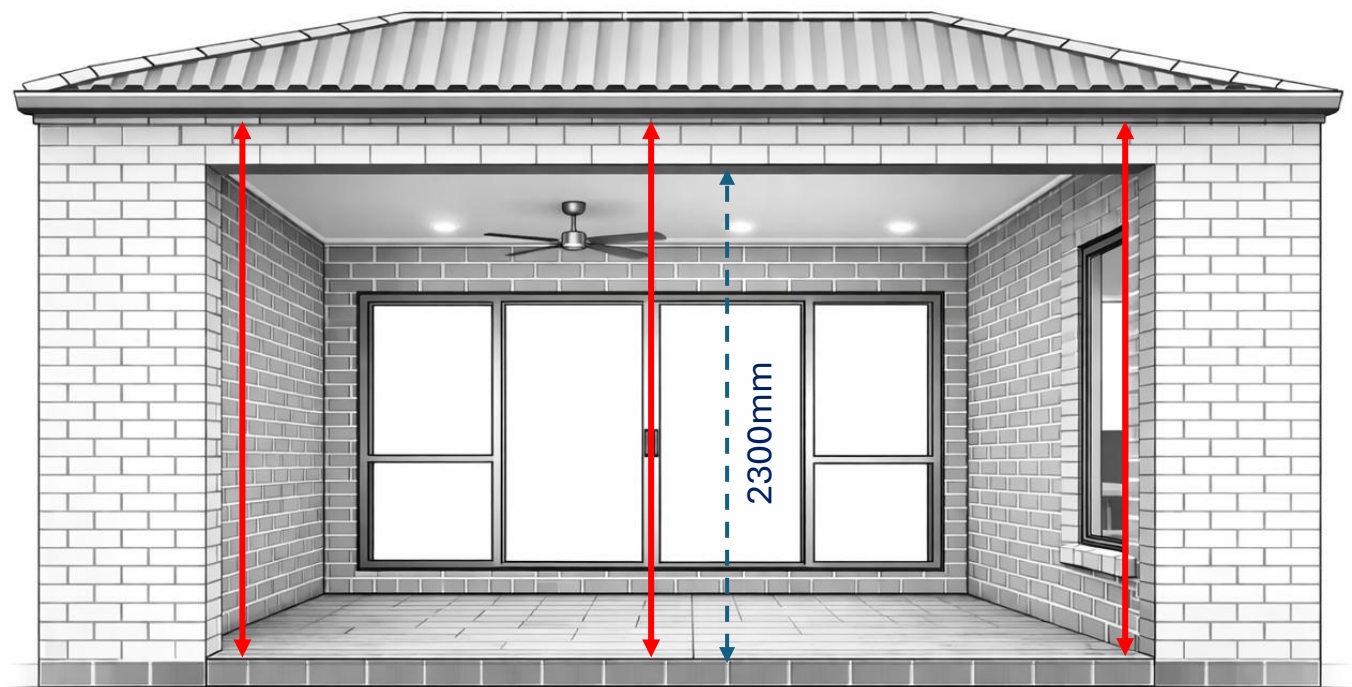
Step 2: Measure the Drop

- Measure from the **top fixing position** down to where you want the awning to finish.
- Recommended allowance above the window. Install/measure the awning **at least 170mm above the window opening** (minimum), if height is available down to the sill or where you want the awning to finish.
- Take **three (3) drop measurements: left, centre, right**

Brick wall guide:

- A common guide is to measure from about **170mm (around 2 brick courses) above the window** down to the **brick sill or bottom fixing point**. (This helps reduce visibility of the retracted awning from inside the house)

Note: This is a guide only — you may measure higher or lower if needed to suit the site



Face Fit Example Drop (Window)

Opening drop (2 brick courses above to the sill): **2300mm**

Face fit drop = **2300 + 170 = 2470mm**

Order size: **3080mm x 2470mm**

Step 3: Confirm if Pull Stick is Required

Betta has one Pull Stick available: [Black Adjustable 1-1.9m + Wall Clip](#)

Reveal Fit (Inside Fit) – Measuring Steps (Level & Square)

See the next pages for measuring when the top fixing point is out of level or the ground is uneven

Step 1: Measure the Width

Measure **inside-to-inside** of the posts/pillars/opening.

