



aussie
clotheslines
& letterboxes

Clothesline Selection Guide

Call us
1300 138 610

Email us
enquiries@aussieclotheslines.com.au

aussieclotheslines.com.au



WELCOME TO AUSSIE CLOTHESLINES

Aussie Clotheslines & Letterboxes are a local family business that has been supplying and installing Clotheslines throughout the Perth metropolitan area since 1994, operating from Two Rocks to Mandurah and the Perth Hills.

Over the years we have expanded our product range to include Commercial Multibanks and Domestic Letterboxes, as well as Customised Letterbox Faceplates

With our friendly and knowledgeable staff, Aussie Clotheslines & Letterboxes aims to make your decision an easy one when it comes to selecting the right Clothesline or Letterbox to suit your needs, with personalised customer service to determine the right product for every budget and situation.

We can advise you of the best location to ensure optimum use of your garden space, as well as providing installation, repairs, delivery, relocation, removal,

rewiring and servicing for all brands and models of Clothesline and Letterboxes. Delivery is typically within 7 days of the order (customised products will take a little longer).

At Aussie Clotheslines & Letterboxes we offer competitive rates and efficient service, and our workmanship is guaranteed. We take pride in doing the job right the first time, being on time, completing the job at the agreed price and leaving the site clean and tidy.

Contact us to find out more about our products and services or **our showroom** in Joondalup.

Call us

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Visit us

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THE TOP 7 THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN BUYING A CLOTHESLINE

Clotheslines now come in a huge variety of sizes, styles and colours. With so many to choose from it can be difficult to know if you have made the right decision, especially as you will be using it on a daily basis for years to come, so will want to be confident in your choice.

Whether you have a tricky spot, large family, limited space, or are unsure if your surface is suitable, we can guide you to the best product to fit your space and meet your individual requirements.

This guide has been designed to assist you in the selection of the best clothesline to suit your needs, your space and your budget. It contains all the information about the factors you will need to consider when buying a new clothesline.

1. [Budget](#)
2. [Hanging Space](#)
3. [Clothesline Style](#)
4. [Colour](#)
5. [Location](#)
6. [Mounting Method](#)
7. [Professional Installation or DIY](#)

1. Budget

There is a clothesline to fit every situation and suit every budget.

Most clotheslines have a 10 year manufacturer's warranty but will last 15 years or more. The higher the quality, the longer it will last. Buying the best quality you can afford with ample line space to suit your individual situation, will save you money in the long term, and cause fewer headaches along the way.

2. Hanging Space

How many people are in your household? Does your laundry get washed frequently, or once a week?

The answers to these questions will indicate the size of clothesline required.

Whatever the size of your family or the frequency you wash, having ample hanging space is a must.

As a general rule of thumb, a small family of 2 or 3 could probably manage with up to 20m of line space, while a medium size family of 4 would need between 20 and 36m of line space. A larger household would most likely require 36m or more of line space.

- **Rotary Clotheslines** have lots of line space, with between 32 to 56 m, but will take up more space in your yard.
- **Retracting Clotheslines** provide between 26 and 50 m of line space (depending on the distance they pull out to) but this may mean you will see your washing on the line from several rooms of the house – not the best of views!
- **Folding Frame Clotheslines** come in a wide range of sizes and dimensions, providing from 7 to 48m of line space, or can be tailored to fit unusual spaces, so this may be the solution for you.

If a full-size line is not possible, another option is to have the main clothesline in one area, and an ancillary unit either in the garage or under the eaves for that extra hanging space when there is an overflow of wet washing or the weather is not conducive to drying.

It is generally best to go bigger if possible – better not to use all the lines sometimes, rather than wishing you had more lines most of the time. A word of caution though; while we recommend fitting the clothesline with the most line space that can comfortably fit into the space, be aware that some units may have the line space you need, but the lines are spaced closer together. This may allow you to fit the clothesline in a small drying area but compromise the drying time by restricting airflow between the clothes.

If you are not sure on the correct size clothesline for your area, it may be worthwhile speaking with a clothesline expert on [1300 138 610](tel:1300138610) to discuss your available space and what size unit would work best for you.

