

your guide to

Beautiful Windows

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Beautiful window treatments can work wonders for a room. They can set the decorating mood. They may become a part of the background or the center of interest; dramatize a lovely view or screen off a poor one; complement pleasing architectural features or conceal lack of interesting features.

In addition, window treatments often play an important functional role in sound absorption and insulation.

The windows of your home provide a transition between outside and inside. They may control fresh air, light and privacy. The type of windows and the way the room is used influence the type of window treatments you select. There should be a feeling of harmony or unity for all of the windows as viewed from the outside of the home. On the inside there should be a pleasing feeling of coordination as you move from room to room.

Deciding on window treatments becomes much easier if you will: (1) check your window types, (2) consider different basic types

of window treatments and possible ways to add individuality, (3) decide on the right hardware for each window and (4) carefully select the appropriate fabrics and trims.

WINDOW STYLES

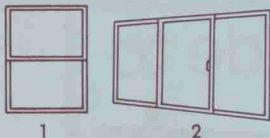
Window styles are usually grouped according to installation or according to shape, size and placement. There are basic styles commonly used by architects and builders the world over. You need to learn the style names and the terms for the parts of the windows in order to discuss window treatments.

The *casing* is that part of the window that fits into the wall structure and around the window itself.

The *frame*, or sash, is the part that holds the glass.

The *sill* is the narrow shelf at the bottom of the window.

The *apron* is the part of the casing below the sill.



According to installation, windows are classified as sliding, swing, fixed or a combination of fixed and movable. These are illustrated in the following window types.

Sliding Windows

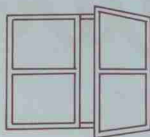
1. Double-hung—Is the most common of all window types. Has two sashes, one or both of which slide up and down. Unless unusual in size or placement, it is easy to decorate.
2. Horizontal sliding windows and doors—Are often used in multiple units with one section fixed. Often used in ranch type houses and called ranch or strip windows.

Swing Windows

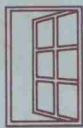
1. In-swinging casement — Opens into the

room. Window treatment must not interfere with operation of window.

2. Out-swinging casement—Opens outward. Easy to decorate.
3. Awning—Has wide, horizontal sashes that open outward to any angle. Can be left open during a rainstorm. Easy to decorate unless unusual in shape or placement.
4. Jalousie—Is identified by narrow, horizontal strips of glass that open by means of a crank to any desired angle.



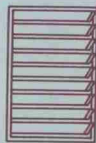
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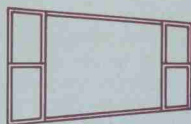
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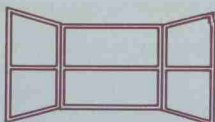
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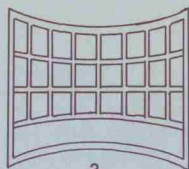
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Fixed or Combinations of Fixed and Moving Windows

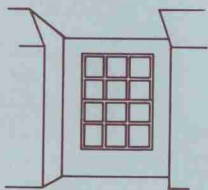
1. Picture window—Is designed to frame a view. It is usually a large fixed pane of glass which cannot be opened. It often has movable sections on both sides of the fixed pane.
2. Bay windows—Consist of three or more windows set at an angle to each other in a recessed area. May be combination of fixed and movable.
3. Bow window—A curved window often referred to as circular bay. A fixed window area.

Other Styles Classified According to Shape, Size or Placement

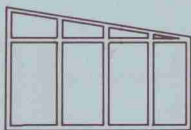
1. Dormer—Usually a double-hung window projecting from the house in an alcove-like extension.
2. Cathedral windows—Characterized by the angle at the top that follows the line of a slanting roof.
3. Clerestory windows—Set near the ceiling.

Sometimes placed in a slope of beamed ceiling. Often not decorated at all.

4. Corner windows—Include any windows that come together at the corner of a room. Easy to decorate with right hardware.
5. Arched windows—Characterized by curved top. Need special decorating.
6. Window wall—Is a group of basic window units fitted together to form a glass wall.



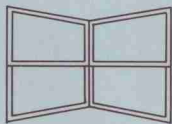
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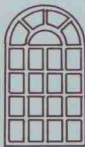
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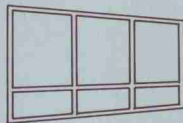
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Windows often become decorating problems because of unusual proportions or because of their placement. For example, they may appear too tall and narrow or too wide and short in proportion to the size and shape

of the room. Or, maybe, the windows are placed too close to the fireplace or a door. With the many types of window treatments available to choose from, there is a satisfactory solution for problems such as these.