- Take **three (3) width measurements: top, middle, bottom**
- The top measurement is most important (brackets/cassette position)
- Use the most suitable measurement (often the **smallest** if out of square)

Step 2: Measure the Drop

Measure from the **inside top fixing position** down to the desired finish point.

- Take **three (3) drop measurements: left, centre, right**
- Use the most suitable measurement (often the **smallest** if out of square)

Step 3: Check for Obstructions

If there are downpipes/gutters/roof lines, it may be **impossible** to reveal fit on one side. If so, switch to face fit or adjust the installation position.

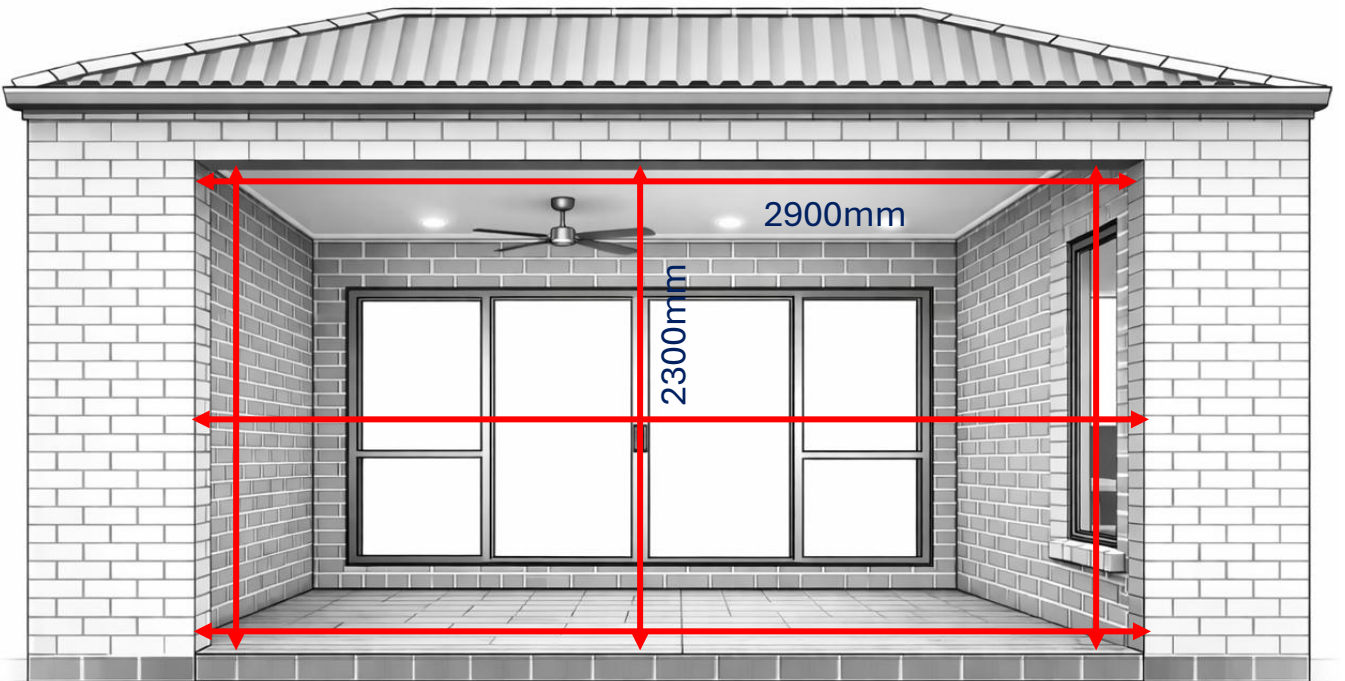
Step 3: Confirm if Pull Stick is Required

Betta has one Pull Stick available: Black Adjustable 1-1.9m + Wall Clip

Reveal Fit Example

- Opening width: **2900mm** (inside-to-inside)
- Opening drop: **2300mm** (underside of beam to deck floor)

Order size: 2900mm x 2300mm



Reveal Fit (Inside Fit) – Drop Measuring Steps

IMPORTANT – Out-of-level top fixing point (Reveal Fit)

Because Zipscreens uses **side channels**, the system must be installed **true and square**. If the top fixing point is not level, **do not measure from the beam/reveal as-is**.

