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Design And Make Your Own Window Coverings

By Jo Williams

If you are currently in the process of decorating your home's interior, you already know that it can be an overwhelming and expensive task. In fact, most items for your new home will have to be pre-manufactured and installed by professionals. Wouldn't it be nice if there were certain things you could cut corners on? Well, you'll be happy to know that if you are handy with a sewing machine, you can save big money by making your own window coverings. In this article, we'll give you the information you need in order to design and make your own window coverings.

The wonderful thing about making your own window coverings is that you control all aspects of the project, from patterns to lengths and everything in between. The first determination you will have to make is the pattern and color of fabric you intend to use. For starters, you will probably want to go with two coordinating colors that will provide a layered look. You can certainly go as bold as you like, but it is usually recommended that you keep your window coverings as plain as possible. Soft colors such as white and light blue match perfectly with nearly any valance you plan on using, and these colors also allow for sunlight to enter the room for a soothing glow. In comparison, dark colors such as forest green or black create an uninviting atmosphere

When you have selected all the necessary fabrics for your window coverings, you will have to make sure that you take the correct measurements before you start work. This is probably the most important step in making your own window coverings, as inaccurate measurements will lead to wasted time on the sewing machine. It is easiest to first measure the width and then measure the height of the window using a steel measuring tape. Record these measurements to the nearest eighth of an inch.

You will also have to decide if you are going to want an inside mount or an outside mount. Inside mounts will give your window a slimmer appearance, while outside mounts will make your window appear larger. Regardless of which mounting you prefer, it is crucial that you take measurements that are as accurate as possible.

With the preliminary work completed, it is now time to begin sewing and constructing your very own window coverings. The first step is to cut your fabrics to the measurements you have recorded. To be on the safe side, it isn't a bad idea to add an extra inch or two. Starting at the top edge of the fabrics, you will then use a straight stitch while affording a half inch allowance. Next, you will measure an inch and a half down from the top seam and stitch along one entire long side, moving along the bottom edge and straight up the other side. You will want to leave a six inch opening on either of the edges (to later turn right side out). To finish up stitching, continue until you come within an inch and a half of the top seam again.

The only thing left for you to do now is to pull and press the fabrics through your six inch opening, and stitch it closed by hand. There you have it; your very own window covering! You can then buy a

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standard curtain rod to hang your window covering on and you are finished. As you can see, it really is simple to design and make your own window coverings.

Jo Williams has an interest in Home & Garden related topics. To access more information on <http://www.infactual.com/category/home/> or on <http://www.infactual.com/2006/07/28/window-covering/>, please click on the links.

Selecting The Right Drapes For Your Home

By Ciara McNamara

Practically every house-proud homeowner wants to make the most of their home in terms of décor, and an integral part of achieving the perfect look for your property is getting the right drapes for each room. Because the theme and décor in a home can vary from one room to the next, it is important to consider a number of factors before selecting your window coverings. Some of the factors you need to consider when selecting drapes is the type of room you are buying for, the size of the windows, the type of ambiance you wish to create for the room, and the design and décor of the room. For instance, if you are buying drapes for your kids' bedrooms, heavy elaborate covering would look a little odd and could work out quite costly, whereas lighter coverings with simple designs could prove ideal. On the other hand, if you have a room that is reserved for entertaining, where the décor is rich and elaborate, the heavier window treatments could fit in nicely. A family room used for relaxing might benefit from simply designed and easy to maintain coverings, whereas a kitchen might fare better with café style drapes or even blinds. Each room requires careful thought and consideration before you make any firm decision with regards to the right coverings for the windows. Enjoy a great choice of fabrics, colors, and designs. Whatever the design and decoration of each of your rooms, you should have no problem finding the ideal coverings for the windows amongst the vast choice available. From simple, easy to maintain coverings designed for rooms with heavy traffic or children and pets to rich, luxurious coverings with elaborate patterns and sumptuous fabrics, you can find the right covers for every room in the home. Having the perfect drapes to complement the décor in a room can really inject life into the room, helping you to achieve both the look and the ambiance you are looking for. If you are carrying out a home improvement program, finding window coverings to suit each individual room can really make a difference to the overall finish of your improvements, and can give each room a whole new look. Choose ready made coverings or create your own. For those confident when it comes to sewing and design, you can get some incredible drapery materials at really affordable prices, and these can be used to make your own coverings depending on your needs. If you are not confident enough to make your own, you will find a vast choice of ready made coverings designed for all sorts of rooms in the home, from bedrooms and living rooms, to dining rooms and kitchens, so you can ensure that every room in the home boasts the perfect drapes to complement the décor. You can often get excellent deals on both ready made coverings and a wide choice of materials online, giving you an even better chance of finding the ideal window treatments for use throughout your home.

Ciara McNamara reveals for <http://www.curtains-drapes-coverings.com>, a source on tips and tricks. The writer is writing on subjects such as drapes (<http://www.curtains-drapes-coverings.com/drapes.html>) .

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