BASIC WINDOW TREATMENTS

Just as a basic dress is simple and primarily suited to your figure and needs, a basic window treatment is simple and appropriate for the particular type of window you are decorating. Start with the basics, then add the extras, such as a valance, swag or tie backs that make your windows distinctive and different. You can also vary the length of curtains and draperies to complement the window or decorating mood of the room.

Different types of windows suggest certain basic types of window treatments.

Curtains and Draperies

1. Two-way draw traverse—May be used for glass curtains as well as draperies. Open from center and draw toward outer edges of window. Suitable for: double-hung, out-swinging casement, awning, jalousie, bay, bow and corner windows.
2. One-way draw traverse—Drapery draws to one side. Suitable for: windows with no wall space on one side, sections of bay windows, corner and slanting windows, sliding windows and doors.
3. Swinging draw draperies—Drapery and rod mounted on frame to swing with French door or in-swing casement window.
4. Cafe curtains and draperies—Hung from a cafe rod. They may be stationary or traverse. Suitable for double-hung, ranch, picture, dormer, bay and bow windows and glass walls.
5. Sash curtains—Usually cover only the glass section. They are shirred at top and bottom on close-fitting rods. Suitable for: casement and clerestory windows and doors with glass sections.
6. Criss-cross curtains—Are extra wide, ruffled, sheer panels hung so that one overlaps the other. Suitable for: double-hung, bay and picture windows.
7. Stationary curtains and draperies—May hang straight or be tied back. Suitable for double-hung, picture, dormer and bay windows.
8. Arched treatment—May be either stationary, pleated curtains or draperies hung on an arched rod. Designed specifically for curved-top windows.
9. Slanting traverse—Is designed to draw in one direction to follow slanting top windows.



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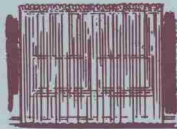
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Blinds and Shutters

1. Venetian blinds—May be used alone or in combination with curtains and draperies. Available with vertical and horizontal slats. Suitable for most any type window



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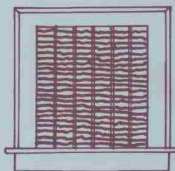
2. Shutters—May be used alone or in combination with other types of window treatments. Suitable for same types of windows as Venetian blinds.



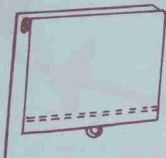
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Window Shades

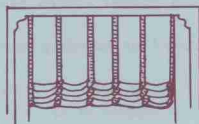
1. Matchstick or bamboo shades—Informal type of window treatment. Especially appropriate for family rooms, porches, informal dining areas.
2. Roller shades—Available for any type window. May be functional, decorative or



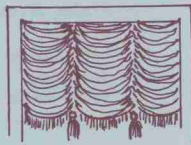
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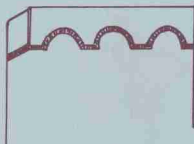


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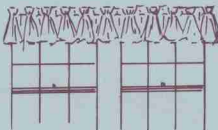
- serve both purposes.
3. Roman shades—Work on the same principle as matchstick shades, except fabric forms pleats as it is raised and lowered. Adds a decorative note.
4. Austrian shades—Are shirred; usually of sheer to medium-weight fabric. Appropriate for more formal decor.

OVER-TREATMENTS

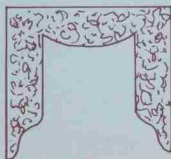
Over-treatments are often used with curtains, draperies, blinds or shades to give a finished appearance to the window. There are several choices, depending on the decorating effect you wish to achieve.



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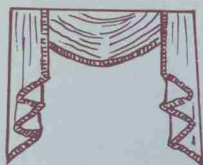


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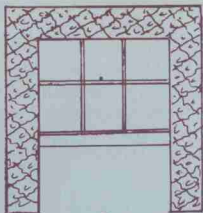


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1. Cornices—Are made of lightweight wood construction and mounted on top of window facing or wall above window. They may be painted to match the walls, woodwork or covered with fabric to match or contrast with fabric of curtains or draperies.
2. Valances—Are made of fabric. May be pleated or shirred on rod or may be lined with buckram or perlette to give body. Shaped to fit rod.
3. Contonnieres—Are made in the same manner as cornices, except they are designed to extend across the width of and down the sides of the window.