How to mark a level fixing line using a laser level

Step 1: Set up the laser level

- Place the laser on a stable surface or tripod where it can project a straight line across **all fixing surfaces** (posts/wall).
- Turn it on and let it self-level.
- Make sure the laser line is visible on every post/wall you'll be fixing to.

Step 2: Mark the laser reference on each fixing surface

- On each post/wall, put a small pencil mark right on the **laser line** (Blue Line, this is your consistent reference point).

Step 3: Choose your fixing height (where the cassette/brackets will sit)

- Pick the exact height you want the cassette/brackets to be fitted, most likely the low point.

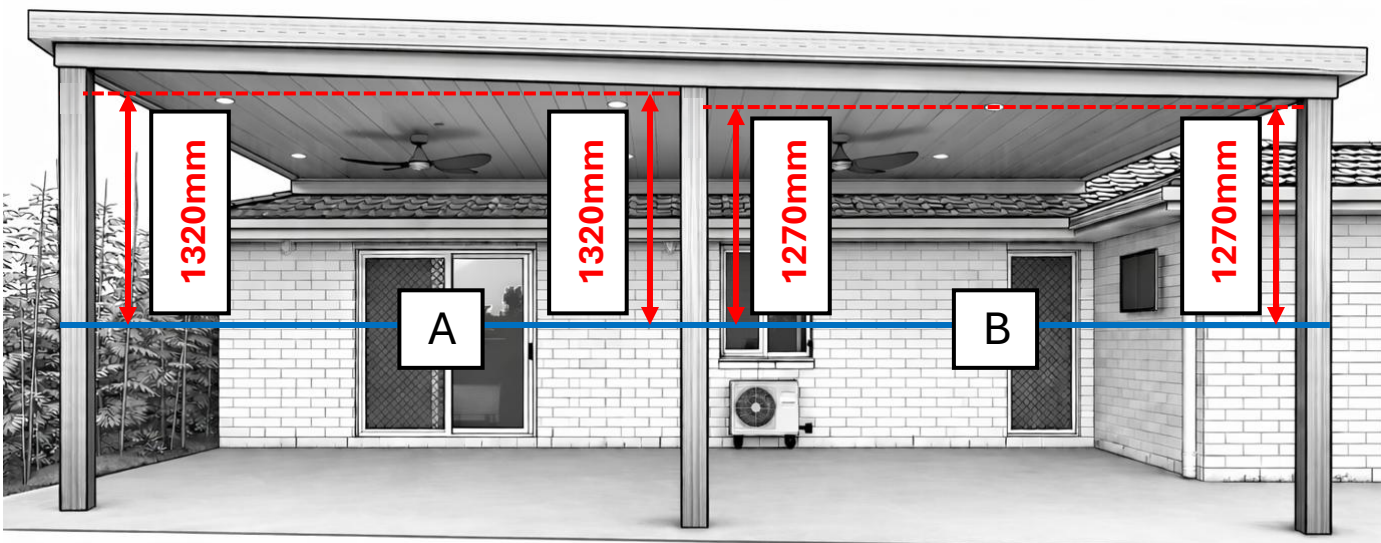
Step 4: Measure the “step-up” distance (red arrow)

- Measure vertically from the **laser line** up to your **desired fixing height mark**, most likely the low point
- Record these measurements (e.g. **Bay A = 1320mm & Bay B = 1270mm**) .
- The “A & B” measurements are what keeps the fixing line level across all posts.

Step 5: Transfer the measurements to every fixing point

- At each post/wall:
 - Place your tape at the **laser line mark**.
 - Measure **up the same distance for bay A & B**
 - Make a clear pencil mark.
 - Repeat across the full span (left, middle posts, right).

