ThreeSixty
CEILING FANS

CEILING FAN
BUYER'S GUIDE

2021/22

Buyer's Guide

60 INCH SPITFIRE IN WHITE/NATURAL

Choosing the right ceiling fan for your space and personal preferences can be confusing. We want to help make your shopping experience easier and more inspiring, so you stay comfortable in style.

Although to most people, a ceiling fan is a ceiling fan, when it comes time for you to make your choice the type and purpose of your ceiling fan can be worlds apart. A ceiling fan is not a one size fits all solution, certain ceiling fans can be a good or bad choice depending on their application.

Some fans are designed to move huge amounts of air at a high RPM whereas others are designed to be quiet in operation to provide a breeze but not heard.

Today, energy efficiency is a huge consideration to most household appliances, ceiling fans included.

In recent years, the humble ceiling fan has grown in its sophistication to become an integral part of the styling and comfort in our homes. Within each home comes different requirements for your ceiling fan – DC motor or AC motor? Diameter of the ceiling fan for the space?

SCAN QR CODE

Read our full Ceiling Fan Buyer's Guide online for additional advice on buying your new ceiling fan.

Match your fan to *your space*

When choosing the right finish and style for your ceiling fan, decide if you want a **subtle** addition or a **statement** piece.

The collections outlined in our Lookbook are a guideline to matching our ceiling fans to trending styles, and provide a starting point for choosing the right ceiling fan for your space. Keep in mind that the colour and finish of a ceiling fan can dramatically change how it integrates with a space.

Once you've chosen a style, the next step is to match the ceiling fan to your colour palette – and this depends on whether you are looking for a subtle addition to your space that blends in, or a statement piece that will stand out.

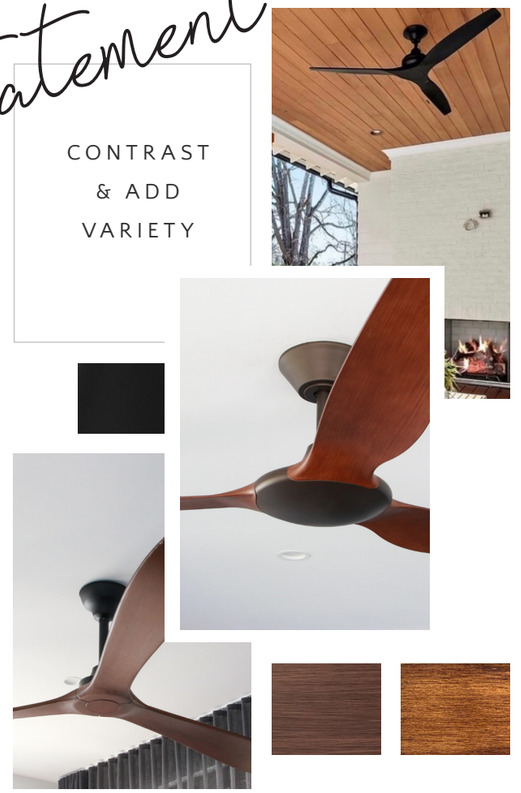
Statement

CONTRAST & ADD VARIETY

Make a statement in your space by adding a bold contrast to your interior colour scheme.

Since most interiors are typically painted with neutral colours such as whites and creams, darker finished ceiling fans such as black and bronze provide a stark and bold contrast that will draw the eye.

By matching the finish of the motor to permanent fixtures in the space (e.g. taps, hardware, door knobs, large furniture), black and bronze motor finishes lend themselves well to timber grain finishes on the ceiling fan blades to match timber aesthetics found in today's interior styling trends.



Subtle

BLEND IN WITH YOUR SPACE

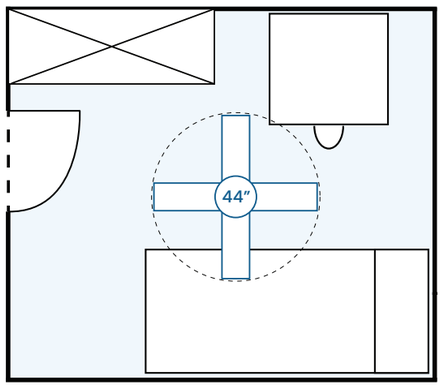
Choose a ceiling fan that blends in to your space by matching the colours in your room.