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4. Swags and jabots—Are draped in sections and fastened to the top of a valance board. They add the soft look which is appropriate for traditional or more formal rooms.
5. Lambrequin—A wooden frame designed to encase the window. It may be painted but more often is covered with fabric. A harmonizing curtain, drapery or shade is used to cover the window area.

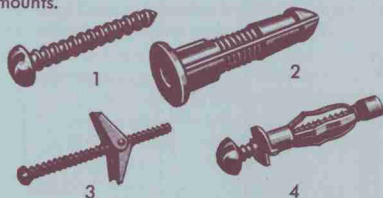
DRAPERY HARDWARE

Once you have decided on the style of window treatment, you are ready to select and install the hardware best suited to your choice. This should be done before you estimate yardage for curtains and draperies.

The basic types of hardware used for the basic window treatments have been listed in the preceding section.

Fastening devices are available for mounting rods on different kinds of wall materials. Wood screws are used for casing mounts.

1. Plaster screws—Will hold lightweight draperies in plaster or dry walls.
2. Plaster plugs—Hold plaster screws more securely.
3. Toggle bolts—Needed for mounting heavy draperies.
4. Screw anchors or molly bolts—Will hold brackets securely on plaster or dry walls.

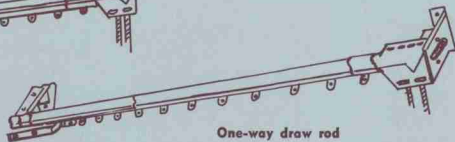


Rods are available in a wide selection of standard models. In addition, they can be custom cut and assembled to any size. They can be mounted on the wall or the window frame, on extenders or inside the casing. Rods for bow and bay windows are custom cut. Decorative rods have become a fashion trend. Many of the basic types are also available in a variety of decorative finishes. The rods then become an important part of the decorating plan.

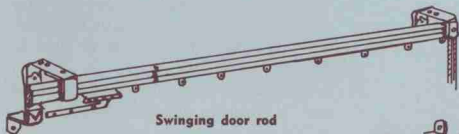
ROD TYPES MOST OFTEN USED



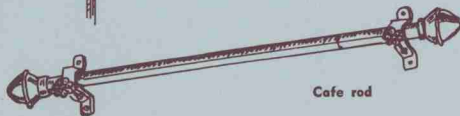
Two-way draw rod



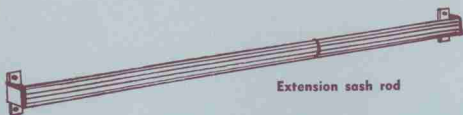
One-way draw rod



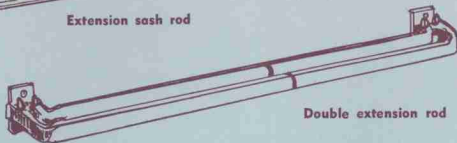
Swinging door rod



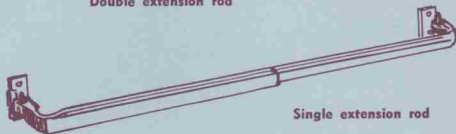
Cafe rod



Extension sash rod



Double extension rod



Single extension rod

FABRIC SELECTION

Whether you are selecting ready-mades, custom-mades or making your own curtains and draperies, you have a wide range of fabrics to choose from. Color, design and texture will be your first considerations because your window treatments must harmonize with the other furnishings.

The following qualities in fabric will make your choice more satisfactory.

- A good hand—drapes well. Hangs in pleasing folds.
- Fibers that wear well.
- Colorfast dyes.
- Special finishes—stain-resistant, crease-resistant, drip-dry.
- Preshrunk.

Examine the fabric you like under both artificial light and daylight. See how it looks with the sunlight shining through it. If it is to be lined, hold the fabric and lining up together to see how the color or pattern is affected. Take home swatches to try with your other furnishings.

Always allow for enough fabric to insure graceful, full curtains and draperies. Be sure to check and recheck your measurements before you buy.

Braids, fringes, appliques and other types of trim are available to give your window treatments an individual or decorator finish. They can be an important addition to either the draperies you make or to those that you buy ready made.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES:

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