Key Tip: The laser line can be at *any height* (halfway up the post is fine) — it's just a reference. What matters is measuring the **same vertical distance (A & B)** up from that laser line at every fixing point.



Reveal Fit (Inside Fit) – Drop Measuring Steps

IMPORTANT – Out-of-level top fixing point (Reveal Fit)

Because Zipscreen awnings run inside **side channels**, the system must be kept **square and true**. On an uneven slab or ground, the channels can be made longer to suit the fall — however the **overall awning drop must always be based on the shortest drop** (highest ground point) to prevent the bottom rail fouling.

Step-by-step: How to measure the overall drop

Step 1: Set the top fixing line level first

- If not already done so mark your **level fixing line** where the cassette/brackets will be fitted (this is your starting point for all drop measurements).
- All drop measurements must be taken **from this level line**, not from an unlevel beam or ceiling.

Sep 2: Measure the 4 drops to the finished slab or ground

From the **level top fixing line**, measure straight down to the finished ground at:

- Measurement – 1 = **2690mm**
- Measurement – 2 = **2720mm**
- Measurement – 3 = **2730mm**
- Measurement – 4 = **2750mm**

Record all three measurements in **mm**.

Step 3: Choose the overall awning drop (always the shortest)

- Identify the **shortest measurement** (this is the **highest ground point**).
- This **shortest drop is the OVERALL DROP** for the awning.

- Shortest Drop Bay A = **2690mm**
- Shortest Drop Bay B = **2730mm**

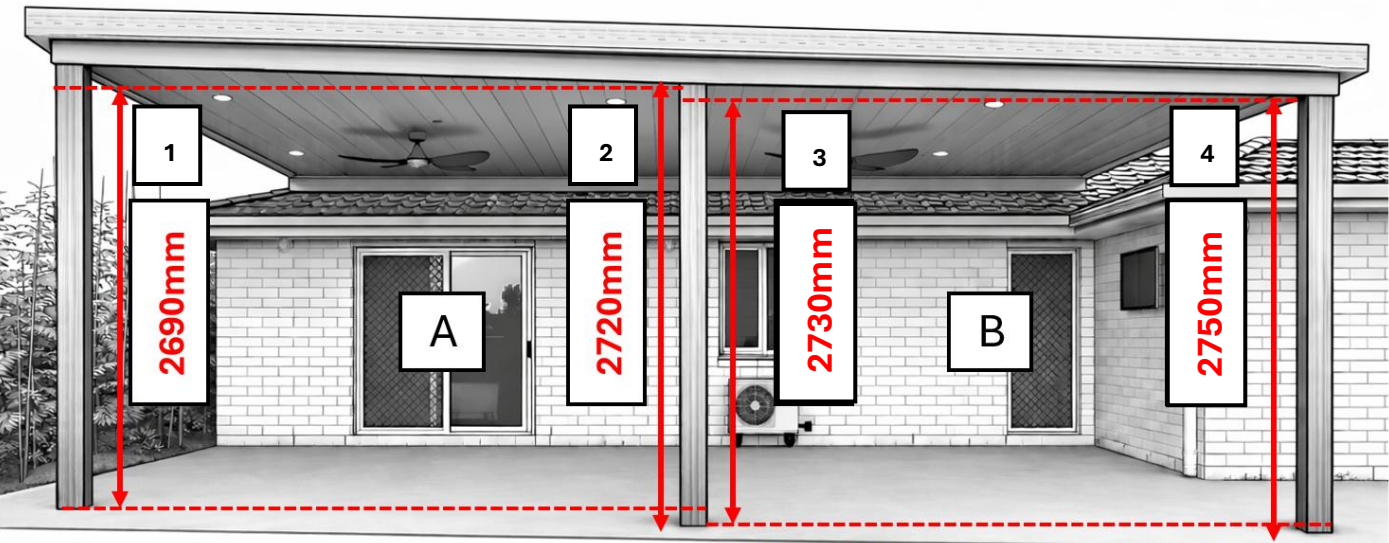
Key Tip: Overall Drop = Shortest Drop

This ensures the bottom rail will clear the ground at the highest point and won't jam or hit when operating