3. Clothesline Style

There are five different types of clothesline available. Select from the list below for an overview of each to help you make the right choice:

- [Traditional Rotary Clothes Hoists](#)
- [Folding Rotary Clothes Hoist](#)
- [Folding Frames](#)
- [Retractable Clotheslines](#)
- [Portable Clotheslines](#)

[Click here](#) to see our Clothesline Comparison Charts.

4. Colour

To help you choose from the range of colours available for clotheslines in your preferred style, select from the list below to see the colour options for each brand:

- [City Living Colour Chart](#)
- [Austral Colour Chart](#)
- [Hills Colour Chart](#)

If you are still unsure, we recommend matching the background colour if possible, rather than matching to the colour of the downpipes, roof or gutters. This would help the clothesline blend in to its environment and avoid making a feature of it.

5. Location

There may be several spots you could choose from to have your new clothesline installed, but the optimum position depends on your family's lifestyle habits and how you use your outdoor space.

Would a clothesline in the middle of the backyard affect the amount of play area for the kids if they need space for a party, or a game of cricket or footy? Will the position of the clothesline impact on the view from the indoor or outdoor entertainment areas?

Proximity to laundry

Ideally, the clothesline should be situated close to the laundry area for easy access, and to avoid trekking through or around the whole house lugging heavy baskets of wet washing to get to and from the drying area. This may not seem possible on the face of it, but over the years we have had experience with just about every possible scenario you can think of, and there is always a solution.

Weather

To save on expensive electricity and be kind to our environment, your dryer should only be used for emergencies.

This means though, that consideration needs to be given to an undercover drying area for use in wet weather, as well as protecting the washing from harsh sunshine and bird droppings.

Most wet weather in Perth comes from the south-west, so a clothesline will be more protected on the east side of the house.

Full sun can be quite harsh here and is not necessary for drying clothes. Airflow is actually the vital ingredient, and with our breezes and temperatures in the West, we have the best drying weather in Australia! So, when assessing the potential position of your clothesline, air circulation is essential.

To prevent the fading of clothes from too much exposure to the sun, place your clothesline in a breezy shaded area. If the line is in full sun, protect coloured clothing by pegging on the line inside-out.

Vegetation

Another factor to consider is over-hanging trees. Great for shade but inevitably also means bird-droppings are more likely. Make sure there is sufficient clearance around the clothesline so that it can operate properly and the washing does not get snagged or caught on nearby branches or bushes.

Boundary walls

It may be possible to install your clothesline onto a single brick parapet or adjoining boundary wall, but it is advisable to get your neighbour's written permission beforehand.

Levels

If possible, the clothesline should be installed on an area of level ground so that reaching up to the clothesline can be achieved easily from any position. Ground-mounted folding frames will need both posts concreted into the ground to a specified depth, so going deeper at one end will mean a very low clothesline at the other.

The clothesline should always be set level, which may mean that there is a discrepancy between the level and height of the clothesline, and the level and height of the fence behind.

Heights

Rotary Hoists can be wound up and down with a handle to adjust the height to suit each user.

For other models that can't be adjusted up and down, the optimum clothesline height is 1.8 metres up from the top of the pavers beneath. While a clothesline should be installed at a height that is comfortable to reach, there are often several people of different heights living on the property, that will need to be able to use the line or pass through the area. If the height is set for the person most often using the line, ensure others will not be walking into it if they venture out to the drying area.

A clothesline may occasionally be set a brick course lower at 1.7m for the height-challenged; however, this could create a collision hazard for other laundry helpers. Alternatively, it could be set one brick course above at 1.9m for taller customers. Any higher could disadvantage others and make raising and lowering the line impossible by hitting the eaves. Ground-mounted clotheslines can't go any higher, as a sufficient portion of the posts must be concreted below the surface to support the weight of the clothesline, along with several loads of wet washing.

Height can be an issue when installing onto a boundary fence, as there must be at least two brick courses above the height of the fixings to ensure adequate support for the tensile load of the clothesline and washing.

Rotary Clothes Hoists are designed for outdoor use, but a clothesline cover will protect the inner lines from most weather.

Retracting Clotheslines can be installed either outdoors or under the pergola or veranda. The cabinet is inconspicuous once the clothes are put away and lines retracted.

Folding Frame Clotheslines can be installed either outside the house, undercover, or inside. Note that extra care is required to avoid water pipes and electrical wiring when installing on single brick internal walls, particularly in wet areas such as the laundry.

