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Operating Instructions & Product Care




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*Retractable Fabric Awnings*

 **perfecta**®

*“Our Name Reflects Our Quality”*

## Thank You

Congratulations on your decision to purchase a  **perfecta**® Retractable Awning. We are committed to providing you with a quality awning that gives you shade on demand quickly and conveniently. To insure a long life for your awning, we ask that you please refer to the instructions listed within this manual. If you have further questions concerning the care, maintenance, or operation of your  **perfecta**® awning, please contact your local  **perfecta**® dealer.

Your awning has been constructed by our exceptional team at Perfecta Awnings, Inc. located in Coopersburg, Pennsylvania. We are a family-based business which strives for perfection in each and every unit we build. Thank you again for choosing our company, you are now part of our family.




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*[www.perfectaawnings.com](http://www.perfectaawnings.com)*

# Awning Information

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Your awning should be in the retracted position when you are not on the premises. The awning should not be extended during high winds, snow, or rainstorms as damage to the awning and building can occur.

**Fabric:** Your Perfecta awning is made with 100% solution dyed, acrylic fabric. Solution dyed means the colors are dyed into the fibers to prevent washing out and fading. Your fabric is guaranteed for a period of five years against loss of color or strength from normal exposure conditions including sunlight, rot, and atmospheric chemicals. The fabric is treated with a fluorocarbon substance which provides water repellency. If you notice some color variations in the fabric, please be assured that it is normal. If you notice some light lines or a marbling effect, this is called “crazing” and it will not affect the quality of your fabric. Wrinkling or dimpling are natural occurrences with retractable awnings. The hems and seams create a double layer which makes the fabric thicker and tighter at the seams. This can cause dimpling anywhere in the fabric. This dimpling will not affect the quality of your fabric or awning. **CAUTION:** Retractable awning arms contain springs under strong tension. Therefore, to prevent possible injury, maximum care must be taken should removal or replacement of the fabric become necessary. Only qualified personnel should attempt removal or replacement of the fabric. Please call your local  perfecta® dealer for this service.

**Framework:** The steel mounting bar and aluminum parts are powder coated, while the other steel components are galvanized or stainless. We recommend that you hose off the awning framework and wipe it with a soft cloth at the start and end of each season. If installation is near salt water, wash the awning at least once a month with fresh water. After the unit is dry, lubricate the moving parts with a silicone spray to maintain optimal operation. Avoid spraying the silicone on the fabric since this may cause discoloration or staining. You may also wax the framework with a non-abrasive polish.

**Extending and Retracting your Awning:** The arms of your awning are meant to be flexed at the elbows when the awning is fully extended. When opening your awning, check that the fabric is coming off the top of the roller tube. If you operate your awning with a gear, be careful not to roll the fabric out too far. If you do, the elbows will lock out and the fabric will sag. If this happens, roll the awning back in until the fabric tightens again.


Retractable awnings are meant for sun protection. Do not use your awning in rain, hail, snow, or strong winds. It is not recommended to use your retractable awning on a windy day. Also, do not allow any debris to be rolled up in the awning when retracting.

# Care & Maintenance Instructions

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Proper care and maintenance is important to maximize the life of your awning. Routine care is easy. Just follow these recommendations.

Awning fabrics should be cleaned regularly before substances such as dirt, bird droppings, roof particles, etc. are allowed to accumulate and become embedded in the fabric. The fabric can be cleaned without being removed from the frame by simply brushing off any loose dirt or hosing it off with water. If further cleaning is necessary, add a mild, natural soap to lukewarm water and lightly clean the fabric with a sponge. Rinse thoroughly to remove any soap. **DO NOT USE DETERGENTS.** Allow the awning to dry before retracting. Do not steam, dry, or press the awning with excessive heat.