Looking at the cassette/bracket (facing out), record the drops as follows

- Bay A: Overall Drop 2690mm**
Left Channel 2690mm
Right Channel 2720mm

- Bay B: Overall Drop 2730mm**
Left Channel 2730mm
Right Channel 2750mm



Measuring Instructions – Reveal Fit One Side + Face Fit Other Side

This method is used when one side of the opening has a return/wall for a **reveal fix**, but the other side requires a **face fix** (no return, not enough depth, obstruction, etc.).

Before you measure

- Confirm which side will be **Reveal Fit** and which side will be **Face Fit** (as viewed from the front once installed and looking at the cassette or brackets)

Step 1: Confirm the fixing “line” (top)

- Decide where the cassette or brackets will be fixed.
- If the fixing surface is not level, **set a level reference line first** and measure from that line (not from an out-of-level beam). See Above for measuring when the top beam is not level.

Step 2: Measure the Width

You are measuring **from the reveal fixing side to the outside face fixing side**.

A) Reveal side (one side)

- Measure to the **inside face** of the reveal/return where the channel will sit.
- This is your **starting point**.

B) Face side (other side)

- Add allowance to cover the channel on the face-fit side:
 - Allow **one channel width past the opening** on the face-fit side.
 - As a guide: **55mm (±10mm)**, noting channel size can vary depending on the fitting method.

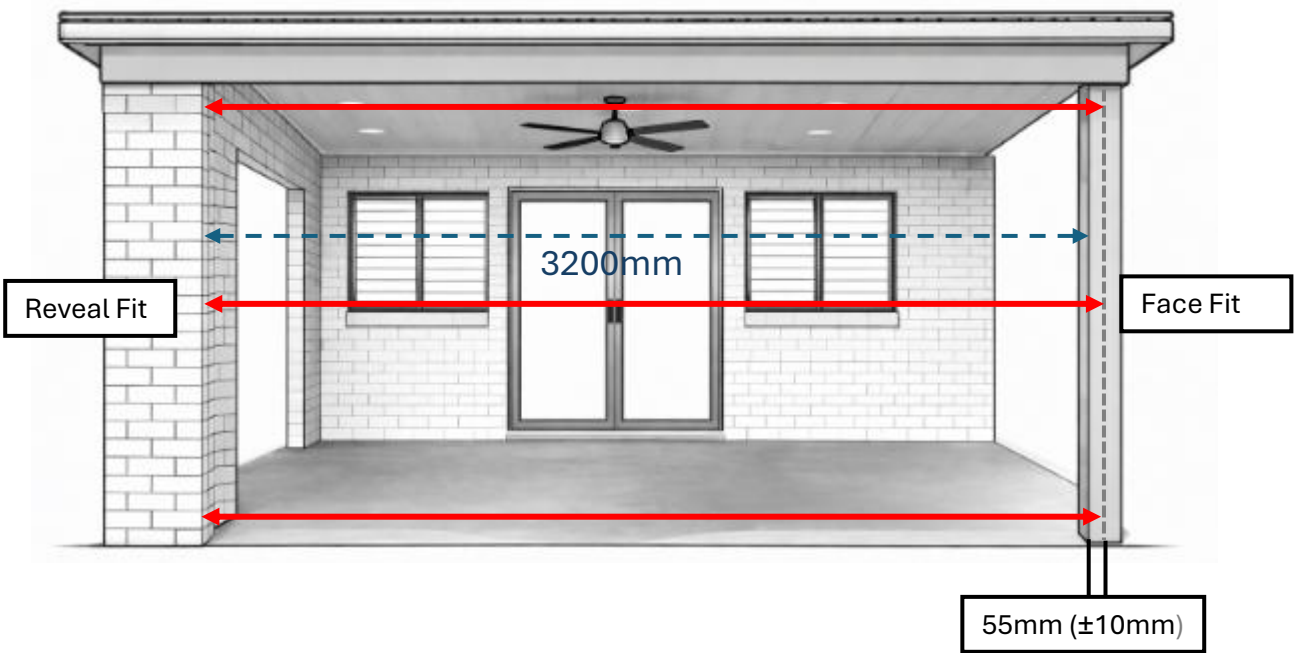
Overall Width = Inside of reveal return → Outside face-fit position (opening + channel allowance)

Tip: If possible, mark the face-fit side channel position on the wall/post first, then measure directly to that mark for accuracy.

