



Tips For Accurate Window Treatment Measurements

Always use a steel tape.

Measure each window.

Use a consistent method for measuring.

Measure to the nearest ¼ inch.

1. Measure the Width:

- For Inside Mount: Measure inside jamb to inside jamb, then subtract ¼”.
- For Outside Mount: Measure outside casing to outside casing, then, while still on site, determine how far you want or can extend the treatment beyond the casing on each side.
 - Shades or Blinds - 1½” on each side of casing
 - Top Treatments Only - 1 or 2 inches on each side of casing. The width of the window sill is a good rule of thumb.
 - Drapes or Curtains - at least 4 inches on each side of casing. To stack drapes off the window, add ¼ of the window width to each side.
 - Wall to Wall Drapes - subtract 1 inch from wall to wall measurement. If decorative rods with finials are to be used, subtract at least 8 inches.
 - Existing Drapes - measure the width from bracket to bracket of existing rod.
 - Top Treatments Over Drapes - add 3 inches to width of drapes.
- Be sure to consider: whether stack back allowance or finial extensions will interfere with light switches, pictures, furniture, or walls that are nearby.

2. Measure the Length:

- For Inside Mount: Measure inside head jamb to top of sill, then subtract ¼”.
- For Outside Mount: Determine where the top of the overall window treatment will be located. Top of window treatment should be at least 4 inches above casing, 8 inches above casing if a top treatment is being used over drapes. Measure:
 - A. floor to top of casing
 - B. top of sill to top of casing
 - C. Floor to bottom of crown moulding
 - D. top of window treatment down to 3 inches into glass.
 - Shades or Blinds - use top of sill to top of casing measurement (B), plus at least 3 inches. Or measure top of sill to bottom of crown moulding.
 - Full Length Drapes - use floor to bottom of crown moulding measurement (C).
 - Floor Length Drapes - use floor to top of casing measurement (A) plus at least 4”.
 - Short Length Drapes - use top of sill to top of casing measurement (B), plus at least 10 inches.
 - Existing Drapes - measure from top of rod down to desired length.
 - Top Treatments - use top of window treatment down to 3 inches into glass measurement (D). This will be your shortest point of the top treatment. Long point may be 1/5 to 1/6 the length of the overall treatment.
- Be sure to consider:
 - Decorative Rods - subtract as necessary.
 - Puddles - add 12 inches.

3. Determine the Projection:

- For Inside Mount: Measure the flat area from the front of the jamb back to the window stop. Be sure this same measurement is consistent on the side and head jambs.
- For Outside Mount:
 - Shades or Blinds - generally 1½" or 3½".
 - Top Treatments Only - generally 3½"
 - Drapes or Curtains - generally 3½".
 - Top Treatments Over Drapes - generally 5½".
- Write everything down as you measure, do not try to remember several measurements at one time.
- Use a Standardized Form that you understand. It will force you into a habit of measuring each part of the window.
- Although the size of the casing and dimensions of windowpanes may help proportion the treatment, do not depend on adding each of these dimensions together at a later date to come up with the overall size of the treatment. Take the overall dimensions as described above and then make notes of optional dimensions.