Long, thin folding frames are useful down the narrow 'dead' side of the house, or inside the garage or carport where cars need to share the space comfortably. All folding frame styles fold down flat when not in use to maximise the area. It might be worth considering the possibility of two clotheslines – one outside for fine weather and an ancillary line undercover for rainy days. If the clothesline must be outdoors, a cover can be fitted to the frame for shelter, protection, or shade.

Portable Clotheslines are ideal for use indoors or under the eaves for those wet winter days and can easily be moved into the sunshine for faster drying.

If you are not sure on where best to locate your clothesline, speak with a clothesline expert on [1300 138 610](tel:1300138610) to discuss your available space and what size clothesline would work best for you.

6. Mounting Method

A suitable ground surface and correct installation technique is essential for stable and secure mounting. When planning to purchase a new clothesline, think about which method will be best for you.

Traditional Rotary Clothes Hoists are mounted into soil or grass and concreted into place.

Folding Rotary Hoists are installed into a ground socket, which is concreted into the ground.

Note: If a Rotary Hoist is to be installed in the same position as the previous clothesline, we do not usually remove any concrete from the ground, but instead cut the old clothesline off, below ground level and make it safe. This prevents future sinking of ground level at the site over time, and helps maintain the integrity of the ground surface. The fresh cement at the base of the new clothesline adheres to the old cement, providing a secure footing for the new clothesline.

Folding Frame Clotheslines can either be installed directly onto a brick wall or on to a pair of posts which are concreted into the soil or grass.

- **Wall-mounted Folding Frame Clotheslines** can be positioned across standard downpipes or water pipes running down the wall.
- **Ground-mounted Folding Frame Clotheslines** need space around the posts for concrete footings.

The posts are an optional extra which are engineered for this purpose and powder-coated to match the clothesline. Pavers may need to be lifted to be able to insert the posts into the soil. Care is required so as not to disturb reticulation and other service pipes below the ground.

If there is no soil, grass or pavers for ground-mounting in the chosen area, the posts may be attached to a poured concrete surface with either the addition of a pair of plated steel feet bolted to the ground or core drilling into the concrete. Extra costs would apply to either of these options.

Retracting Clotheslines cabinets can either be installed onto a brick wall or onto a mount bar that is attached to a powder coated steel post which is concreted into the ground.

The polycord lines can then be pulled out to a receiving bracket on either another wall or post. The lines should pull straight out from the cabinet and not on an angle. Occasionally a sturdy patio post may be utilised.

Mounting method options for Retracting Clotheslines, are:



Wall to Wall
Cabinet only



Wall to Post
Cabinet
Post x 1



Post to Wall
Cabinet
Post x 1
Mounting Bar x 1



Post to Post
Cabinet
Post x 2
Mounting Bar x 1

Optional ground sockets can be installed in scenario 2 & 3, allowing for the post to be removed from the ground.

Ground sockets are not recommended for a 'Post to Post' installation as per scenario 4, as this can allow for too much movement in the posts resulting in extra slack in the lines.

Surfaces for Wall Mounting

Best	<u>Brick</u> <u>Concrete</u>
Sometimes	<u>Weatherboard, fibro or stud walls</u> (unless internal support posts can be detected and utilised) Mounting onto <u>limestone walls</u> is usually possible but will require deeper fixings. <u>Single brick walls and fences</u> need to be assessed for their suitability. They generally need a minimum of 200mm above the clothesline fixings to ensure a secure attachment or may require extra bracing with ground-mounted posts attached to the wall at an additional cost.
Never	<u>Hebel brick walls</u> <u>Colorbond sheds</u> <u>Timber, fibro, metal or asbestos fencing</u>

Surfaces for Ground Mounting

Best	<u>Soil or grass</u> (liftable pavers acceptable)
Sometimes Extra services or bracing required	<u>Existing concrete/liquid limestone/exposed aggregate</u> <u>Rocky ground</u> <u>Clay or gravel</u>

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS about your wall or ground surfaces or are unsure which installation method would be best for you, please call **1300 138 610** to discuss your specific needs with our clothesline experts today.