White and silver ceiling fans are often a safe choice for anyone wanting their ceiling fan to disappear into the space, as they better blend with white and cream interior colour schemes. Choosing an all-white ceiling fan that matches your style will provide the benefits of functional cooling without distracting from your room's aesthetics.

An emerging trend is to introduce subtle textures by matching a white motor ceiling fan with timber finish blades. For decors that include timber aesthetics (either furnishing or timber beams) this can be a discreet way to further integrate a ceiling fan into your space.

Choosing the right *fan size*

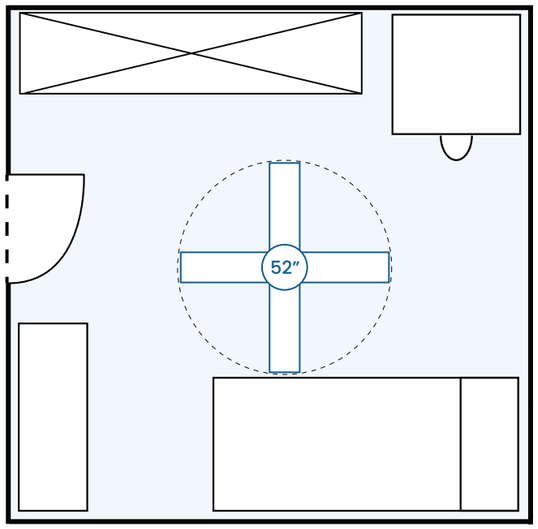
There's no exact science to selecting the right size ceiling fan for a space (as every room layout is different), but the following sections will help guide you in the right direction. Always ensure **at least 50cm of space from the tip of any blade to any wall**. Pay attention to high furniture or floor-to-ceiling wardrobes to make sure they won't reduce your fan's performance.



SMALL SPACES

For small spaces (small bedrooms, home offices, media rooms, etc.) that are less than **3m x 3m,** we would recommend 48″ or smaller ceiling fans. A small Australian bedroom is around 2.8m x 2.5m, in which space we would recommend a 44″ ceiling fan, although depending on the room layout a 48″ would still suit.

For small spaces, consider your lighting requirements – you will most likely require a light kit on your ceiling fan. Having a 48″ ceiling fan in a small space may dominate the décor in the room – so consider the style of the ceiling fan to be installed.



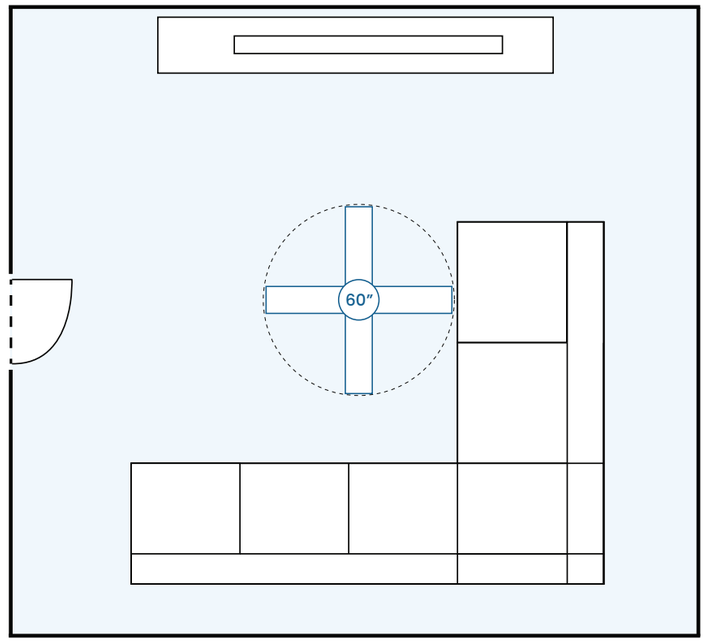
MEDIUM SPACES

For medium spaces (standard bedrooms, living areas, dining areas, etc.) that are between **3m x 3m** and **4m x 4m**, consider ceiling fans between 48″ and 56″ in size, depending on the exact size of your room. The average bedroom size in an Australian home is around 3.2m by 3.0m, in which space we would recommend a 52″ ceiling fan.

