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## Need help to measure and fit your curtains or blinds?

Let us take care of it, or use  
our guide to do it yourself.



Featured on the front cover: Sian Edwards, Estimator, Furnishing Fabrics

John Lewis department stores SD831-98 / 03.14



Whether you're choosing our Made to order 7-day or our Made to order bespoke service, the key to getting your curtains or blinds absolutely spot on is by measuring your window accurately.

The easiest and most reliable way to achieve this is by using our Measure and fit service where one of our estimators comes to your home. Your blinds or curtains will fit perfectly, and you'll save yourself the time and hassle of doing it yourself. Read on to find out what it involves and how to book.

Alternatively, if you'd prefer to do it yourself, or if you're choosing from our range of ready-made curtains, from page 4 of this leaflet, you'll find a guide to measuring and fitting your curtains and blinds.

You can find out more about the three ways to shop for curtains and blinds at [johnlewis.com/madetomeasure](http://johnlewis.com/madetomeasure). And if you need inspiration for your home, we offer a Home design service. Visit [johnlewis.com/homedesign](http://johnlewis.com/homedesign) or talk to a Partner in our shops to find out more.

## Would you like us to take care of it?

If you're opting for our Made to order 7-day or Made to order bespoke curtains or blinds, we offer two services which will ensure that all your dimensions are perfectly precise.

### Measure and fit

For this complete service, our estimator will visit your home and measure your windows. They can measure up for new tracks, poles and curtains all in one go. Then once your perfectly sized blinds or curtains have been made, we'll return to fit or hang them.

Please bear in mind that we'll only fit your blinds or curtains if we've measured up for them.

### Measure only

If you want to save the cost of fitting, we can come and measure up, and then when your blinds or curtains are delivered, you can fit them yourself. While the measuring up is free, there is a charge for the fitting, which will depend on the size of the job; our Partners will be able to advise you on the cost.

### Ready to book?

To request a measure go online at [johnlewis.com/services](http://johnlewis.com/services) or visit your local shop and speak to one of our Partners.

### Child Safety Warning

Young children can be strangled by loops in pull cords, tapes and inner cords that operate the product.

To avoid strangulation and entanglement, keep cords out of the reach of young children. Cords may become wrapped around a child's neck.

Move beds, cots and furniture away from window covering cords.

Do not tie cords together. Make sure cords do not twist and create a loop.



## Planning to do the measuring yourself?

If you feel confident enough to measure up yourself, or you're buying from our range of ready-made curtains, just follow our simple guide and we'll help you get it right.

### What do you need?

- Metal measuring tape (avoid fabric as it can stretch and give inaccurate readings)
- Pencil (so you can rub out your marks afterwards)

### Things to remember

- Always work in metric – centimetres (cm) and millimetres (mm)
- When measuring the width and drop (length) of a window frame, take a number of readings at different points. Window frames aren't always absolutely straight, especially on older windows, so the width and drop can vary
- When you've completed your measuring, always take the smallest measurement as your guide, as opposed to the average
- We recommend that you measure your window differently depending on whether you're choosing curtains (see page 7) or blinds (page 8)
- The best way to get your window looking perfect is to install your tracks or poles before you measure up for your curtains

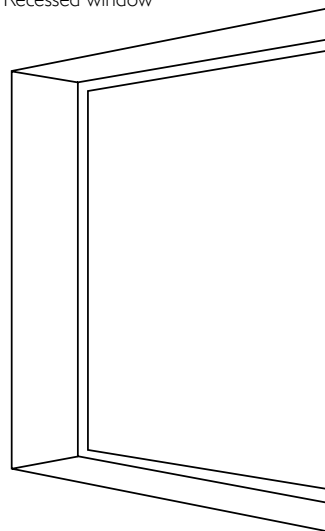
## Measuring it yourself

First look at your window to decide where you want your curtains to go. If the window sits in a recess, decide whether you want the curtains or blinds hanging inside or outside it.

