



Perforated Metal Balustrade Guide

Design tips and Considerations

INTRODUCTION:

The humble balustrade has risen up in the style trends. No longer just a practical fixture, balustrade has become a key feature as architects and designers seek clever yet useful ways to make their schemes stand out.

When used in this way, balustrade plays much more than just a supporting role. The right balustrade design can elevate any staircase, balcony, or raised area to turn them into an architectural focal point.

However, choosing the right material for your balustrade can play a critical part in lifting a staircase and balcony from functional to fabulous. Although glass and wood are common balustrade materials, when it comes to creative potential, metal is the only material that truly shines.

In this guide, we discuss the advantages of metal balustrade and what to consider when designing with perforated metal.



Project: Oatley Station
Product: Perforated aluminium, custom design

ADVANTAGES OF PERFORATED METAL BALUSTRADE

Creative scope is one of the biggest advantages of perforated metal. Here's why metal continues to be the balustrade material of the moment:

Metal variety:

Perforated panels can be made from a variety of metal, including aluminium, steel or brass for different performance and aesthetic effects.

Metal enhances other materials:

One of the most beautiful advantages of metal balustrade is that it works with virtually any other interior material. Pair it with wood, bare bricks or glass and you'll have a unique, contemporary and stunning scheme.

Custom opportunity:

Perforation patterns can be customised, offering increased creative design scope. Available in a whole range of patterns, from classic round and square schemes to the most elaborate make-your-own creations, a well-designed perforated metal balustrade can instantly transform a staircase into an inspiring architectural focal point.

At Arrow Metal, we can custom-create bespoke perforated panels in complex patterns, combining contemporary style with outstanding product performance.



Project: Balmain House

Product: Perforated metal, bespoke custom design
Perforated metal pattern created from a photograph

ADVANTAGES OF PERFORATED METAL BALUSTRADE

Fantastic finishes:

Wood can be painted but a metal finish can really transform a scheme. Add instant glamour with a gold or brass finish without the high-end cost; increase durability for exterior balustrade or even use corporate colours.

Clean easy:

The appeal of glass is clear to see but it shows up every smudge and smear and wood often requires maintenance. There's no easier material to clean than metal. And that's one of the best advantages of metal balustrade considering its hands-on function.

Durability:

Metal balustrade is unbreakable. It won't rot, chip or deteriorate no matter how heavy the use and with the right finish can withstand even the harshest weather conditions when installed outside.

Cost-effective:

Because metal balustrade is so versatile with so many different options, you are guaranteed to get more balustrade for your budget. Even the most basic perforated metal balustrade in a standard profile can become something special through choice of finish.



Project: Hazelbrook Station
Product: Perforated aluminium,
custom design



Project: Oatley Station
Product: Perforated aluminium,
custom design



Project: Blacktown Tennis Centre
Product: Perforated aluminium,
custom design

PERFORATED METAL BALUSTRADE DESIGN TIPS & CONSIDERATIONS

Here are some useful balustrade design tips and considerations from the Arrow Metal team, to make sure that your balustrade takes your space to the next level:

1. LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Is the balustrade for an indoor staircase, or an outside balcony?

Balustrade location is crucial as it impacts material choice. If it's exterior, you'll need a balustrade made of material such as aluminium or stainless steel, that are more corrosion resistant, and better withstanding fluctuating temperatures and the test of time.

If it's interior, material choice is much more flexible – you can use almost any material you like, depending on required performance.



Project: Oatley Station
Product: Perforated aluminium, custom design

2. MATERIAL CHOICE:

Still unsure if perforated metal is best for your balustrade? You might have an aesthetic preference for your balustrade, but do bear in mind that materials such as wood or glass might not be the most practical. Wood needs maintaining, glass needs lots of cleaning.

This is why perforated metal balustrade is still up there when it comes to trends. It is low maintenance and an easy-care option for heavy-use commercial and residential spaces.

3. CUSTOMISATION:

When considering pattern, remember that perforated metal can be completely customised, offering a cost-effective and bespoke balustrade solution.

Almost any words, pictures, or illustrations you want to feature can be achieved through CAD drawing and Arrow Metal's advanced metal punching technology. Arrow Metal can incorporate logos, images that reflect the local area, or graphics, so that your balustrade is as unique as your project. Chat to our team to explore what's possible.



Project: Brisbane Ferry Wharf
Product: Perforated metal, custom design

4. FINISH:

How do you create perforated metal that pops, without blowing your budget? The answer is colour. Perforated metal colours are applied after manufacture at the finishing stage. Which means that you can easily add your preferred tone to either standard pattern or your own custom-designed perforated metal.

Colours are a great way to make a stylish statement a feature balustrade. It's well known that colour influences emotions too, so if you're clever about your spectrum selection, you can shape a space and a building's impression by using just the right shade.

5. SAFETY

It goes without saying that any balustrade design has to conform to all required building codes and safety rules. Whatever material you choose, make sure you get expert advice about your proposed design, to make sure it is suitable.

At Arrow Metal, we are experts in metal perforation that maintains panel strength and performance for balustrade use.



Project: Blacktown Tennis Centre
Product: Perforated aluminium, custom design

ABOUT ARROW METAL:

Arrow Metal is specialist manufacturer and supplier of perforated metal, woven and welded wire mesh products.

Delivering exceptional quality metal barrier products across Australia, we are the full-service solution for your project. With expertise at every stage – from enquiry to design, manufacture and delivery – our fast, friendly and efficient service makes us the trusted suppliers of choice

Talk to our expert team about your next project on (02) 9748 2200 or email us: enquiries@arrowmetal.com.au



Project: 100 Mount St, North Sydney
Product: Perforated mild steel, profile P246