



**LA CASA DEI LIMONI**

CONSERVATORIES COLLECTION

# **DESIGNING A CONSERVATORY**

*The ultimate guide*

**DFN**

THE OUTDOOR COMPANY

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# INTRODUCTION

**This guide will help you to choose and style your conservatory**, i.e. a space where plants are historically protected during the winter months in regions where the climate is inhospitable.

**Over time, the greenhouse**, with its large windows, **has become a monumental structure**, constituting a decorative and functional element in itself.

**These days, the conservatory has become a sort of outdoor room**, an expansion of the home, an environment cared for in every detail. **A structure that summarises the nature and design of living in the summer and winter months.**

**A conservatory is probably one of the most effective ways to extend a property's space:** whether it's expanding the kitchen or creating a dining room, office space or fitness area.

Your customer may be interested in a modern or a more traditional construction, may want to enjoy the light or want more privacy: in any case, **there are countless ways to create a personalised conservatory**, and DFN can offer valid and professional help with regard to inspiration and design.



# WHY INSTALL A CONSERVATORY?

- **To add space to the home**

A conservatory creates more space in the home and can be used as desired or needed. It lends itself to everything from the most common environments such as the dining room or kitchen, to more particular and interesting settings, such as gyms or indoor swimming pools.

- **To add architectural style to your home**

A conservatory adds beauty to its surrounding environment and is endowed with a special charm capable of enhancing the rest of the property. For lovers of luxury, it acts as an appendage to the house, a luxury element to show off and to enjoy.

- **To enjoy warm summer days and more**

A conservatory allows you to relax in a cool environment when it's hot outside, enjoying the light created by the sun's rays. But not only that: it can also be exploited during the winter months, too. With the right heating measures and materials, you will be able to enjoy this extra room all year round.





# HOW TO KEEP A CONSERVATORY COOL IN THE SUMMER AND WARM IN THE WINTER

**Some factors must be taken into account in order to maintain the ideal temperature for relaxing throughout the year,** which largely depends on the construction method and materials used, as well as on the way they affect the structure's thermal efficiency.

**Here are some of the materials that play an essential role in controlling a conservatory's heating and thermal insulation options:**

- **Type of glass**

First of all, it's worth pointing out that not all glass is created in the same way. Some types of glass, such as the glass DFN uses, are designed to improve living comfort. Depending on where the structure is installed and its purpose in the home, DFN assesses the project by inserting insulating, low emissivity, solar control or selective glass panels. Glass panels make use of the best technology because they retain heat in winter and reflect heat coming from external solar radiation in summer.

- **Type of frame**

DFN's structures use iron thermal break windows. With the iron thermal break window system, we make the most of the legacy of tradition in its most authentic form, creating the same shapes, proportions and overlapping effects used in traditional 19th century hot-rolled steel profiles, while using advanced modern technology. Innovative high-density polyurethane makes it possible to fully comply with current building energy containment legislation and contemporary living needs, even when a higher level of insulation is required compared to classic iron windows. DFN offers a wide range of accessories and finishes for every type of window.



- **Type of roof**

The roof also affects the architecture's ability to retain heat. There may be different roof designs, but DFN recommends using glass as, with the aforementioned precautions, it guarantees thermal insulation accompanied by excellent natural sunlight, creating a light and airy space.

- **Type of edge beam**

Sufficient insulation is also provided by the conservatory's edge beams. DFN can study and create edge beams that will insulate the structure from the ground up.

- **Heating and air conditioning systems**

Either in view or hidden, air conditioning and heating systems help to keep the temperature inside the room constant, in addition to the insulating materials listed above.





# HOW TO USE A CONSERVATORY?

As already stated above, conservatories are extraordinary additions that can be used for a wide variety of reasons. **Here are some ideas:**

- **A relax room**

As a family, with friends or for guests, a lounge in the conservatory is **the perfect way to make the environment a welcoming and relaxing space. To enjoy a sophisticated and classy environment, DFN suggests synthetic rattan furniture, which doesn't require excessive maintenance but still complements** the world of conservatories. Modular sofas combined with rugs and decorative lights create a relaxing space that will inspire the senses.

- **Dining room**

To create an elegant dining room, we advise adding a few chic accessories.

**A blend of precious fabric tapestries, porcelain and glass for table decoration, combined with a collection of elegant and wear-resistant furniture such as pieces made from synthetic rattan,** will help transform your conservatory into a royal dining room.

- **Fitness area**

By using a conservatory as fitness area, you can play sports in a comfortable and protected environment while feeling as if you're outdoors and in visual contact with the surrounding nature.

These are just some of the uses a conservatory can have.

A conservatory is an excellent way to bring natural colours into a covered structure. In fact, due to large glass areas, there is a continuous connection with the outside, while the sun can offer different atmospheres and unique sensations depending on the time of day.