For larger than average bedrooms, up to 56″ model sizes may be suitable. A 56″ model in the standard bedroom would fit (depending on layout), however may dominate the space and provide too much airflow volume.

The average **Master Bedroom** in an Australian home is 4m x 3.8m and blurs the line between medium and large spaces. This would allow for ceiling fans up to 60″ in diameter, although a 52″ ceiling fan positioned directly over the bed would still provide the necessary cooling while you sleep. A small Master Bedroom that is 3.5m x 3.5m would suit either a 52″ or 56″ ceiling fan.

The average **Living Room** in an Australian home is 4.2m x 3.4m and suits models between 52″ and 56″ in diameter. Try to position your ceiling fan over key gathering points – e.g. the couch in a living room – to provide the most cooling.



LARGE SPACES

For large spaces (large master bedrooms, large living areas, etc.) that are over **4.0m x 4.0m**, consider ceiling fans that are over 56″ in size. An average master bedroom in Australia is 4.2m x 3.9m, which would suit a 56″ blade span ceiling fan. For very large spaces, it is often more effective to install multiple smaller ceiling fans located over specific gathering points (couch, dining table, etc.) as opposed to one large ceiling fan.

A very large **master bedroom** (e.g. 5m x 4.2m) may suit a ceiling fan up to 70″ in diameter for people that enjoy a gentle, quiet ceiling fan while they sleep.

A large **Living Room** that is **5.5m x 5m** would suit models 56″ and larger in size, although a 56″ model would need to be well-positioned and would only provide localised cooling (e.g. over a couch).

Depending on the type of cooling you are looking for, a larger ceiling fan may suit the space better but factor in the type of airflow and cooling you would prefer.

OUTDOOR SPACES

Outdoor spaces are a little different to indoor areas since they typically lack four walls to help feed airflow back to the fan and improve air circulation. Therefore, it is often beneficial to use a smaller, higher-velocity ceiling fan positioned directly over key gathering points (e.g. seating areas) or cooking areas.

So for outdoor applications of ceiling fans, the velocity and the CM/H of the fan is very important as the air provided will be forced down and simply be lost in the outdoor environment.

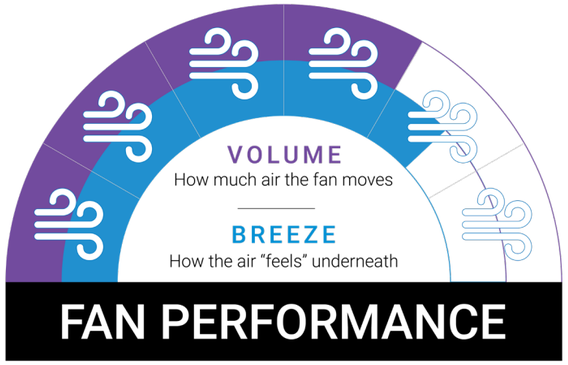
Fortunately, when fans are used outdoors it is generally not in a sound-sensitive environment so a high velocity, high RPM fan will provide adequate cooling and breeze in these situations.

Ceiling Fan *Performance*

Our Fan Performance Indicator (FPI) is designed to help you understand the type of breeze you can expect under the fan, along with the total airflow volume.

The best way to know what type of airflow a ceiling fan will provide is to stand under it, of course. However, this is not always possible so we have created our Fan Performance Indicator (FPI) rating system to help understand the type of Breeze you can expect under the fan, along with the total volume of air the fan will move at high speed.

The Fan Performance Indicator (FPI) is split into two bars – the blue bar indicates the ceiling fan's airflow breeze (wind chill) performance on high speed, while the purple bar indicates the ceiling fan's airflow volume (CM/H) on high speed.



