



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 more than happy to share our knowledge of designing and installing thousands of balustrades for a wide range of projects, from traditional homes to modern masterpieces.

Can I choose 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 do I know how much balustrading I will need?

Maximo designs and specifies 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, let us know the details

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. As the balustrade is intended to go around a pool, it's good 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 whether they are aluminium or glass, comply with New Zealand's stringent building and safety standards. We 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 across our extensive range. The two most important factors to consider are which style will best suit your home and whether views or privacy are important to you. Aluminium balustrades provide reasonable views through the slats and louvers provide significant privacy, while glass gives uninterrupted views.

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 on some of our balustrade systems with the use of SentryGlas and Pool fencing doesn't require a top rail.

Please contact our team to find out which systems can incorporate Sentry Glas.

Do you do Custom designs?

Yes, we custom design, manufacture and install our balustrades. After thousands of installations, we've probably come across every conceivable way of using our balustrades and overcoming unique challenges.

Call us, and talk through your project, together we will come up with a solution that meets your requirements and looks beautiful too.