

View Preservation

View preservation is the ability to maintain exterior views to provide occupants with a connection to the outdoors. Views are maintained in two ways:

1. Opening the shades more often for unobstructed views.
2. Select a fabric that allows views through while closed.

Why is it important?

- Modern buildings are designed with extensive glass.
- Without consideration during shading system design, these views will not be utilized effectively.
- Views have been shown to improve productivity
- Distant focal points from exterior views can minimize eye strain
- Providing a general connection to outdoors can cause an improvement in overall mood and well-being



Typical Shade Position - indicates the average annual position of the shade hembar in inches above the finished floor. For example, a value of 48 inches (1.2 m) indicates that on average the shade hembar is positioned 4 feet (1.2 m) from the floor. This indicates how much un-obstructed view is expected on average.

View Clarity (VCI)* - describes the ability to see the exterior environment through a closed shade. A value of 100 means the fabric causes no interference with exterior views, and a value of 0 means that there will be no view through the fabric. This metric does not account for the effect of the glass on view clarity.

In general, darker fabrics with higher openness factors provide greater view clarity. Use the table below to better understand typical VCI scores based on fabric openness factor and color.

Openness Factor (Of_{mean})	Fabric Color (category)	View Clarity Index (VCI)
1%	Dark	25% to 60%
1%	Medium/Light	1% to 25%
5%	Dark	40% to 75%
5%	Medium/Light	20% to 40%
10%	Dark	50% to 90%
10%	Medium/Light	30% to 50%

Sources:

*Link to whitepaper on View Clarity Index