

# Windows :: Bedding :: Study Guide



October 1, 2014

## Terms/Glossary:

### Apron

Horizontal decorative wood trim below the window sill.

### Clearance .

The distance from the mounting surface to the back of the curtain rod. Important consideration if an undertreatment is to be used.

### Cornice

A shallow, box-like frame (commonly wood) installed horizontally across the top of a window.

### Finial

Decorative end-piece of a rod or pole.

### Heading

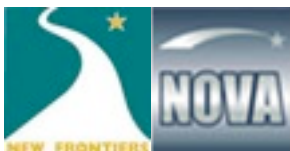
The top of a rod—pocket curtain which forms a ruffle when the curtain is on a rod. The pleated portion of a pinch—pleated drapery.

### Holdback

Decorative drapery hardware designed to hold draperies off to the sides of the window. Also used to hold scarves, and create swag treatments.

### Pin-on Hook

A metal pin designed to slide into draperies, and then to attach (hook) to the carriers/slides of a traverse rod.



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## Recess

The available depth of the window opening. Important when considering an inside—mounted treatment. For most treatments, it is necessary to deduct the space that is taken up by a window crank, latch, sash, or any other protrusion, to assure smooth operation.

## Return

The drapery fabric that covers the area from the end of the curtain rod back to the wall. In shirr—on curtains, the fabric is eased around the corner of the curtain rod back to the wall. In pin—on draperies, an additional pin is used at the outside, top corners of the drapery and hooked into the hole provided on the rod bracket.

## Rod Pocket

A pocket or casing sewn across the top (and sometimes bottom) of a curtain panel through which a rod is inserted. Generally, the pocket should measure  $\frac{1}{8}$ " to 1" larger than the rod.

## Sash

The part of the window which includes the glass and the frame that holds the glass. Normally, the moveable part of the window.

## Sash rod

A small rod designed to be mounted inside a window frame on the sash, often used on doors as well.

## Sill

The horizontal ledge at the base of the window.

## Shirr

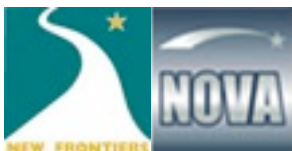
Gathering a piece of fabric onto a rod through a rod pocket.

## Stackback

The amount of wall space occupied by draperies or vertical blinds when they are completely open.

## Swag

Fabric which is draped above a window, possibly extending down the sides.



### Traverse Rod

A rod which incorporates draw cords and a pulley system to open and close draperies. Available in decorative and non-decorative styles. Designed for use with pin-on draperies.

### Valance

A decorative fabric treatment installed horizontally across the top of the window.

**AUSTRIAN SHADE** — A fabric shade that pulls up on vertical cords into a puff of material and falls straight when lowered.

**BAY WINDOW** — A window or series of windows with at least three sides that projects from the exterior wall of a house.

**BISHOP SLEEVE** - A deeply curved, goblet—like shape created when curtain panels are pulled back or gathered at one or more locations in the vertical range of the drapery.

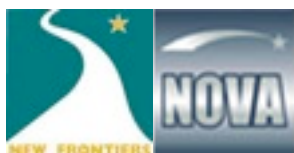
**BOW WINDOW** — A semicircular, or curved bay window

**BOX PLEAT** — A tailored, symmetrical pleat made by folding the material to the back on either side of the pleat to create a "box," which is stitched and pressed flat.

**BUCKRAM** — A coarse cotton or linen used as stiffening for valances and tiebacks.

**CAFE CURTAINS** — Short curtains that hang on the lower half of a window and are usually kept closed; the top part of the window is often finished with a valance or another pair of short curtains to create a tiered effect. First used in 19th-century Viennese restaurants so patrons could watch passersby as they dined.

**CASING** — The top hem of a curtain, left open at both ends so a curtain rod can be slipped through. Also called a rod pocket.



**CASEMENT WINDOW** — A hinged window that opens either in or out, like a door, operated by a crank mechanism or by hand.

**CLERESTORY** — A window in a gable or in an outside wall of a room or building that rises above an adjoining roof.

**CORNICE** — A decorative board, often molded or painted, that is attached to the top of a window to create an architectural finish. It can be used with or without a curtain.

**DORMER WINDOW** — A window that is set under a sloping roof.

**DOUBLE-HUNG SASH WINDOW** — A design invented in 17th-century Holland comprising two panels that slide up and down in vertical grooves with the aid of cords or chains concealed in the window jamb.

**FESTOON** — Any fabric treatment fixed at the top of the window, including a swag or short dressmaker—style curtains.

**FINIAL** — The fixture at the end of a curtain rod, either attached to it or added as decoration; originally intended to prevent curtains from sliding off.

**FRENCH DOOR** — A casement window that extends from the ceiling to the floor and features glass panes that run its entire height. Introduced at Versailles in the seventeenth century. Also called French windows.

**HEADING** — The top finish of a curtain or drapery panel. It can range from a simple hem that doubles as a rod pocket to more elaborate designs such as pinch pleats, box pleats or swags.

**HOLDBACK** — A decorative wood, metal, porcelain, or glass ornament attached to the woodwork on each side of a window, used for holding curtains back when they are pulled open



**INTERLINING** — Soft material sewn between a curtain panel and the lining to add weight to the panel and give it a more substantial hang.

**JABOT** - The cascading side pieces of a swag or festoon. Jabots can be short or run all the way to the floor.

**JAMB** — A side jamb is the vertical molding of a window; the head jamb is the horizontal molding at the top.

**LAMBREQUIN** — A stiff, shaped valance that extends down the sides of a window, sometimes to the floor, and forms a theatrical frame around the window.

Is fabricated from plywood or MDF, and can simply be painted, or 1/2" foam + fabric applied to provide a soft upholstered appearance.

**MULLIONS** - The strips (usually wood but can also be metal or plastic) that separate the panes of glass (vertically) within a window sash or french door.

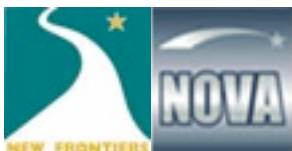
**MUNTINS** - The strips (usually wood but can also be metal or plastic) that separate the panes of glass (horizontally) within a window sash or french door.

**PINCH PLEATS**— A popular finish for drapery headings consisting of symmetrical, stitched—down triple pleats separated by flat areas. Also called French pleats.

**RETURN** — The part of a curtain or valance that wraps around the sides of the window.

**ROLLER SHADE** — A simple cylinder containing a spring mechanism, around which the shade coils when raised up by means of a pull cord.

**ROMAN SHADE** ~ A fabric shade with narrow horizontal rods at the back so that the shade forms a series of softly tailored, neatly flat folds when it is raised.



**SPRING—TENSION ROD** — A rod, usually adjustable, that fits inside the window frame and operates with an internal spring butting up against the window jamb on each side. Often used for café curtains and sheer treatments that hang close to window panes.