Reveal & Face Fit Example

- Opening width: (inside-to-inside) **3200mm + 55mm (±10mm) = 3255mm (±10mm)**

Note: We don’t add anything to your measurements — we manufacture to the size you order.



Face Fit Example

Zipcreens – Measuring Between Posts

Stop 1: Mark your measuring points

- Left post:** measure from the **outside edge** (furthest left point).
- Middle posts:** measure to the **centre line** of each middle post.
- Right post:** measure to the **outside edge** (furthest right point).

Step 2: Take the 3 bay measurements (A, B, C)

Measure **horizontally**:

- A:** Outside of **left post** → **centre of middle post #1**
- B:** **Centre of middle post #1** → **centre of middle post #2**
- C:** **Centre of middle post #2** → Outside of **right post**

Write them down in **mm**:

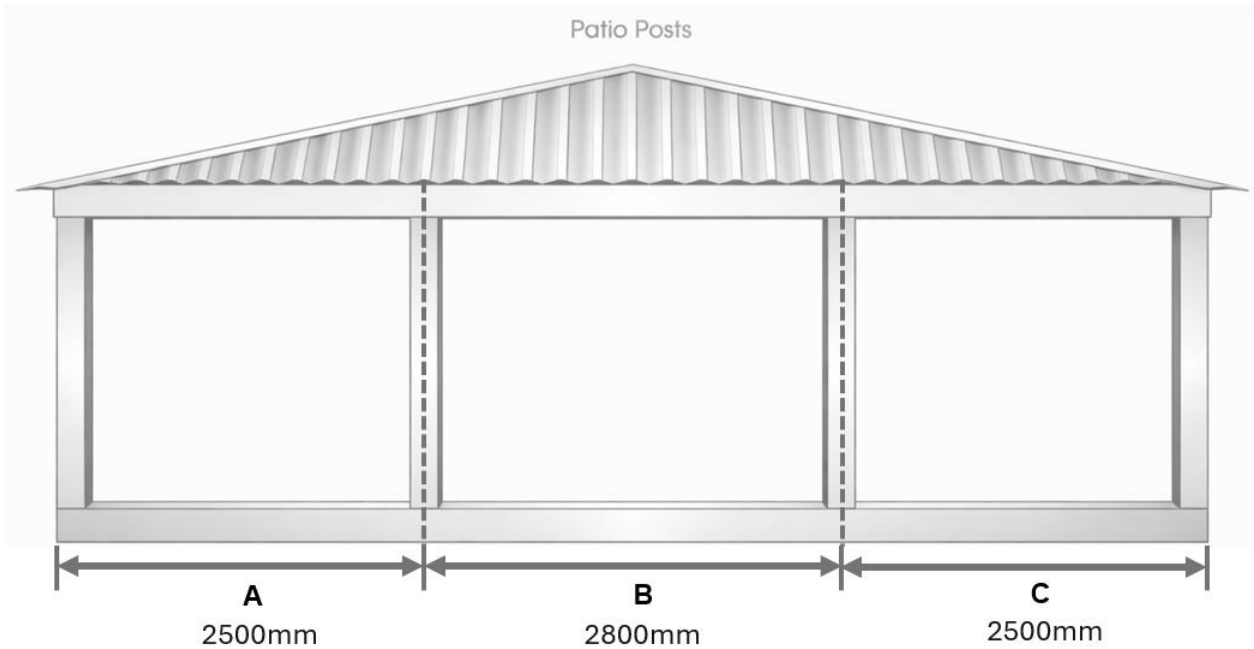
- A = 2500 mm**
- B = 2800 mm**
- C = 2500mm**
- The overall width should equal **A + B + C** which is **7800mm**

Ordering tip

Zipcreens use **55mm (±10mm) side channels**. If you **butt two awnings together**, the channels may **overhang the post** depending on the post depth. **This is normal and acceptable** — just ensure there’s still enough fixing surface for the brackets/screws and the channels aren’t twisted.

