

Features and Benefits of Curtains and Sheers

Curtains are probably the most popular and common of all window coverings and this is not without reason. These coverings come in different textures, fabrics, designs, and patterns, to meet every kind of aesthetic requirement. Though there are many options for furnishing your windows and doors, some treatments are better suited to certain areas than others.

Fabrics

Sheer fabrics, also known as Sheers, are lightweight fabrics that cover over your windows, soften your home's lighting, and add an instant infusion of style into your interior decor. Sheer Curtains give you a measure of privacy but are also well-matched for a layered window treatment. Let your Sheer be the hero!

Linen fabrics are made from fibres derived from the Flax plant. It is a natural fibre and is not entirely stable. Linen fabrics react to the environmental conditions, such as heat, cold, humidity etc; and will expand and retract. They can possibly inherit slubs and textures may occur within the composition of the fabric. It is recommended that these fabrics puddle on the floor between 20mm – 30mm, so there's not a large gap when they retract.

Blockout fabrics offer full privacy plus optimum temperature in your home. The triple pass coating means they can completely absorb light and heat, giving maximum protection from glare, light and heat.

Triple Weave fabrics offer 70% - 95% room darkening. Keeping in mind that darker colours provide better room darkening, while lighter colours will give more of a glow effect. Benefits of a triple weave is that they're machine washable and best suited for high humidity areas, such as tropical environments. They're also the same colour both front and back.

Whether you prefer the timeless elegance of neutrals, the allure of bold accents, or the delicate charm of sheer fabrics, there is a curtain trend to suit your style.

What does Fullness mean?

Fullness is the extra fabric used across the width of Curtain. If you didn't have 'fullness' you would have a flat curtain. The term is used to describe how much fabric is used in your width. For example, an S-Wave is 2 times fullness, width is 2m so then 4m of fabric would be used for your opening width.

Heading Options

S-Wave 2x fullness



50mm Gathered 2 x fullness.



The S-Wave heading sits under the track, whereas other heading styles sit in front of the track.

Lining: 30mm Gathered Lining (1.6 fullness)

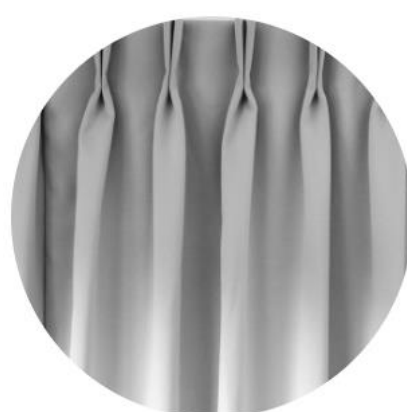


PLEASE NOTE THE LINING GATHERED HEADING IS RECOMMENDED FOR YOUR REAR CURTAIN WHEN DOING A DOUBLE TRACK – less fabric to stack back.

Reverse Pleat (Box Pleat) 2 x fullness



Double Pleat 2 x fullness



Manual Tracks

Our tracks cover spans up to 6m wide but drops vary depending on the fabric. Tracks over 3m will be split and delivered in two pieces.

Single Track: A single track is used to hang a single curtain or sheer.

Double Track: curtains can be layered with sheers and blackout for added privacy and light reduction.

We have 2 types of tracks: curved or square.

Single tracks and double tracks, the Curtain will sit flush with the top of the track, whereas S-Wave will sit under the track.



Milan Curved Track



Milan Square Track

You can also have a double track with 2 Curtains on one Window or Doorway.



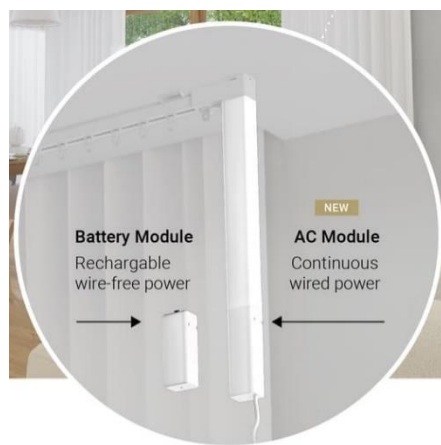
Double Track

*Bracket covers are standard when face fitting

Motorised Tracks

Our Curtain Motor and track, by Rollease Acmeda is really quite ingenious. It's one motor and easily connects to two different power sources: either a hard-wired AC module for continuous power, or a rechargeable lithium-ion battery for a wire-free option. This motors remote is also compatible and will operate all Rollease Acmeda motors, so if you have motorised rollers you may only need the one remote to control all your motors in the house.

Our motorised tracks can go up to 6m in width, however, will come split at every 3m.



Double tracks give you an advantage of having a Sheer and Blockout on the one window.

When doing double tracks, we recommend the rear curtain be ordered with the Lining Heading style. Less fabric is used with this pleat with a 1.6 fullness; therefore it won't spring past the front curtain. Also, keeping in mind that a sheer stacks back less than a blockout fabric. This is also more cost effective as less fabric is used.

Both of our manual and motorised tracks can be ordered as double track system.

Continuous / Bent Tracks

This is a track that has been bent with a 45 degree or 90-degree angle. It is one continuous track system. Most common is 45 degrees for bay windows or 90 degrees for corner walls. Please note that we cannot do a gradual radial curve, only bends. Bent tracks are only available with our Milan Square or motorised tracks. It is important to provide track measurements, not wall measurements for bends.