IMPORTANT:

- *All installations require 500mm clearance from a HWS. All other hindrances must be cleared **PRIOR** to the installer's arrival and is the responsibility of the customer. Failure to meet this deadline will result in a call out charge for the Installers attendance and will require another booking to complete the installation.*
- *Not all clotheslines come with fixings for wall-mounting included. Of those that do, some only come with basic fixings. Our Installers use quality fixings for all of our wall-mounted clotheslines to ensure they are properly secured.*
- *We recommend all supporting posts be cemented into the ground to ensure maximum stability.*
- *Where stability is questionable due to soil variance or other factors, another mounting method should be considered.*

7. Professional Installation Or DIY?

Aussie Clotheslines and Letterboxes stock a full range of clotheslines from Hills, Austral and City Living – all widely respected brands – in a wide range of sizes and colours. We sell direct to the public and can either give advice on DIY installation of your new clothesline or arrange for one of our qualified professional installers to install it for you.

Should you decide you would like your clothesline installed by one of our Qualified Installers:

1. Check that we install in your [location](#).
2. Contact us with any queries relating to either the location of the installation or the surface it is going onto.
3. Place your order either online or over the phone by calling [1300 138 610](#). Remember to include the job address if it differs from the invoice address.
4. Your order will be processed within 24 hours (Mon to Fri) and we will call you to arrange the installation date. Please make sure you provide the best phone number by which to contact you or leave a message.
As we keep a good quantity of all available products in stock, we can generally attend to your installation within a week to ten days. It may take a little longer in busy times of the year. Extra time is required where customised products are ordered.
5. The day before the installation, your allocated Installer will phone you to confirm details and give you a 1 - 2 hour time frame of when they will be at your property the following day.
Our Installers are efficient time managers and are reliably on schedule. On the off chance they have been caught in traffic or gotten ahead of themselves, they will contact you directly by phone to let you know what time they will be there.

If you suspect you may require extra services for your installation, contact us on [1300 138 610](#) to discuss your specific needs with our clothesline experts today.

NOTE:

The quoted installed prices cover installation onto or into suitable surfaces. For ground-mounts please inform the installer of any hindrances beneath the ground to a minimum depth of 600mm.

Lifting removable paving is included in the standard fee.

Other surfaces may require more work and there can be additional costs and charges for extra services such as core drilling, tailoring, or distance loading.

[Click here](#) for our Clothesline Services Guide.

Clothesline Comparison Charts

On the following pages we've outlined the key differences between the five main types of clotheslines.

In this section we cover:

1. [Traditional Rotary Clothes Hoists](#)
2. [Folding Rotary Clothes Hoist](#)
3. [Folding Frame Clotheslines](#)
4. [Retracting Clotheslines](#)
5. [Portable Clotheslines](#)

Traditional Rotary Clothes Hoists

General Information Sometimes referred to as a Hills Supa Hoist, Austral Super Hoist, or the Hills Heritage Hoist.
The traditional style of Galvanised Rotary Hoist.
Regarded as an Australian icon since 1945 and still seen in many back yards today.
Suits a large backyard.

Advantages Strong, sturdy and durable so have a long life span.
Require very little maintenance - suitable for rental properties.
Plenty of line space so can hold several loads of washing.
Adjustable height.
Rotate for breeze drying clothes.
Larger spaces between lines and therefore have the quickest clothes drying time.
Wire lines, not polycord, so no sagging.

Disadvantages Cemented in the ground and cannot be folded down or removed.
More expensive than most other clothesline styles.
Take up a reasonably large amount of lawn area or entertaining space.
Not as attractive as the powdercoated styles.
More difficult than other styles to install.

Mounting Options Ground-mounted - the central column is concreted into soil/lawn.
Level ground preferred so that reaching up to the clothesline can be achieved on all sides without adjusting the height - too high on one side might mean low enough to walk into on the other.
If the hoist is to be installed in the same position as the previous clothesline, we recommend cutting the bottom post off below ground level. This way the new hoist can be installed beside it with the fresh cement adhering to the old, creating a super stable footing.

Materials Galvanised steel, galvanised wire and aluminium fixtures.

Dimensions Head diameters of between 4 and 5 metres.

Hanging Space Varies between 40 and 60 metres of line length depending on the model

Brands Hills and Austral.