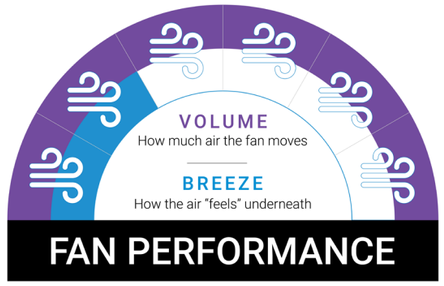
AIRFLOW – VOLUME

The Airflow Volume rating takes the ceiling fan's Cubic Metre per Hour (CM/H) measurement and normalises the results across our entire range of ceiling fans and based on our industry experience on how much air ceiling fans typically move. A ceiling fan towards the Low end will move less air overall, and would therefore not be recommended for larger spaces but may be perfectly suitable for smaller areas. Conversely, a ceiling fan towards the High end moves a lot of air and will disperse the air over a larger area.

AIRFLOW – BREEZE

The Airflow Breeze rating goes from Gentle to Fast. A ceiling fan that is more towards the Gentle end will provide gentle, relaxing, and extremely quiet airflow directly below the fan. Conversely, a ceiling fan that is towards the Fast end will provide high velocity airflow directly below the fan, ideal for very hot and humid climates or if you prefer strong airflow.

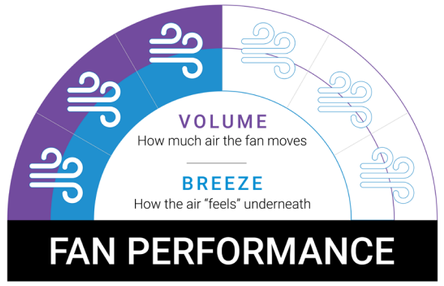
Using the Volume and Breeze ratings together helps paint a clearer picture of the overall performance provided by the ceilng fan.



FPI: 100 INCH KIRRA DC CEILING FAN

The FPI results from our massive 100″ Kirra ceiling fan show a more gentle airflow breeze solution with very high airflow volume. This particular model falls into the High Volume Low Speed (HVLS) genre of ceiling fans.

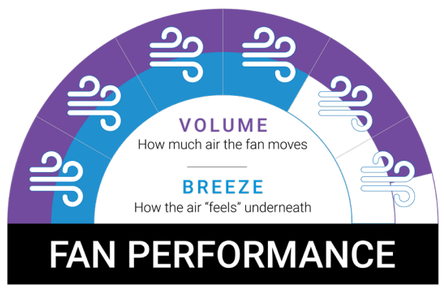
It is designed to move huge volumes of air but at a low velocity. The breeze you would experience directly under the fan would be gentle, however, due to the size of the fan (100 inches), you would enjoy a breeze in a much larger area.



FPI: 52 INCH MODN-3 AC CEILING FAN

The above FPI results from our 52″ Modn-3 ceiling fan show a midrange model in terms of breeze and airflow volume. This type of model would suit smaller enclosed spaces (e.g. bedrooms) if you like a gentle breeze while you sleep, or any space where you want a breeze but don't enjoy extremely strong airflow.

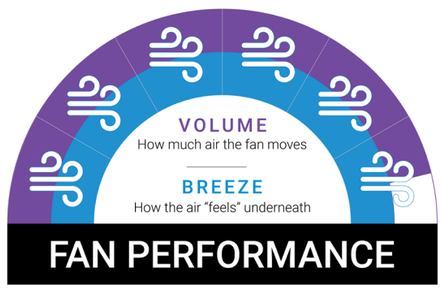
It may suit dining areas and lounge areas where a gentle breeze is desired, without disturbing the conversation or table settings.



FPI: 60 INCH SPITFIRE AC CEILING FAN

The above FPI results from our 60″ Spitfire ceiling fan show a ceiling fan that will provide moderate airflow directly below and spreading out from the fan. This is because at 60 inches it is an above-average size ceiling fan that will therefore disperse air over a larger area.

Great for master bedrooms, larger living and dining areas where solid airflow is desired while being whisper-quiet.



FPI: 56 INCH DELTA DC CEILING FAN

The 56″ Delta DC ceiling fan show a high-performance solution that will provide a strong breeze directly below the fan while also providing good overall airflow volume for your space.

A great all-round choice that will provide a great balance of airflow cooling directly below the fan while also ensuring strong airflow circulation in a space.