Here are 7 tips to help you improve the space:

### 1. Create a cosy room

A conservatory is a luxury, elegant, very bright and functional structure. **Carefully choose high comfort and quality furniture** with the same attention to detail you employ when choosing furniture for the rest of your home. The environment will be flooded with light during the day and will allow you to see the starry sky at night.

### 2. Colour your furniture

You can opt for **neutral colours like white and beige for a softer and more luxurious atmosphere**. But **brighter colours will also allow you to experience a dynamic and equally elegant environment**. Don't be afraid to give the room energy and positivity with a little colour.

### 3. Use a lot of glass

**A glass structure creates a room full of light**, while bi-folding doors will open the interior space up to the outside.

### 4. Add a few plants

**Plants in a conservatory are a must**. They help create a feeling of living in the open air and make conservatories feel welcoming, inviting, fresh and lived in.

**Adding a bit of greenery will give that final touch to your conservatory, bringing it to life and visually connecting it to its external environment.**

### 5. Choose the same style as the rest of your home's interior

**In order for the extension to better interact with your home, be sure to use the same style for the entire construction**: DFN's furniture and accessories allow you to create an elegant and glamorous style.



## 6. Concentrate on the flooring

The floor is very important for the conservatory's personality. Wood, marble or marble and glass mosaic are all possible solutions. DFN recommends choosing a style that is consistent with the rest of the home. For example, in a grand house, a marble mosaic with an artistic design might be the best solution.

## 7. Be daring

Conservatories are usually used as an extension of a kitchen/dining room or living room. **But turning it into a bright office or bedroom might be a novel idea for your customer, who will be enthusiastic and may want to try something new.**





# WHAT ARE THE MAIN STYLES OF CONSERVATORY?

This section will help you to understand various different conservatory projects in order to find the architectural style that best suits your customer's needs.

Let's see what types of furniture are offered in various shapes and sizes by DFN's La Casa dei Limoni range.

- **Modern conservatories**
- **Classical conservatories**
- **Glamorous conservatories**

Each conservatory is made using a system of **fine insulating iron thermal break profiles with a reduced thickness that allows for greater freedom when designing facades.**

**There are various different variations when it comes to primary aesthetic elements: pillars, insulating glass and cornices.** The choice of these elements and the choice of colours and decor will play an essential role in defining the desired style.

Furthermore, all conservatories will be **enhanced by accessories that are completely integrated into the structure, such as sun protection, air conditioning, heating, lighting and ambient music systems.**

Along with opportunities to choose between flat, pavilion or dome roofs, conservatory structures are modular, with unlimited configurability possibilities.

## **Modern conservatories**

The best contemporary structures are those that connect easily with other rooms in your home. **This type of conservatory seeks to combine aesthetics and transparency in line with modern architectural trends.**

Equipped with large windows for more natural lighting and with elegant, subtle and minimal profiles for various decorative elements such as pillars and cornices.

Characterised by exclusive materials and a continuity between the indoors and outdoors: the structure will allow you to stay protected from the elements while maintaining maximum external visibility.

This style's keywords are **DESIGN** and **LIGHTNESS**.

### **Classical conservatories**

In this type of structure there is a clear classical inspiration expressed in decorative elements such as the cornices and round pillars with capitals

The windows are large but not completely free due to the presence of light edging that creates repeated geometric shapes. A previous overall image or a **harmonious geometric structure**.

A style that can be identified with two terms: **TRADITION** and **ELEGANCE**.

### **Glamorous conservatories**

This type of structure is known for its English-style windows, a **tribute to the classic English and Victorian styles of the past**.

Cornices and pillars originate in tradition but are overhauled in a glamorous way without being too over the top. Everything is designed with a sophisticated and timeless image in mind.

**LUXURY** and **UNIQUE** are this style's key words.

Whatever the chosen style, DFN is able to guide you when it comes to projects, from design to installation, and can assist you when choosing all elements that contribute to a finished environment: from furniture to accessories, lighting and objects.

## Personalised conservatories

Since a conservatory is an extension of the property, a new outdoor room that creates a dialogue with the surrounding environment, **customers may wish to use it as a party space, a fitness area or a swimming pool**, or a combination of both.

There are no limits to the potential uses or features that customers might ask for. DFN therefore offers a personalisation service for conservatories, allowing customers to **create a space that offers the size, style and function needed to meet their personal needs**.

**Fully tailored layouts, styles and accessories**, with the aim of providing an exclusive solution that combines style and functionality.

DFN helps you to design and build your own conservatory structure, providing the professionalism and support needed to complete work on floors, services, lighting and furniture, creating a summer or winter space that offers a perfect combination of style, technology and originality.





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