Clearance required At least 1 metre clearance is recommended around the head diameter to allowing clearance for free movement of rotary hoist so it can operate properly and washing does not get snagged or caught on branches, bushes, fences or gutters.



[Click here](#) to see our range of Fixed Rotary Clothes Hoists.

Folding Rotary Clothes Hoists



[Click here](#) to see our range of Folding Rotary Clothes Hoists.

General Information	<p>Sometimes referred to as a Foldaline or Foldaway Hoist.</p> <p>Based on the traditional galvanised styled hoist but the arms can be folded up and the clothesline removed from the ground socket to create more yard space.</p> <p>Suits a large backyard.</p>
Advantages	<p>Plenty of line space so can hold several loads of washing.</p> <p>Adjustable height.</p> <p>Colour options.</p> <p>Rotate for breeze drying clothes.</p> <p>Plenty of space between lines.</p> <p>Can be folded down and/or removed from the ground socket when not in use.</p>
Disadvantages	<p>Larger space needed for rotary clothes hoists.</p> <p>Lines can be slightly closer together than some other styles of clotheslines.</p> <p>Requires slightly more maintenance than the traditional hoist, mainly regular tensioning of the lines.</p>
Mounting Options	<p>Ground-mounted - the central column sits inside a socket or sleeve that is cemented into soil/lawn.</p> <p>Level ground preferred so that reaching up to the clothesline on all sides can be achieved without continually adjusting the height - too high on one side might mean low enough to walk into on the other.</p> <p>If the hoist is to be installed in the same position as the previous clothesline, we recommend cutting the bottom post off below ground level. This way the new hoist can be installed beside it with the fresh cement adhering to the old, creating a super stable footing.</p>
Materials	<p>Made from quality galvanised and powder-coated steel, PVC polycord, plastic fixtures, fittings & gearing.</p>
Dimensions	<p>Head diameters range between 3 and 4 metres.</p>
Hanging Space	<p>Varies between 32 and 56 metres of line length depending on the model.</p>
Brands	<p>Hills, Austral and Sunbreeze.</p>
Clearance required	<p>At least 1 metre clearance is recommended around the head diameter allowing clearance for free movement of the rotary hoist so it can operate properly and washing does not get snagged or caught on branches, bushes, fences or gutters.</p>

Folding Frame Clotheslines



[Click here](#) to see our range of Folding Frame Clotheslines.

General Information	<p>Sometimes referred to as a Paraline, Supafold or Fold Down clothesline.</p> <p>A fold-down rectangular steel outer frame with the polycord lines running parallel to the front bar.</p> <p>Many different sizes and configurations available.</p> <p>Suits narrow spaces or smaller blocks where a rotary hoist is not an option.</p>
Advantages	<p>Optional Leg kit for ground-mounting if not enough useful wall space available.</p> <p>Wide range of colours available.</p> <p>Wide range of sizes and shapes to suit most requirements or can be modified to custom fit.</p> <p>Longer models take any size bed sheets.</p> <p>Smaller or narrower models suit small backyards, garages, carports, courtyards and balconies.</p> <p>Can utilise space in tight areas such as narrow spaces between a house and fence, and side access ways, so the washing is hidden from view.</p> <p>Can be folded down when not in use and generally less obtrusive than rotary clotheslines.</p> <p>More cost effective than most other styles.</p> <p>Can be used as an indoor clothesline, as a secondary line for excess washing or undercover for winter drying.</p>
Disadvantages	<p>Less hanging space than the rotary clothes hoists.</p> <p>Washing hung on internal lines, may on occasion come in contact with nearby walls or fences.</p> <p>Lines on some models are closer together; therefore drying time can be longer.</p> <p>Stationary, so longer drying time than rotary hoists.</p>
Mounting Options	<p>Wall mount or ground mount.</p> <p>Can be wall-mounted directly onto brick or masonry walls or posts mounted into the ground (not on wooden or colorbond fencing).</p> <p>Can be mounted across/over standard downpipes or water pipes.</p> <p>Level ground preferred so not too low at one end and too high at the other, and so both posts are in the ground sufficiently to support the weight of the unit and wet washing.</p> <p>Can be ground-mounted onto two posts and cemented into the ground.</p> <p>Usually installed so that front bar is approximately 1.8 metres up from the pavers or lawn beneath.</p>
Materials	<p>Made of quality steel, then galvanised and powder coated.</p>
Dimensions	<p>Widths vary from 0.52 to 3.3 metres, and depths from 0.60 to 1.5 metres.</p>
Hanging Space	<p>Varies from 7 to 39.5m of line length depending on the model.</p>
Brands	<p>Hills, Austral and Sunbreeze.</p>
Clearance required	<p>Allow 100mm clearance on either side of the clothesline and 350mm clearance from the front bar to allow room to lift and lower the line or to get past when fully loaded with clothes.</p> <p>Must be more than 500mm from a Hot Water Unit and ideally keep clear of any other obstructions such as air-conditioning units, gates, external doors, bushes and branches.</p> <p>Most Folding Frames can be modified to fit any space or requirement - there is always a solution!</p>