**SWAG** - A piece of fabric elegantly hung between two fixed points at the top of a window and draping down in the center.

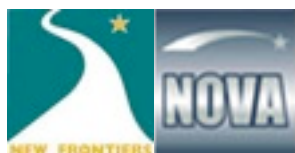
**TIEBACK** — A sash, tasseled cord, or separate length of straight, decorated, or shaped fabric that holds back a curtain panel.

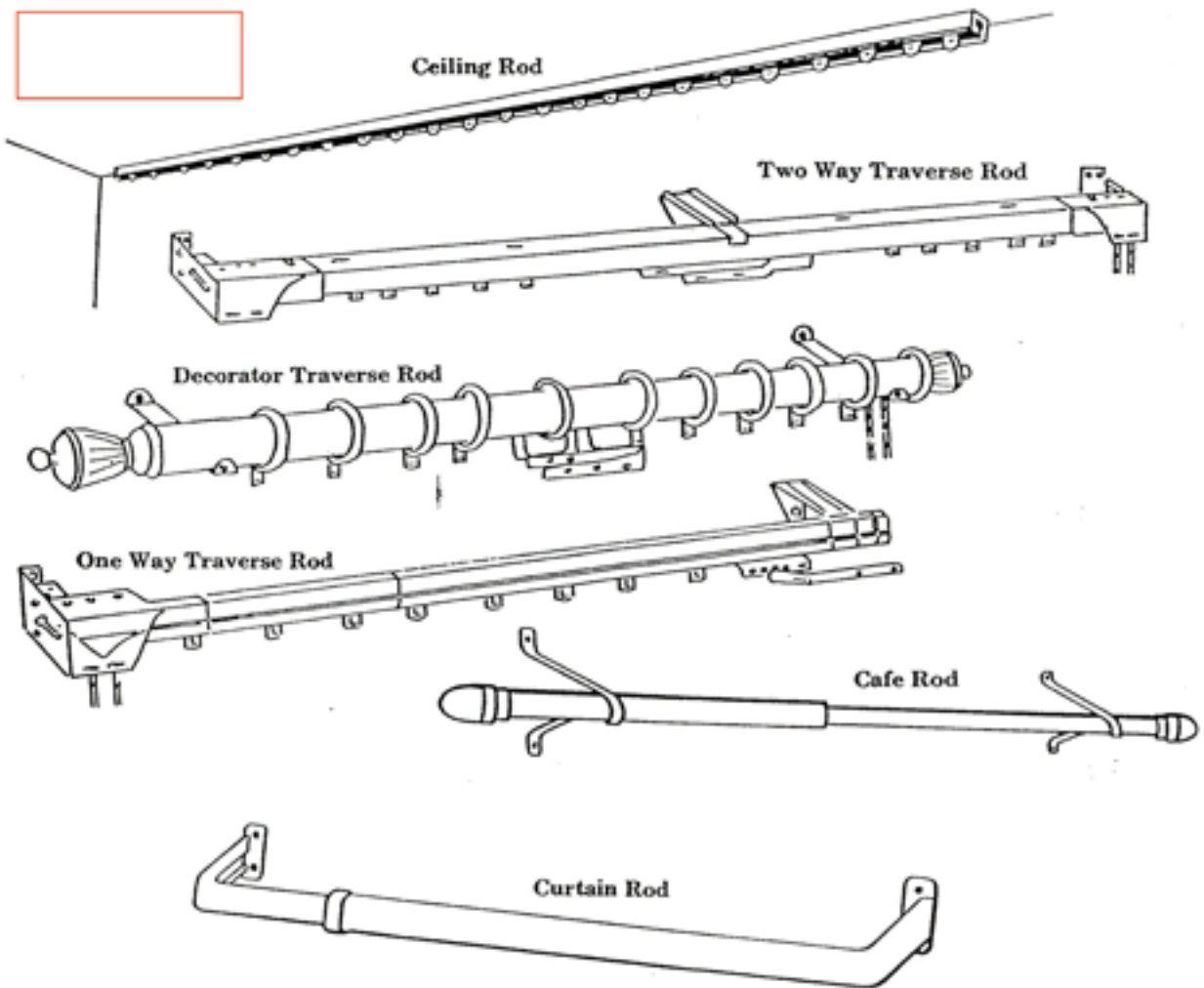
**UNDERCURTAIN** — In a treatment incorporating at least two layers, it is the layer closest to the windows.

**VALANCE** — A finishing touch that runs across the top of a window. It can be either a short drape of fabric or a facing of wood or metal. The English often refer to a fabric valance as a pelmet.

**VENETIAN BLIND** — The classic design of wooden slats joined by tapes and manipulated by cords, which dates at least as far back as ancient Egypt and has been improved upon slightly in modern times by the development of lightweight aluminum and plastic slats.

**WINDOW WALL** — An expanse of glass running from floor to ceiling and wall to wall, sometimes opening by means of sliding metal or wood frames.



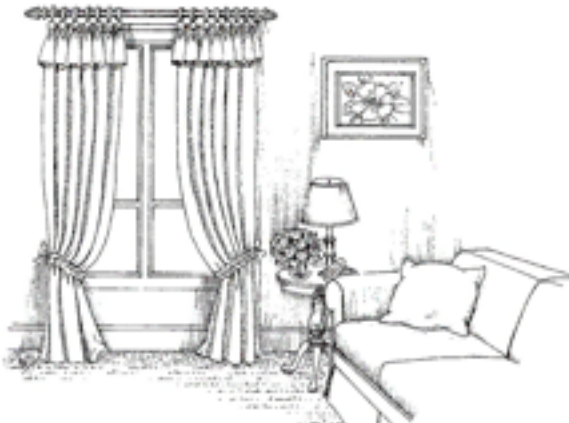
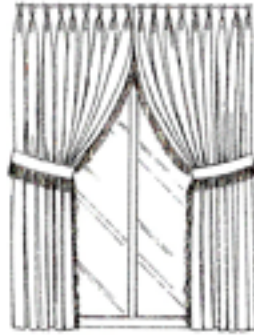
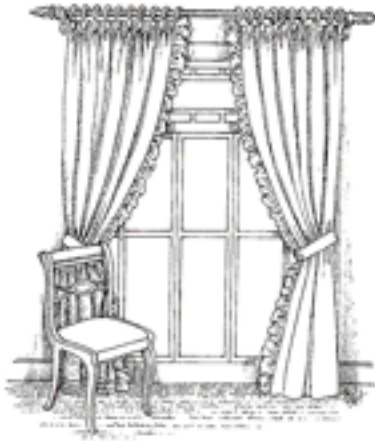


## PINCH (FRENCH) PLEATED DRAPERIES

### Specifications

#### Description:

A window covering topped with decorative pinched folds. Although a simple treatment on its own, it creates a complete look when used under valances or over sheers. It can also be a functional or decorative treatment when used with tiebacks.