For the winter, take off your hanging valance by simply removing the two small screws from the end cap. Next, slide the valance out of the front bar removing both the valance and the PVC tubing. Pull the PVC tubing out of the valance hem, roll up the valance, and replace the PVC tubing back in the front bar. Reattach the end cap and tighten the screws. Be sure to place the valance in a dry, well-ventilated area away from rodents for the winter season. Never store your fabric in a plastic bag, this can trap moisture and promote mildew. We recommend checking all bolts and screws to assure tightness before you begin your outdoor living. If you are unsure of how to tighten parts on your own, please call your local  **perfecta**® dealer to schedule a maintenance service call.


Your awning is designed so that maintenance is normally not required. It is advantageous to lubricate the moving parts with a silicone spray for optimal operation. The lubrication and checking should be done a minimum of twice a year—April and October.

# perating Instructions


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## **GEAR OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS:**

Place the hook of the crank into the gear eye located on the side of the unit. Turn the crank handle to extend the unit. Be careful not to roll the fabric out past the point where the elbows lock out and the fabric begins to sag. If this occurs, turn the crank in the opposite direction until the fabric becomes tight again. The arms should always have some bend to them, which allows the unit to flex and move in changing weather.

When you want to retract the unit, turn the crank until the front bar is tight against the roller tube. The fabric should close tightly under the hood. The fabric should ALWAYS roll off the top of the roller tube and never from underneath. If that should happen, please contact your local  **perfecta**® dealer.


## **MOTORIZED OPERATION:**

Generally, motors are supplied by Somfy Systems, the acknowledged world leader in specialized motors. Motors are placed in the roller tube and require little or no maintenance. If your motor should fail to function, please contact your local  **perfecta**® dealer for service.

Somfy motors have a built-in thermal switch. Repetitive use of a retractable awning may cause the motor to overheat. This thermal switch will stop the motor from working for 15-20 minutes to cool itself, rather than be damaged by excessive heat. For more detailed motor information visit the manufacturer's website at [www.somfy.com](http://www.somfy.com).

## **MOTORIZED OPERATION WITH HARDWIRED SWITCH:**

To extend the awning, flip the wall switch down and the awning will extend to the preset projection setting and stop. You can stop the unit at any position by moving the switch to the middle/neutral position.

To retract the awning, flip the wall switch up and the awning will retract to the preset limit and stop automatically. If the unit does not fully retract or fully extend, call your local  **perfecta**® dealer to adjust the motor limit switch.

If your home loses power and you have purchased an override motor, move the wall switch to the neutral/middle position first before using the override option. Place the hook of the crank into the gear eye located on the motor side of the unit and crank the awning to the desired position. Once you have power again, check that your awning is working properly.

**THREE BUTTON REMOTE OR WIRELESS SWITCH WITH ONE CHANNEL:**

To extend the awning, press and release the top button. The awning will extend to the preset projection setting and stop. To stop the awning for partial shading, press and release the middle button. You can extend the awning fully from this point by pressing and releasing the top button again.



To retract the awning, simply press and release the bottom button. To stop the awning before reaching the closed position, press and release the middle button. The awning can fully retract from this position by simply pressing the bottom button again.

**FOUR BUTTON REMOTE OR WIRELESS SWITCH WITH FOUR CHANNELS:**

This remote works the same as the one above, but it allows for various awning control options. You can move four awnings independently and as a group.

To select a channel, press the button near the bottom of the remote or switch. The current channel will flash. To select a different channel, press the button again. Each time you press the button, a different channel is selected. This will allow you to operate the awnings the way you wish.



# Sun and Wind Controls

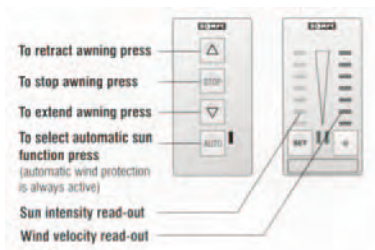
**NOTICE:** Do not rely on sun or wind sensors to protect your awning against wind damage. This damage is not covered under warranty.