Retracting Clotheslines



[Click here](#) to see our range of Retracting Clotheslines.

General Information

Sometimes referred to as an Extendaline, Slimline or Retractable clothesline.

The lines are housed in a cabinet that is mounted to either a wall or a post. The lines of polycord can be extended and lines attach to a receiving bracket mounted on another post or wall - the receiving bracket comes included with each clothesline cabinet.

If the cabinet is to be post-mounted, a mount bar will be needed to attach it to (optional extra).

Suits narrow areas

Optional ground socket is available to enable posts to be removed if needed.

Minimum extension 2 metres.

Maximum extension between 6.5 to 10 metres depending on the model.

Advantages

Can take any size sheet.

The lines can be retracted and stored away inside the cabinet when not in use.

Unobtrusive and takes up very little room when lines are retracted.

Large amount of hanging space when fully extended.

Can be mounted outside, or under patios or verandas, in garages or on balconies for undercover drying.

Can utilise space in tight and narrow areas.

Lines stay clean when retracted away inside the unit.

There are 4, 5 and 6 line models available.

Disadvantages

Fixed height.

Some sagging is inevitable over longer distances, especially with heavy items, e.g. blankets.

Stationary, so longer drying time than rotary hoists.

Limited colour choice available.

Use of ground socket/s may cause extra 'give' in the line and create greater sagging, especially with Post to Post mounting scenario.

Mounting Options

Wall to Wall, Wall to Post or Post to Post.

Materials

Cabinet, posts and mount bars are made from quality steel, then galvanised and powder coated.

Dimensions

Widths vary from 0.58m to 0.82m and extension lengths from 4 to 8 metres.

Hanging Space

Up to 26, 40 or 50 metres, depending on the model and the distance extended out to.

Brands

Hills, Austral and Sunbreeze.

Clearance required

Allow 100mm of wall either side of cabinet.

Can not be mounted within 500mm of a Hot Water Unit.

Portable Clotheslines

General Information	Sometimes referred to as a Clothes Arier. Lightweight portable clothesline can be easily moved as needed. Used for winter drying, a secondary drying option or for small spaces. Different sizes to suit varying requirements.
Features	Hills models are designed with holes on each end for extra coathanger hanging space. Suits balconies, garages or under the eaves for wet weather.
Advantages	Can be folded easily and put away when not in use. Can store flat and hung against a wall or behind a door (door hook included with Hills models). Great for apartments. Excellent for hanging overflow of washing. Lightweight but sturdy. Can be moved easily. Easy reach height – suits elderly and children. Undercover or full sun as required. 17m line takes 2 full loads of washing. Indoors or outdoors. City Living model has wheels at one end so easy to manoeuvre.
Disadvantages	Lines are relatively close together resulting in longer drying times than other styles of clothesline. Limited line space compared to other clothesline alternatives. May need to be put away in strong winds.
Mounting Options	Free-standing.
Materials	Galvanised powder coated steel, PVC polycord, and UV treated plastic fixtures and fittings.
Dimensions	Lengths vary from 1.2 to 1.8 metres, heights from 1.3 to 1.5 metres, and widths 0.8 metres.
Hanging Space	Between 12 and 18 metres line length depending on the model.
Brands	Hills and City Living.



[Click here](#) to see our range of Portable Clotheslines.

If you still have questions and are unsure what clothesline is best for your needs, then don't hesitate to contact us on [1300 138 610](tel:1300138610). One of our friendly staff will be more than happy to answer your questions and assist you in selecting the right product.