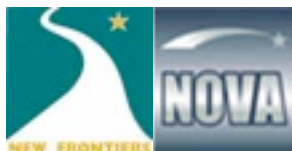
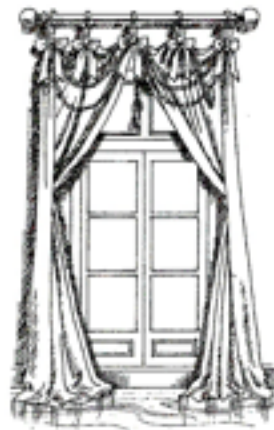
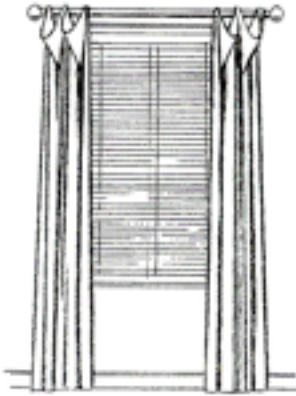
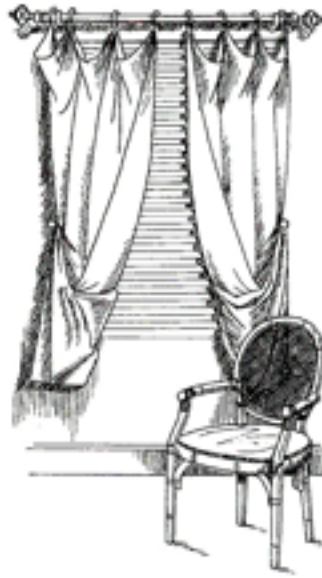


# ATHENA DRAPERIES

## Specifications

### Description:

This elegant style is created from a flat panel. Rings or brass clips are attached sufficiently apart so as to create a softly swagged effect at the heading when on the rod. The drape often falls gracefully on the floor in a puddle style. A facing of self or contrast fabric is recommended so that the lining will not show at the heading.

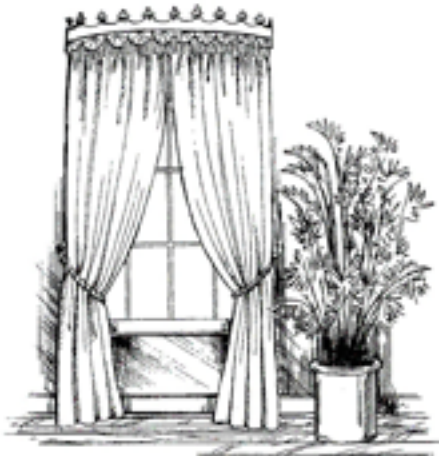
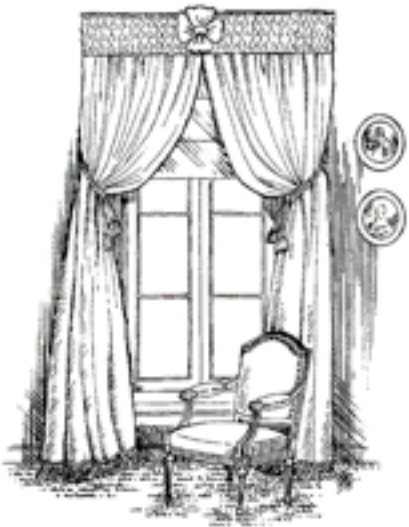


## SHIRRED (SMOCKED) & PENCIL PLEATED DRAPERIES

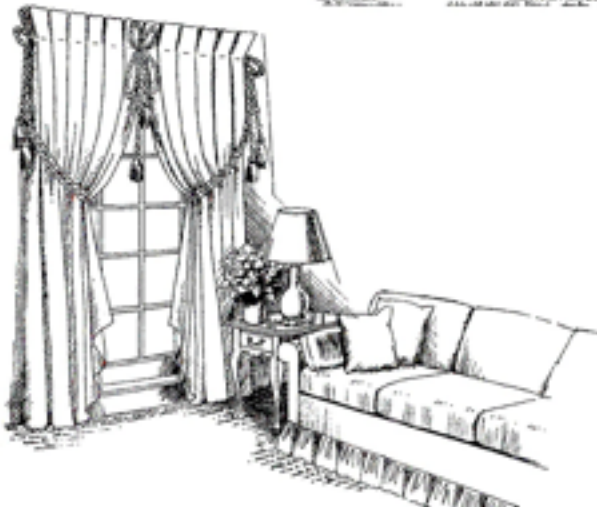
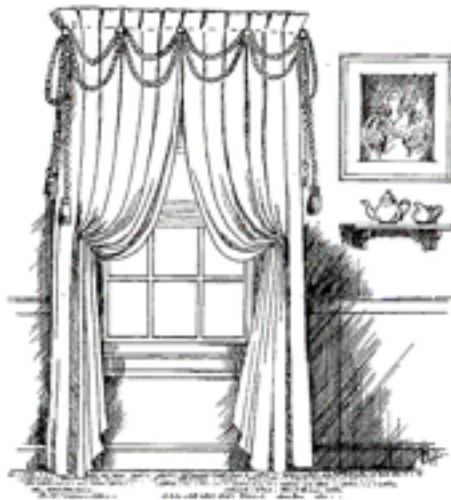
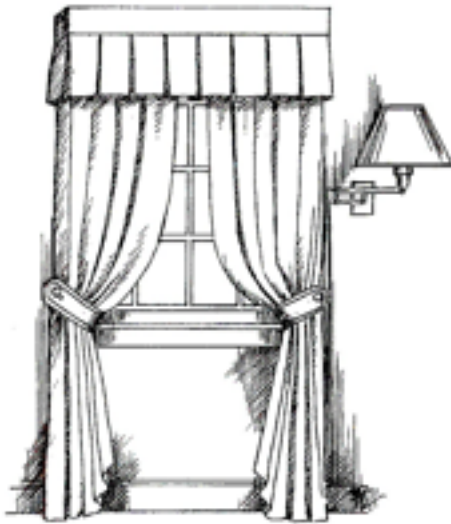
### Specifications

#### Description:

An attractive heading that creates even gathers across the width of the drapes. It adds a soft, romantic look to a simple window treatment.



# BOX-PLEATED DRAPERIES



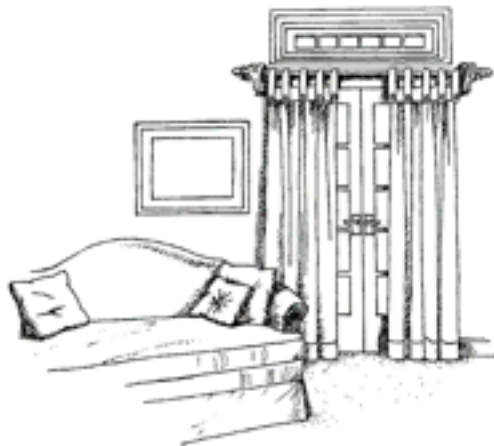
## Specifications

### Description:

A unique alternative to the traditional pinch pleat, box pleats create the very tailored styling of this drape. For optimal effect and function, use either as a stationary treatment with tiebacks or with a decorative rod.



