

A Guide to Curtain Measuring and Installation

When preparing for window treatments, properly measuring your space is critical. In this guide, we go over what tools you'll need and provide step-by-step instructions on how to correctly measure.

Before You Begin: Tools You'll Need

Before beginning, you'll need the following items:

Metal tape measure (a cloth measuring tape could give you inaccurate readings)

Pencil and paper

Hand saw

Level (to make sure everything is lined up properly)

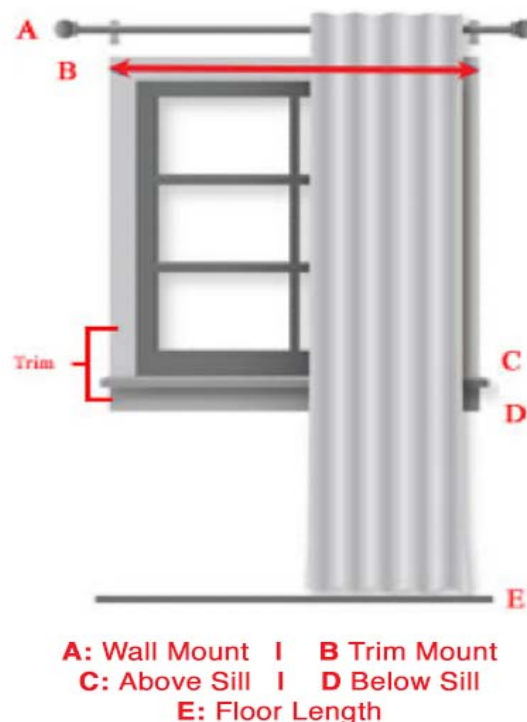
Rod with mounting brackets and hardware

Drill with either a 3/32-inch bit (for wall studs) or a 1/4-inch bit (for drywall)

Standard screwdriver

How to Measure and Install Drapery Rods and Curtains

Now that you have your tools available, it's time to measure and install your drapery rod. We recommend that you fully read through these instructions before starting. Be sure to double check measurements and go slow —there's no need to rush.



Step 1: Measure by Width and Length

Window Curtain Measuring Diagram

Window treatments are always measured width by length, and the width is always stated first. The length is always measured from the top of curtain panel to the floor.

Measuring for an outside mount: Generally for an outside mount, window hardware is mounted one to three inches above the top edge of the window frame. Measure horizontally from the outside edge of one side of the window molding to the outside edge of the other side.

Measure in three places: at the top, middle and bottom of the window, rounding your measurement to the nearest 1/8-inch. Take the widest of these measurements as your window width measurement.

Make a small pencil mark on the wall indicating the correct width and length. Hold the rod up to the wall using the pencil marks as a guide. Position the mounting brackets on the rod, and use a pencil to mark where the brackets will be screwed into the wall. This width should be at least 2" - 4" beyond each side of the window for each bracket placement.

Height of the bracket placement is determined by the finished drapery length and style. If the treatment is designed to be used with drapery rings, be sure there is proper allowance for the drop of the ring.

If you choose to expose your entire window: Add 6– 8" to the actual width of the window to allow enough space when the curtains are completely open in order to "clear" the window.

Step 2: Drilling Holes

Drilling curtain rod bracket holes

Drill holes for the bracket screws: Use a 3/32-inch drill bit if the screws will be installed in wall studs; use a 1/4-inch drill bit if the screws will be installed into drywall. If you are installing the screws in drywall, you should use plastic anchors.

Once you have drilled the hole in the drywall, insert the plastic anchors all the way into the hole. The screws will then screw into the plastic anchors.

Step 3: Install the Brackets

Installing curtain brackets

Screw in the mounting brackets: Align the screw holes on the mounting brackets with the holes you drilled in the wall. Use a standard screwdriver and screw in the bracket screws.

Before you tighten the screws completely, check and make sure that the rod fits correctly into the brackets; then tighten.

Step 4: Hang the curtain rod

Step 5: Install Your Fabric Panels

