



## Balustrade Q&A

### **What is a balustrade?**

A balustrade is a railing supported by balusters (balusters are the uprights in a balustrade) or fixings such as double disks. The spaces between the balusters are typically filled to provide safety and, where required, privacy. The infill between balusters can consist of rails or louvers, perforated or solid aluminium sheets, or safety glass.

### **Where do I start when it comes to choosing a balustrade?**

You need to consider the style of house/building or swimming pool that your balustrade is intended for. Maximo offers a wide range of balustrade styles, so you can choose the one that best suits the application. Privacy is another factor to consider, do you want glass for uninterrupted views or perhaps louvers to protect your privacy? Price will also be a consideration; we have a range of options to meet most budgets.

In this website we've indicated the features of each of our balustrade designs and the applications they are suitable for. This is a good place to start, but we are also more than happy to share our knowledge of designing and installing thousands of balustrades in all sorts of projects, from traditional homes to modern masterpieces. You can contact our customer service desk <[here](#)>

### **Can I get a colour that matches my home's colour scheme?**

The top rails, balusters (uprights) and fixtures can all be finished in custom powder-coated colours or an anodised finish for the perfect customised result and a superb, durable finish. Two options are available: Dulux Duralloy with a 10-year guarantee and Duretec with a 20-year warranty

### **How much balustrade will I need?**

Maximo designs and specifies the balustrades, based on years of industry and installation experience. Often all we need are the dimensions of your deck, the length of a retaining wall or the perimeter of your pool area to provide an accurate indication of balustrade length. If you have any gradients, steps or gates that you want including tell us about them too.

### **Can I use a balustrade as a pool fence?**

Yes, you can. Pool fences have specific regulations they have to meet and Maximo specifies which of our balustrades meet that requirement in the product descriptions. Because the balustrade is intended for around a pool, you will also be pleased to know that the materials we use are high quality with excellent resistance to the corrosive effects of chlorinated or salt pool water.

### **Will a balustrade keep my family safe?**

You can have absolute confidence that all Maximo balustrades comply with New Zealand's stringent building and safety standards. We also have a range of trusted glass infills available from safety glass through to top-of-the-range *SentryGlas*.

### **Should I choose an aluminium or glass balustrade?**

This is a matter of personal preference, as the flexibility, durability and standard of materials is high right across our extensive range. Probably the two things to consider are which style will best suit your home and whether views or privacy are important to you. There are aluminium balustrades that provide reasonable views through the slats or louvers and significant privacy, although not the uninterrupted views that you will enjoy with a glass balustrade.

### **How hard is it to keep the glass clean on a balustrade?**

A little attention reasonably often is the best advice, especially with pool fencing – and keep it simple. Don't use commercial bleach-based cleaners, all that's required is warm soapy water and a microfibre cloth. For stubborn stains you can use a mix of white vinegar and water. And always remember to hose off the glass after cleaning.

### **Do I need a top rail on a glass balustrade?**

A top rail is not required if you specify *SentryGlas*, although you should check the design to make sure that its options do include a version with no top rail.

### **My balustrade will need to be a unique shape or size, is that ok?**

After thousands of installations we've probably come across every conceivable way of using our balustrades, and because we custom design, manufacture and install our balustrades we're very experienced at overcoming unique challenges. Just give a call and talk through your project, together we will come up with a solution that meets your requirements and looks beautiful too.