## TAB TOP DRAPERIES



## Specifications

### Description:

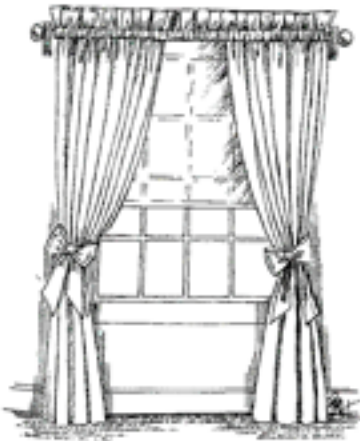
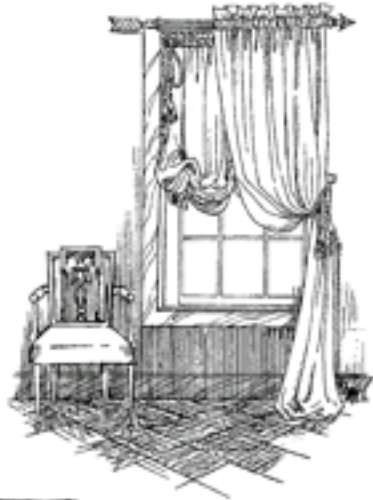
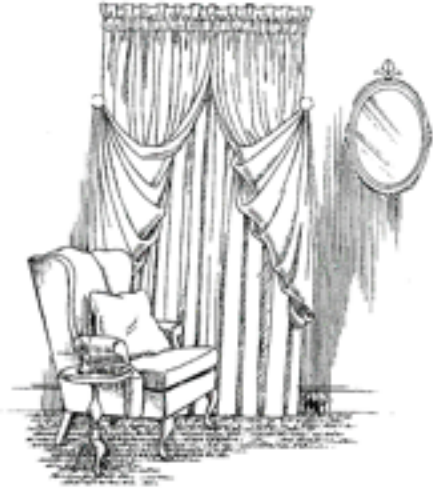
The simple styling of this treatment enhances the beauty of a decorative rod. Fabric loops (tabs) sewn to the top of a flat panel give this treatment a very contemporary look.

# ROD POCKET (SLOTTED) DRAPERIES

## Specifications

### Description:

A drapery treatment that creates a shirred heading look by gathering fabric onto a rod. The treatment can be dressed with a ruffle above the rod, or without if being used under a valance. Rod pocket covers can also be used to separate panels.

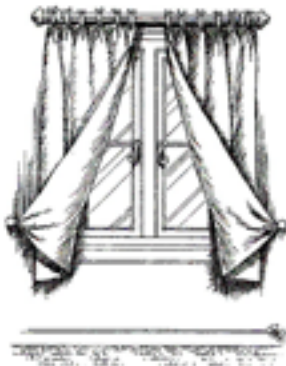
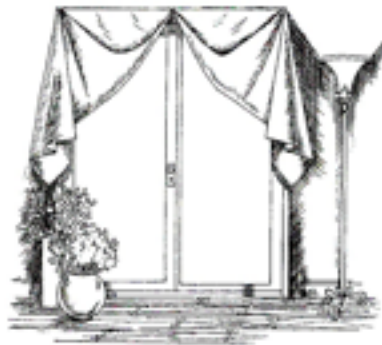
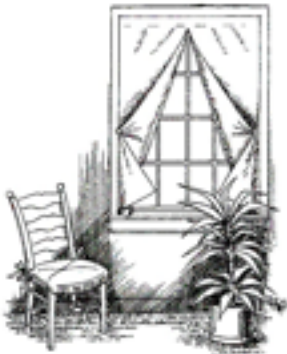
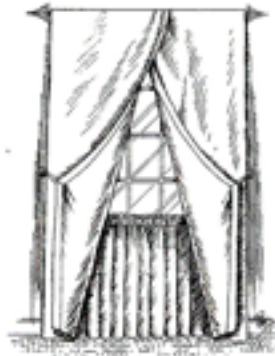
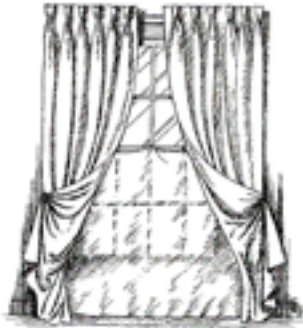


# TUXEDO (PULL-BACK) DRAPERIES

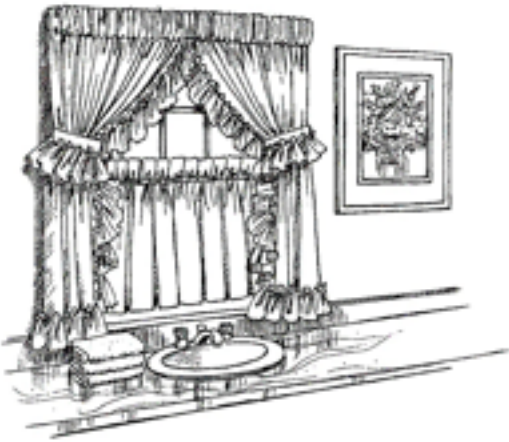
## Specifications

### Description:

A contemporary version of a traditional look that consists of a flat or pleated panel simply folded back and tied to reveal the contrast lining.



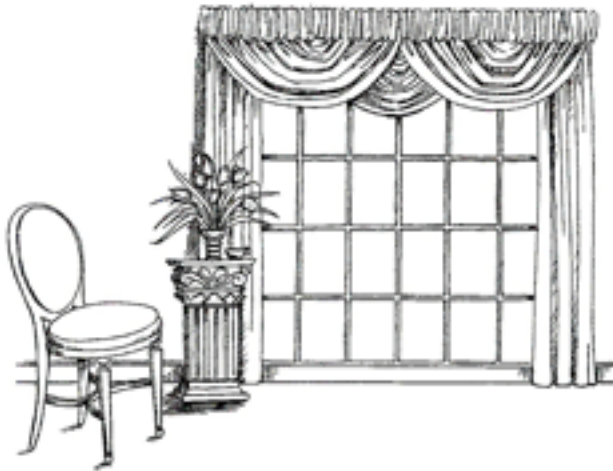
# FLAT ROD POCKET DRAPERIES



## Specifications

### Description:

A drapery treatment where a 2½" or 4½" Shirred heading look is created by gathering fabric onto a flat rod. Two flat rods can be used to create a deeper heading look.