## **DECORATOR SOMFY MATIC (NON RTS MOTOR):**

To have the awning extend, press the auto button on the bottom of the panel. The awning will retract and extend based on the automatic sun intensity and wind velocity set by the installer.

To extend the awning when you wish, press and release the “down” arrow button. The awning will extend to the preset projection setting and stop. To stop the awning for partial shading, press and release the “stop” button. The awning can fully extend from this position by simply pressing the “down” arrow button again.

To retract the awning, simply press and release the “up” arrow button. To stop the awning before reaching the closed position, press and release the “stop” button. The awning can fully retract from this position by simply pressing the “up” arrow button again.



## **SOLIRIS RTS SUN AND WIND CONTROL:**

This remote works the same as the three button remote, but with an additional sun control. Simply press and hold the button on the bottom to identify the mode of the remote. Continue to hold the button to select a different mode. Once the mode changes, release the button. The right side controls both the sun and the wind function; the left side controls the wind function. We strongly recommend that you disable the sun and wind control when leaving for vacation or an extended period of time.




#### **EOLIS RTS WIND CONTROL:**

This remote works the same as the three button remote.

The wind velocity is read by the sensor which will automatically retract your awning. You can retract or stop your awning in any position by using the remote or wall switch. Again, we strongly recommend that you disable the sun and wind control when leaving for vacation or an extended period of time.




#### **NEW EOLIS WIRE FREE RTS WIND SENSOR**

This wind sensor is usually mounted on the arm of the awning. Upon detection of excessive vibration, the sensor emits a signal to retract the awning automatically. When the battery is low, the sensor will send an UP command and shut down. Please call your local  **perfecta**® dealer if you need this sensor adjusted.



#### **NEW SUNIS WIRE FREE RTS SUN SENSOR:**

The sun sensor is usually mounted on the side of the awning's hood. The sensor detects sunlight and emits a signal to extend the awning based on the sun's intensity. When the battery is low, the sensor will send an UP command and shut down. Please call your local  **perfecta**® dealer if you need to have this sensor adjusted.


# Frequently Asked Questions

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Can I add a front drop valance to my awning?

Yes, Perfecta dealers offer three different kinds of drops which include fabric velcro extensions, mesh extensions, and vario-volants which operate with a gear.


I have purchased a hand crank awning, am I able to convert it to a motorized unit?

Yes, most of our Perfecta awnings can be converted to a motorized unit. Just contact your local  Perfecta® dealer and they will arrange for this upgrade.

Can I order matching awnings?

Yes, just contact your local  Perfecta® dealer to help you make a selection.

If I sell my home and move, can I take my awning with me?


Yes, all you need to do is contact your local  Perfecta® dealer to remove it and reinstall it at your new location. Please be aware that reinstallation of this awning by a non-authorized Perfecta dealer will void the warranty.

Can I clean the fabric if it gets soiled or stained?

Yes, you can clean lightly soiled fabric with a solution of soap flakes and water. Severely soiled or stained fabric can be professionally cleaned to look like new.

# Avoiding Problems

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- Do not leave your awning unattended while it is extended.
- Do not extend your awning in high winds or allow your awning to remain open in high winds.
- Do not allow birds to nest on your awning frame.
- Do not allow twigs or leaves to roll up in your awning.
- Do not allow water to accumulate on an extended awning. The weight of the water can cause pocketing or stretching of the fabric which can cause permanent damage.
- Do not rely on sun or wind sensors to protect your awning against wind damage. Power failures will render your awning inoperable. This damage is not covered under warranty.
- Do not cook beneath or around your awning while it is extended.
- Do not use harsh cleaning solutions or abrasive cleaners.
- Do not attempt to remedy a situation in event of a malfunction—your local  **perfecta**® dealer will be glad to provide assistance.
- Do not over extend the awning to the point where the fabric rolls back under the roller tube.