How high to hang *your fan*

It is important to hang your ceiling fan at an optimal height to provide sufficient airflow and cooling.

One often overlooked variable in the performance of a ceiling fan is its distance both from where the air needs to be delivered but also the distance of the fan from the ceiling. While it makes sense that you want the breeze velocity from the fan close to where it is needed to create optimal wind chill and breeze, this air needs to come from somewhere.

Ceiling fans draw in air from above and force it down to create the breeze we feel. If there is a restriction of the available air above the blades for the fan to draw upon, this can create a vacuum effect and begin to draw the same air that is being displaced down, back up to the top of the fan. This results in a "cavitation" effect and impedes the performance of the fan. In most cases the ceiling fan provided to you in a box is not set to its optimum drop away from the ceiling, it is generally provided to you to be 30cm from the ceiling as this is the minimum height requirement on a standard 2.4m ceiling in Australia.

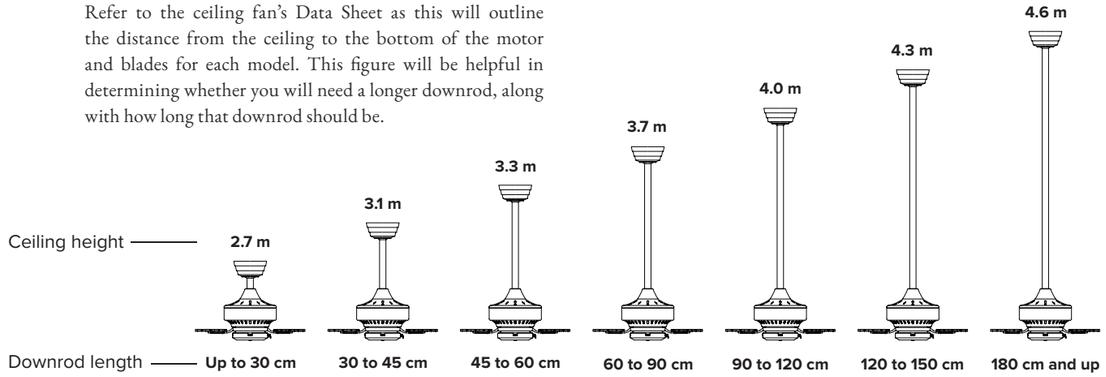
If you have the luxury in your space to be able to drop the fan down from the ceiling via a downrod it is advisable to do so to get the most out of your fan's performance. For starters this gets the maximum velocity of the air forced closer to where it is needed, however, it is equally important for the fan to have as much unobstructed access to air from above to force it down efficiently.

Your ceiling fan's blades must always be at least 2.1m from the floor to meet safety regulations.

In terms of buying a downrod accessory for your ceiling fan, all our downrods are available in either 90cm or 180cm lengths and these can be cut to custom lengths by your installing electrician. The exact recommended downrod length for each ceiling height will vary slightly between models, as it depends on how deep the fan itself is.

Refer to the ceiling fan's Data Sheet as this will outline the distance from the ceiling to the bottom of the motor and blades for each model. This figure will be helpful in determining whether you will need a longer downrod, along with how long that downrod should be.

"For high ceilings, we recommend trying to position your ceiling fan between 2.4m and 2.7m from the floor."



Consider your ceiling slope or angle as this will affect which models will suit.

Most of our ceiling fan's support sloped or raked ceilings up to a certain angle – the exact angle varies between models and is largely influenced by the presence (or lack thereof) of a remote control receiver unit. Ceiling fans that require remote control receivers will support much lower ceiling angles due to the position of the receiver in the ceiling canopy.

Our Sloped Ceiling Kit is available for customers wanting to install their ceiling fan's on sloped ceilings and often provides significant improvements. This accessory can be used on ceiling fans with 26mm downrods and supports angles up to 40° depending on the model and whether a remote receiver unit is installed.

SCAN QR CODE

For more information on our Sloped Ceiling Kit and for the latest sloped ceiling angles supported, refer to our sloped ceiling kit guide.

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Ceiling fans designed for Australians, by Australians.

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