### Measuring for poles and tracks

If you're putting curtains in front of your recess, or if your window sits flush to the wall, you'll need to place your poles or tracks 15cm above the window and extend by 15-20cm each side. This will make space for your curtains to be drawn back. If you're planning to have very full curtains, add a few extra centimetres to allow space to draw your curtains back fully and let the maximum light into your room.

Recessed window



## Poles

- Measure the width across the top of the window allowing enough space for your finials (the decorative ends attached to the pole)
- If space is tight and there's no room for finials, why not try stud ends or recess brackets?
- If you want your curtains to hang below the window sills, give them clearance by fixing your tracks to a batten (a block to which you attach your brackets)
- All poles can be cut to fit your space perfectly and if you're not quite sure of your exact measurements, extendable poles will expand to fit your space
- We also offer poles to fit your bay windows, please ask for details

## Tracks

- If you want your curtains inside a recess, measure its width then ensure that your track is a couple of centimetres shorter to allow space for the brackets
- PVC or aluminium tracks can be cut to fit your space perfectly
- If you're not quite sure of your exact measurements, extendable steel tracks will expand to fit your space
- Tracks are ideal for use in bay windows. Choose PVC or aluminium tracks which can be bent to follow the contours of the window. If you prefer not to do it yourself, you can order heavier duty aluminium tracks already bent to fit
- If you want your curtains to hang below the window sills, give them clearance by fixing your tracks to a batten. Alternatively, you can choose a pole with extended brackets instead

## Measuring for curtains

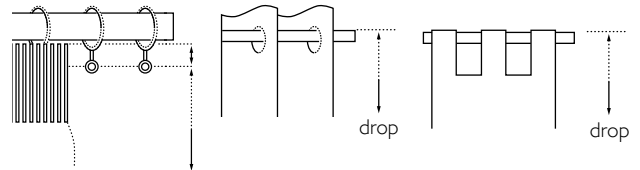
Once you've installed your poles or tracks, you're ready to measure up for your curtains. Measurements vary by heading type, so first choose the type you want; choose between pencil pleat, pinch pleat, goblet, eyelet, cartridge, wave or tab top. Remember that eyelets and tab tops will only work on a pole.

## Width:

- Measure the total width of your track or pole (excluding the finials) – only measure the window if it runs wall to wall
- If you are making the curtains yourself, add up to 10cm to the width measurement of your curtains to allow the fabric to overlap when curtains are closed. If we're making them for you, our manufacturers will allow for this

## Length:

- First choose how long you want your curtains, and what heading type you like
- If you're using a pole, measure pencil and pinch pleat curtains from the eye of your curtain ring, and tab top and eyelet curtains from the top of the pole
- If you're using tracks, measure from the eye of the curtain glider on top of the track

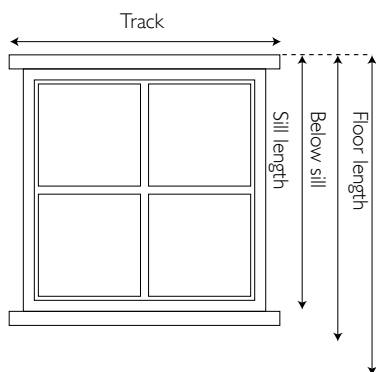


- Sill length curtains should hang to between 0.5cm and 1cm above the sill
- If you prefer your curtains to hang below the sill, we'd suggest allowing an extra 15cm in length
- Floor length curtains should finish 1cm to 2cm above the floor, but if you prefer a more opulent look, add an extra 20cm or so and let the fabric drape on the floor

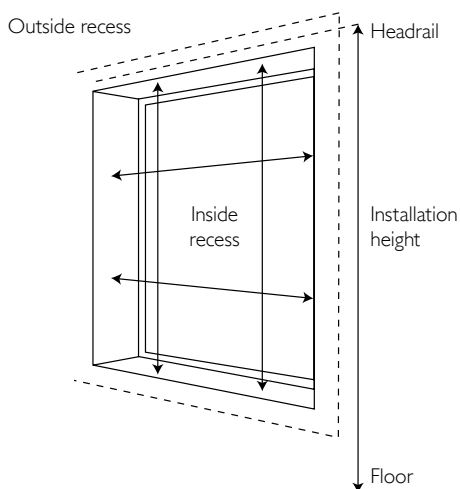
## Measuring for blinds

- If your window is set into a recess it needs to be 7.5cm deep in order to fit in the blind mechanism. Double check how much clearance any window handles need to hang the blind in front of them