Continuous tracks work great with stacking doors, allowing them to be stacked onto the wall for an open finish.

Offset Split Track

If a customer wants an offset split track, (example: A 3m track with 2m to left, 1m to right) This will need to be ordered as 2 separate curtains exactly how you want it split:

Curtain 1: 2m track left hand stack.

Curtain 2: 1 m track right hand stack.

In the notes please state "Continuous Track"

Which fabric is on the front track and which fabric is on the back track?

There is no wrong or right answer, it comes down to personal preference. The Sheer brings softness to your opening and is often the nicer looking fabric and your blackout fabric is pulled across for blocking out the light, so you're not seeing the fabric. On the other hand, you might prefer a more traditional look and prefer the blackout fabric on the front and the sheer on the back.

Advantages of having blackout on the back is you get better blackout and thermal (both heating and cooling) control.

Flick Sticks:

These are a clear wand attached to the track hook. Curtains can be hand drawn or you can have a flick stick.

Tie Backs:

These aren't common but can be ordered to help keep your drape off the window, *see settling and training your pleats*. Tie backs are a good option if you don't have much wall space.

Returns

Returns are mainly used on double tracks. It's extra fabric on the front Curtain, which extends past the track on the stacking side and hooks on to the end of the back track. If it's a one way left hand stack, then the return will be on the left hand side. If it's a split opening, then you'll have a return on both sides. Depending on your pleat will depend on your return size. Only suitable for face fitting. You can do this on a single curtain; however, you will need to source your own eyelet from a hardware store, which is then secured to the wall.

Returns are suitable when you don't want to see the side profile of a double track.

Return Sizes

Single track return = 70mm

Double track = 120mm

What is a Floating Curtain?

Curtains can be ordered as Floating, which means it's not anchored in. Please add a comment to your order if you want this.

Fitting Recommendations:

Curtains are either fitted to the Ceiling or Face Fit. Ceiling or framework is sufficiently strong enough to bear the weight of the Curtains to be installed. Use a Stud finder; we recommend you find as many wall studs or ceiling joists as possible to fix the curtain brackets to. When fitting directly onto plasterboard only, we recommend using a hollow anchor wall mate.

When measuring for curtains, please discuss with your client the pros and cons of ceiling fit and face fit. If there is a cornice, then face fit is recommended.

It is also recommended, that a Curtain & Sheer always go to the floor and not to the bottom of a window. As they say, 'the bigger the better!'

We do not recommend Curtains be fitted into a Reveal. We put together the pros and cons of both installation styles to help you decide.

Face Fit (Wall Mounted)

Face fitting involves installing the Curtain to the face of the wall. With face fit, the Curtain covers the entire window, extending past the diameter of the window space. It is common to go between the ceiling and the window frame. Hanging curtains too low from ceiling causes the room to compress. Instantly, the ceiling feels lower, and your space will feel small. Hanging them higher to the ceiling tricks your eye into thinking the space is taller, making it feel open.

Pro

- It's more forgiving and flexible with measurements.
- Creates a clean and elegant look.
- Great option if you have a Cornice - *see below*.

Con:

- Track is more noticeable.

Reveal Fit (Inside fit) - NOT RECOMMENDED

Ceiling Mount

Tracks that attach to ceilings can make a huge difference in how curtains look, adding a sense of height and drama. A ceiling-mounted track that runs from wall to wall can whisk curtains right back from the doors, maximizing every last bit of light and keeping the drapes out of the way when the doors are fully open.

When square set ceiling, we recommend fixing to the ceiling.

Pro:

- Provides better insulation and light blocking.
- Gives a sense of space and focus to the height of your room.
- Seamlessly utilise a full wall.
- Make windows look larger.
- Recommended for square set ceiling.

Con:

- Ceiling mount has to have appropriate fixings to support the weight of the curtains – especially if choosing a heavy fabric.
- Not recommended if you have a cornice *see below*.

Do you have a Ceiling Cornice?

A ceiling cornice is a moulding that lays between your wall and ceiling. These can vary in size, from a simple curve to ornate and beautiful features. Ceiling mounts can look great with a small cornice, but remember the larger your cornice, the bigger the space between your curtains and your window, so you might want to think about a face fit.

Curtain Stacking Depth

An important design element is to consider the amount of space your curtain occupies when fully drawn open.

Adding extra width to your Curtains will allow you to push the Curtain stack beyond the window or door so your views are uninterrupted. Stacking depths vary between 20% to 30%, depending on your fabric and track. Some fabrics spring back more than others. A Sheer will stack back further than a blackout fabric.

Manual track 20 – 25%

Motorised track 30%

You can either design your Curtains to have a centre opening (where the Curtains would have an equal Curtain stack on both sides) or with a one-way opening (where the Curtains would stack to the left or right).

Our Lining 30mm header will stack back further due to the fullness and fabric being less than other heading styles.

Settling Time and Training your Pleats

Blockout fabrics are stiffer than a Sheer, so will want to spring back more so. Tying a small piece of fabric around the curtain loosely, can help hold the pleats and help form the S. If curtains are springing back more than expected we recommend using a tie back, which is a permanent solution.

When S-Waves are first installed, these too will need to be trained. Gliding them along the track back and forth and helping the fold form down the drape will assist in forming the 'S'.

Puddling

Curtains that puddle on the floor finish 20mm + on the floor, creating a sense of drama and opulence. Please note that blackout fabrics aren't recommended when puddling.