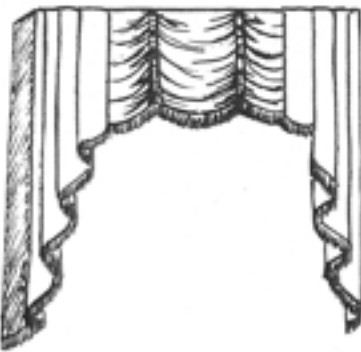
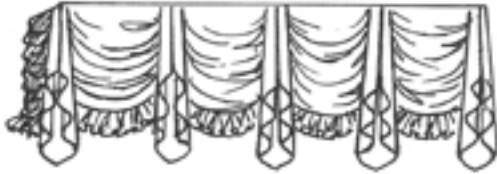
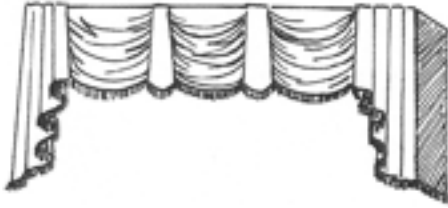


# AUSTRIAN VALANCE

## Specifications

### Description:

A soft, formal valance created by vertical shirring between scallops. Combine with other treatments to create a complete look.





## CLOUD VALANCE

### Specifications

#### Description:

This window treatment is used to suggest a cloud shade yet it cannot be raised or lowered. Used for its softening effect on the window, the gathered heading falls into small puffs that can be finished with or without a skirt. A cloud valance can be used alone, if privacy is not a factor, or as a decorative finish over other window treatments such as vertical blinds, drapes or Venetian blinds.

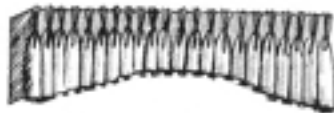
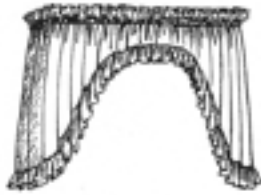


# SAVANNAH VALANCE

## Specifications

### Description:

This softly shaped valance adds an interesting touch to a window without distorting the view. The Savannah valance does not dip down in the center, unlike the Legacy valance (page 169), which does. The heading may be pleated, shirred or tunneled.

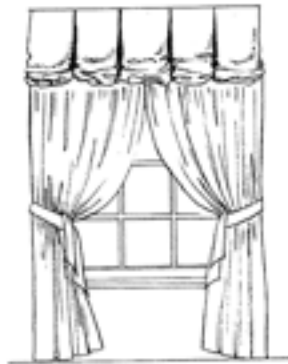
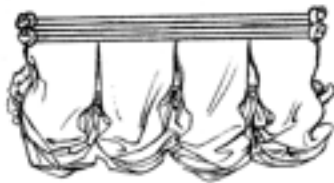
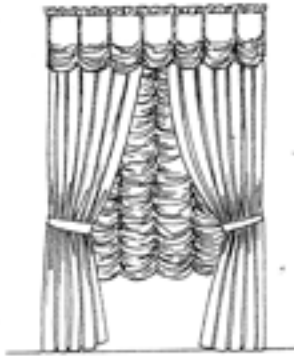


# BALLOON VALANCE

## Specifications

### Description:

A window treatment to suggest a balloon shade yet it cannot be raised or lowered. Large inverted pleats create a more tailored effect that is softened by billowing puffs. It can be used alone, if privacy is not a factor, or as a decorative finish over other window treatments such as vertical blinds, drapes or Venetian blinds.

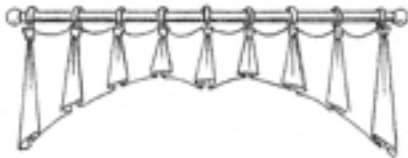


### Legacy Valance



#### Description:

Softly shaped valances add an interesting touch to a window without distorting the view. The Legacy valance dips down in the center, unlike the Savannah valance (page 167), which does not. The heading may be pleated, shirred or tunneled.

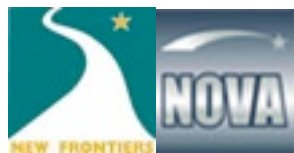
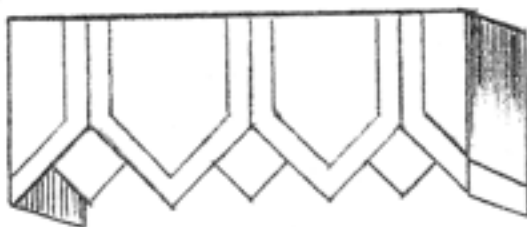
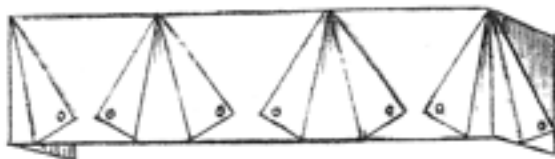
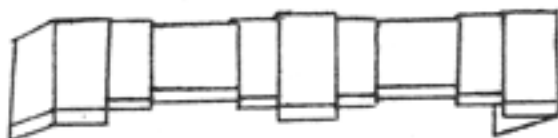
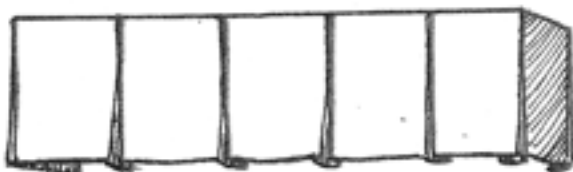


# BOX-PLEATED VALANCE

## Specifications

### Description:

A very tailored style that lends itself well as an overtreatment with vertical blinds, Venetian blinds and tied back draperies. Contrast banding adds a crisp look.

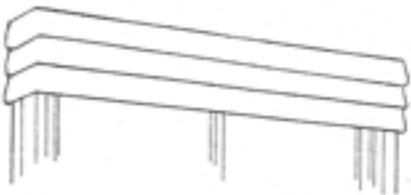
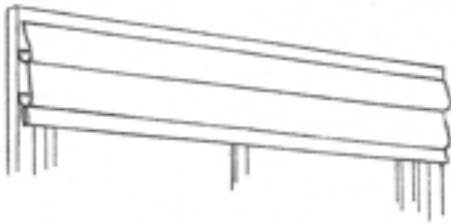
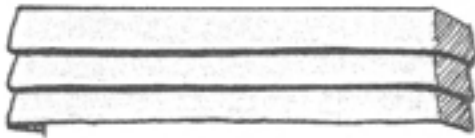
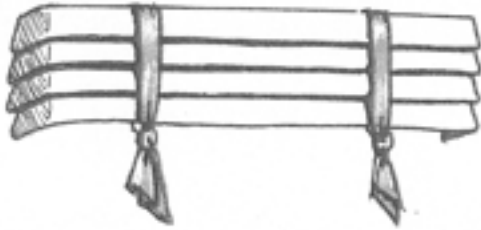


## Mock Roman Valance

## Specifications

### Description:

This window treatment is used to suggest a Roman shade yet it cannot be raised or lowered. A variety of decorative trims or contrast bands may be used to add interest. It is finished with two permanent pleats.