Measure each bay at **top, middle & bottom** (posts can be out).

Use the **smaller measurement** as your base.



Key Reminder

We require **width measured from outside-to-outside of the cassette or bracket**. Please provide all measurements to the **nearest millimetre** to ensure the best fit.

If you don't have a Laser Level

Option 1: Straight edge + spirit level (quickest if the gap isn't huge)

Best for: posts close together (or when you can bridge the gap)

1. Get a **long straight edge**: straight timber, aluminium straightedge, long level, or even a **tight, straight piece of box section**.
1. Hold it across the two posts where you want the level line.
2. Put a **spirit level on top** of the straight edge and pack/shim one side until the bubble is centred.
3. Mark both posts at the same reference point.

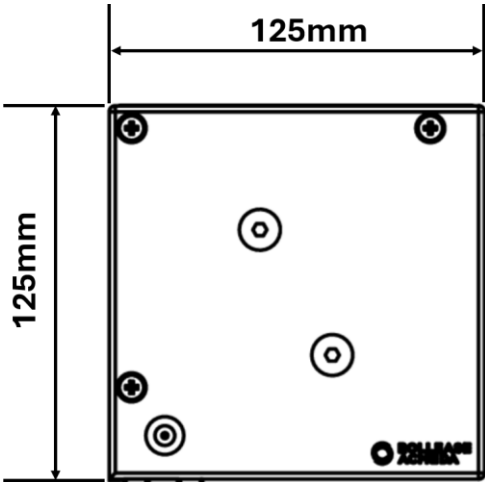
Tip: If the straight edge isn't long enough, you can do it in **two steps** using a middle reference mark (but be careful—errors can add up).

Option 2: Stringline + line level (cheap and surprisingly accurate)

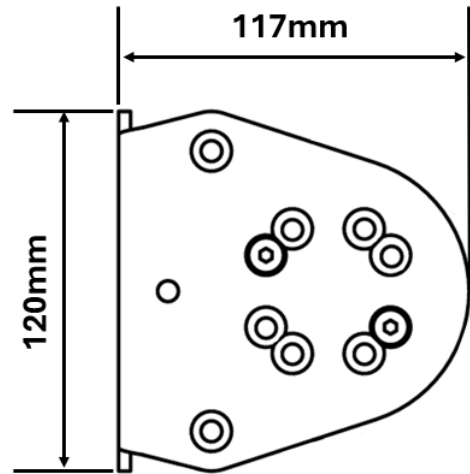
Best for: longer spans

1. Put a small nail/screw in each post roughly where you want the line.
2. Tie a **stringline tight** between posts.
3. Clip a **line level** onto the string (little level that hangs on the line).
4. Adjust one end until the bubble is centred.
5. Mark each post at the height of the string.

Key: The string must be **tight**. Sag = wrong line. For longer spans, support the line or use a thicker line



Semi Cassette Dimensions



Open Brackets Dimensions

Note: Allow extra clearance — the fabric roll will generally sit larger than the bracket size in spots.

Caution: Accurate measuring is critical. Always measure twice, and if anything is out of square, use the *smallest* measurement to avoid tight fits, rubbing, or installation issues.

Your awning measurement is the foundation of a smooth install — ensuring the blind sits straight, runs freely, and looks neat between or on the posts. Zipscreens are designed for reliable everyday performance, but like any outdoor system, it relies on correct measurements to allow proper clearance and trouble-free operation.

For more measuring examples, ordering tips, or if you'd like us to confirm your measurements before ordering, refer to our website or contact our team for support.

Thank you for choosing **Betta Blinds and Awnings**