- Measure both the width, length and installation height of the space to get the right dimensions. Remember to take measurements at three different points, and use the smallest to ensure accuracy
- If you prefer to hang your blind in front of the recess, position it as far above as you choose, then measure the inside of the recess horizontally and add a minimum of 0.5cm to each side



Please use this chart to record your window measurements, then bring it with you when you come in to buy your blinds.



## Fitting it yourself

Curtains, poles, tracks and blinds come with full fitting instructions, which you should follow carefully. Here are a few extra tips:

### Poles

- Check you have a pole, two finials, two brackets (more if its over 150cm long), plenty of rings (we recommend one per 10cm of pole) and connectors if you are joining poles together. All brackets should come with screws and rawlplugs, but you may need to buy other fixings to fit your wall type
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions to ensure your brackets are safely fitted

### Tracks

- Tracks come complete with all fittings except curtain hooks, so don't forget to buy those
- Most tracks come with universal brackets which can be fitted either to your ceiling joist, directly into your wall or onto a batten above the window
- If you're bending your tracks you'll get better results if they're at room temperature

### Curtains

- Eyelet and tab top curtains are the easiest to hang. All you have to do is run your pole through the eyelets or tabs and space evenly
- If you're hanging your curtains on poles, thread the hooks into the top row of pockets then insert through the eyes at the bottom of each ring
- If you're hanging goblet, pencil pleat or pinch pleat curtains on tracks, thread the hooks through the lower row of the header tape so the heading covers the tracks. Then attach each hook to your glider and smooth all the folds

## Blinds

- If you're fitting your blind outside a recess, it's up to you how high or low you fit it; we recommend leaving around 10cm above the window frame or recess
- Brackets are usually positioned one at each end but some wider blinds, particularly Venetian, need an additional centre bracket for support

Blind	Room/ window	Window fitting	Installation height	Width	Drop
1		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
2		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
3		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
4		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
5		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
6		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			

## How much fabric will you need?

If you're choosing our Made to order 7-day or Bespoke services, we'll do all the calculations for you. But to help with budgeting and choosing your fabric, you may find it useful to know how much fabric you'll need. If so, go to [johnlewis.com/curtains](http://johnlewis.com/curtains) where you'll find buying guides and videos to help. Or you can follow the instructions below.

1. Define your heading type	Multiply width of track or pole by
Goblet	2.5
Pencil pleat	2.5
Triple pinch pleat	2.5
Tab top	1.7
Double pinched pleat	2.3
Cartridge	2.3
Eyelet	2.3
Standard and slot	2

2. Calculate the number of widths required	Our example	Your notes	Your notes
Measure the width of your track or pole	200cm		
Multiply by	x	x	x
Heading type required (see table on opposite page)	2.5 pencil pleat		
Equals	=	=	=
Total width of fabric in curtains	500cm		
Divide the above figure by the width of fabric on sale	e.g. 137cm		
Equals	=	=	=
Total number of widths (round up to the nearest whole number) = X	4		

3. Define your drop length	Our example	Your notes	Your notes
Measure the length of drop	200cm		
Add	+	+	+
Heading and hem allowance – we recommend 30cm	30cm	30cm	30cm
Allow for pattern repeat (if patterned fabric only – this varies according to the fabric)	70cm		
Equals	=	=	=
Total drop length = Y	300cm		

4. Work out your total fabric required	Our example	Your notes	Your notes
X multiplied by Y equals	12m		

Blind	Room/ window	Window fitting	Installation height	Width	Drop
1		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
2		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
3		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
4		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
5		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
6		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			

Blind	Room/ window	Window fitting	Installation height	Width	Drop
7		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
8		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
9		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
10		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
11		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			
12		Inside recess			
		Outside recess			