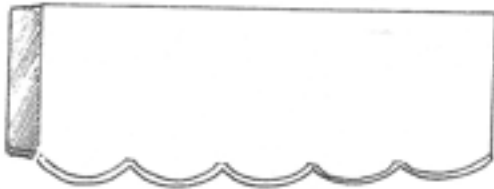
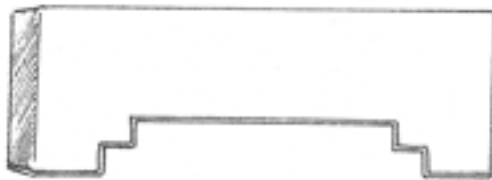
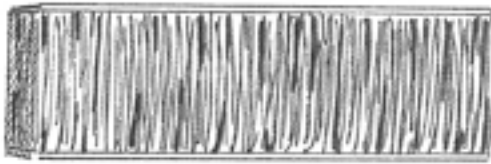


# UPHOLSTERED CORNICE BOX

## Specifications

### Description:

Upholstered cornices provide a classic topping for windows of any size, making an excellent overtreatment for draperies, vertical blinds or Venetian blinds. The cornice is constructed of a wooden frame that is padded and upholstered in a decorative fabric and finished with piping on the top and bottom edges.

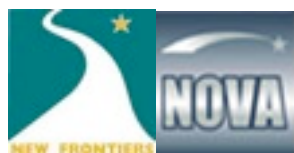
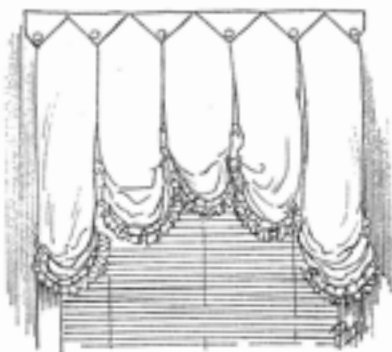
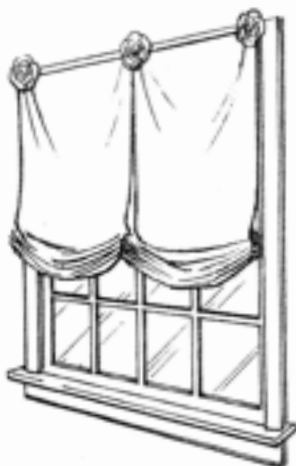
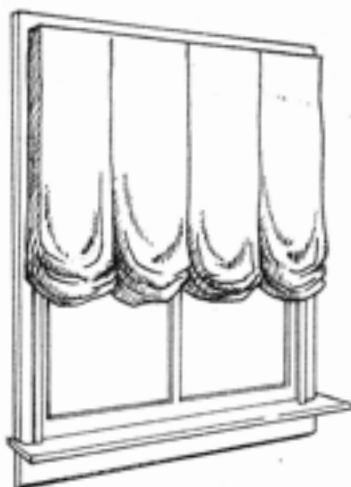


# BALLOON SHADES

## Specifications

**Description:**

A fully functional shade with large inverted pleats for a more tailored look that is softened by billowing poufs.



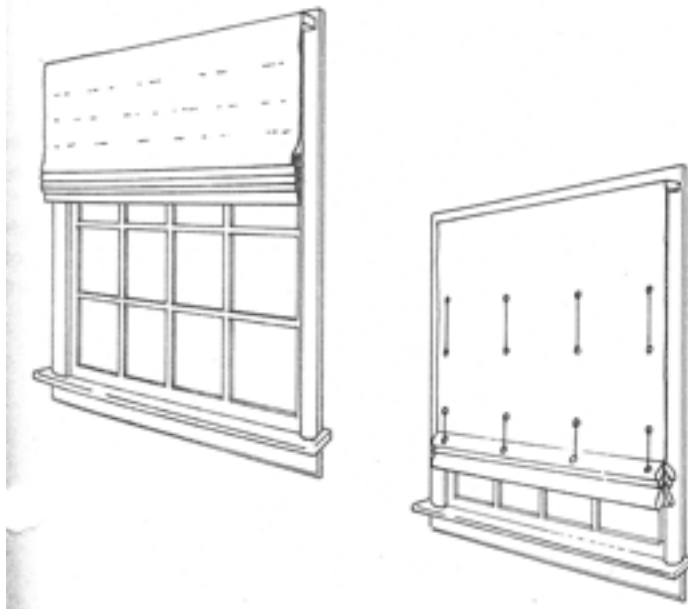
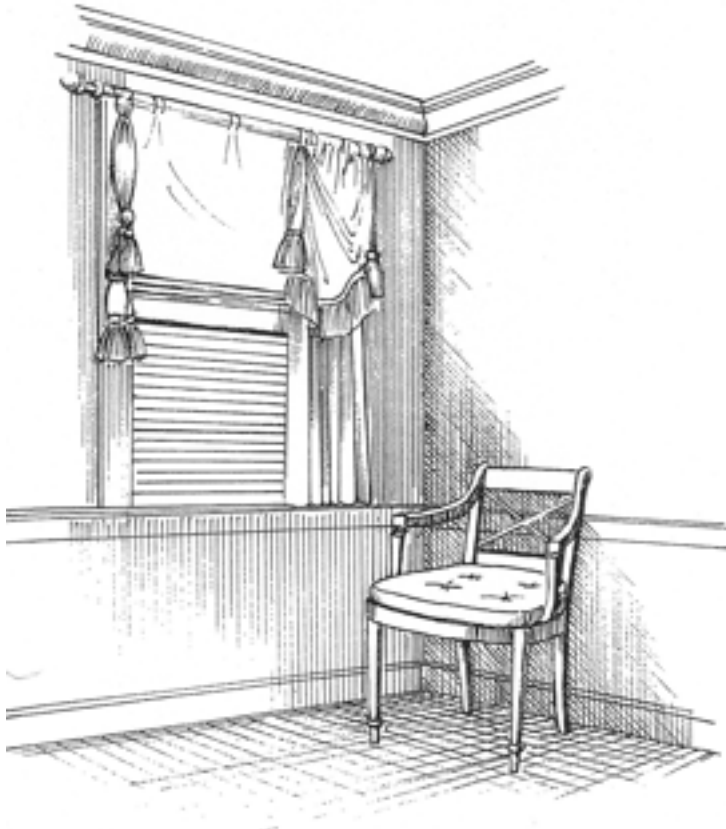


# Flat Roman Shades

## Specifications

### Description:

A versatile shade that hangs straight and collapses into folds as it is raised. The Roman shade fits many different décors, from contemporary to traditional to formal. To add interest to the shade, use contrast bands, a scalloped edge or a single permanent pleat at the bottom.

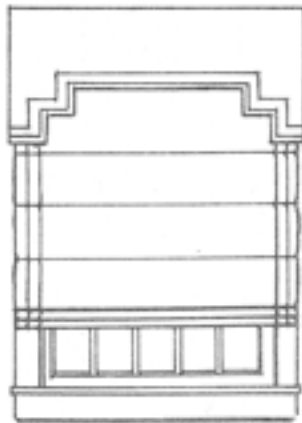
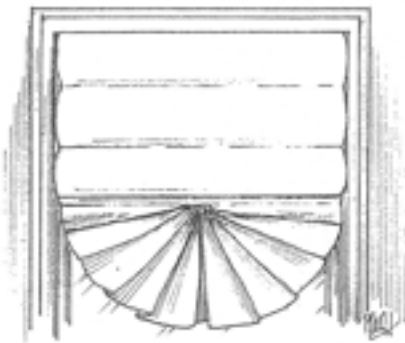


# FOLDED ROMAN SHADES

## Specifications



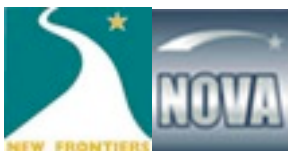
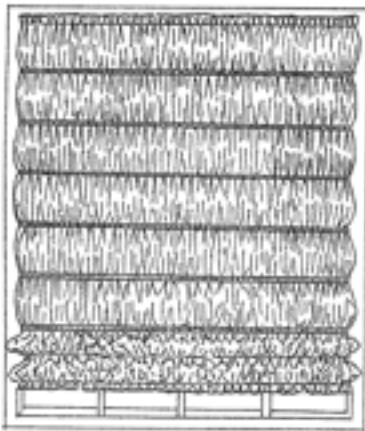
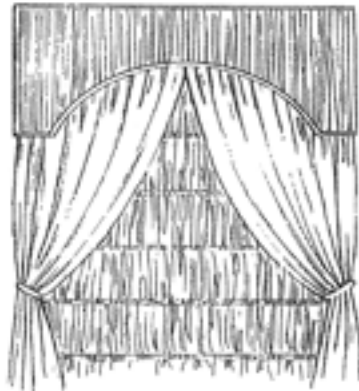
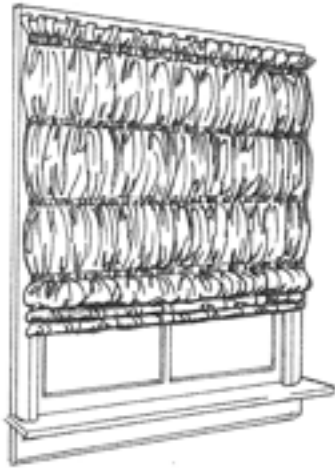
**Description:**  
A folded Roman shade is designed with overlapping folds cascading down the full length of the shade.



# SHIRRED ROMAN SHADES

## Specifications

**Description:**  
Fabric is shirred onto rods to create this very elegant yet functional shade that adds romance to the look of a traditional Roman shade.

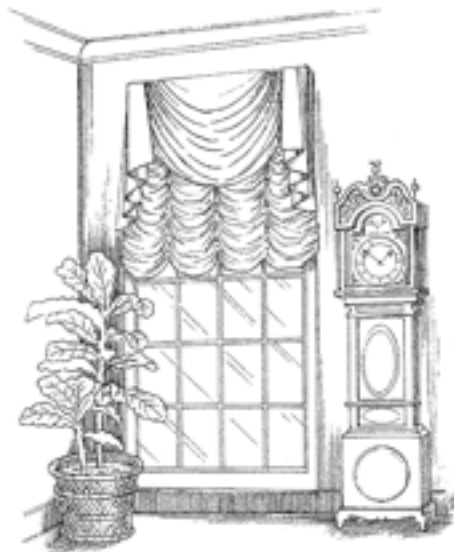
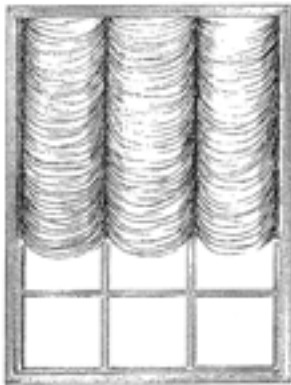
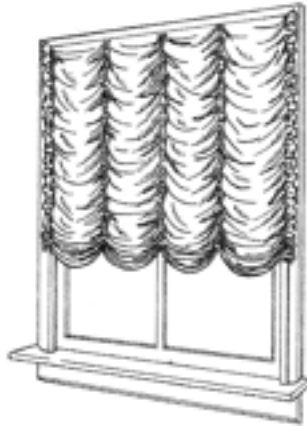


## AUSTRIAN SHADES

### Specifications

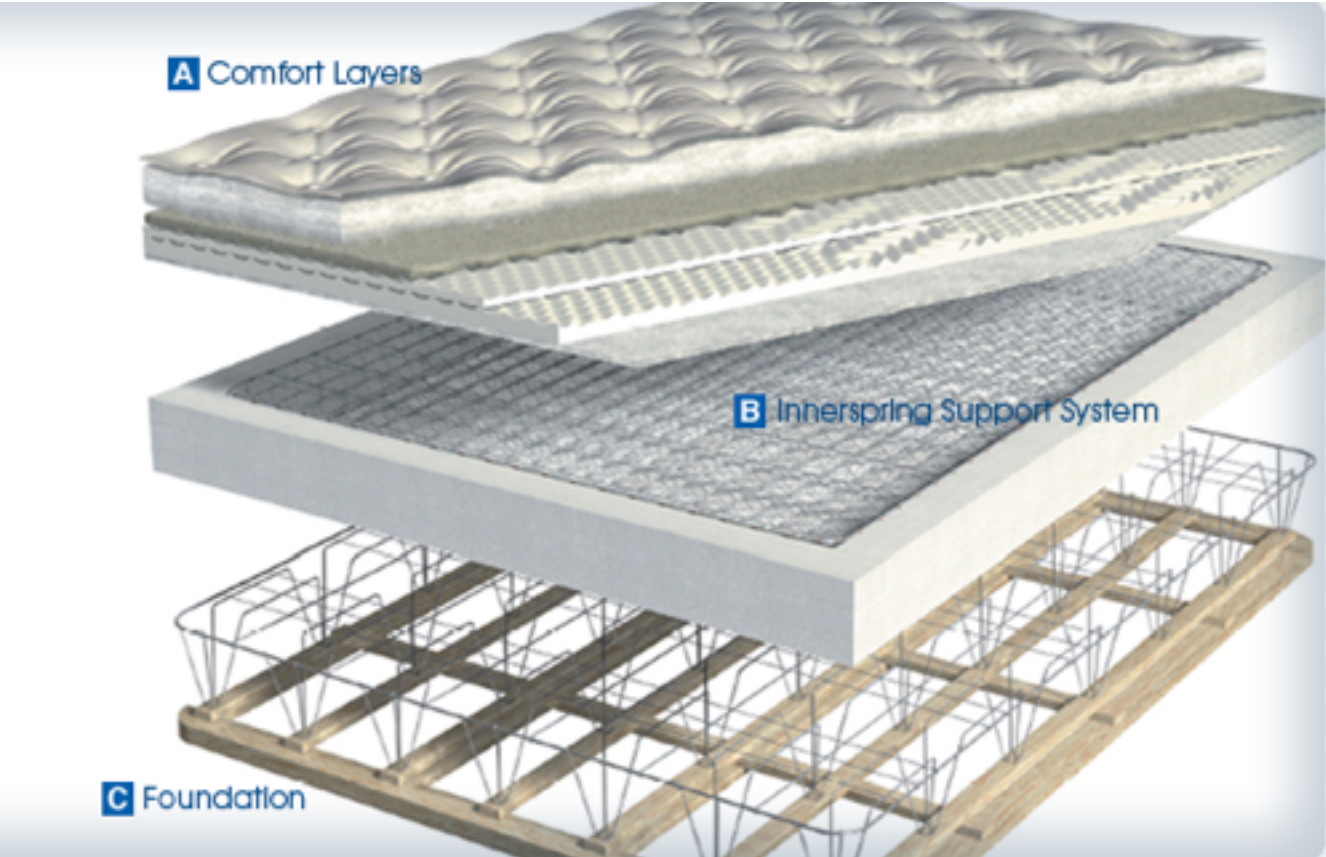
**Description:**

A soft, formal treatment created by vertical shirring between scallops.

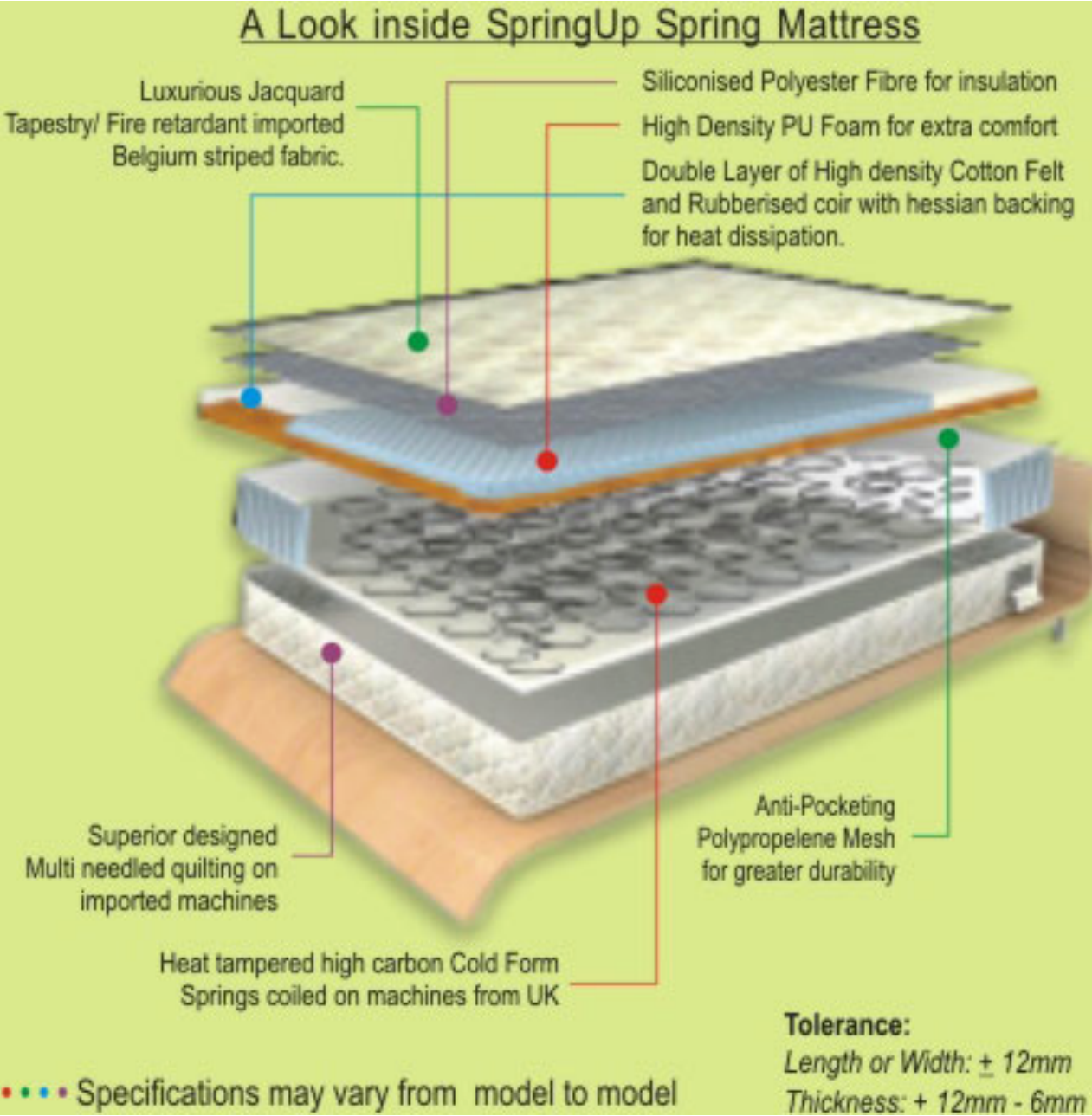


**Mattresses:**

Mattress Construction:



Standard Mattress Construction:



# HOW MATTRESSES ARE MADE – THE INNERSPRING MATTRESS AND THE MEMORY FOAM MATTRESS

The construction of a mattress is an involved process. Different pieces of equipment, a variety of materials, and special techniques are used to construct each layer of the mattress.

Also, mattress construction varies depending on the manufacturer and the type and size of the mattress being made.

While there are variants of each, two of the major types of mattresses are on the market are the innerspring mattress and memory foam mattress.

In the United States, innerspring mattresses tend to be more common, while the European mattress market is divided more evenly between the innerspring mattress and the memory foam mattress.

## **Innerspring Mattress**

### *Mattress Coils*

Innerspring coils are at the core of innerspring mattresses. Innerspring mattresses also include the insulation that is applied to the coils, and the cushioning layers that influence the degree of firmness or softness of a mattress.

Innerspring mattresses are constructed with different types of steel coils or coil springs. Wire is often used to attach the coils to one another.

### ***How Are Mattress Coils Made?***

Mattress coils are made in different ways, from different materials and with differing degrees of thickness. The higher the wire gauge, the thinner the wire.

Coils may range in gauge from quite thick (for example a 13-gauge) to a thinner 18 gauge wire. An innerspring mattress made with thicker coils tends to feel firmer than one made with thinner gauge coils.



Sometimes coils are coated to prevent corrosion. Coils also vary depending on whether they are tempered. Tempered coils tend to be stronger due to a repeated heating and cooling process.

### ***Types of Mattress Coils***

Mattress coils are also made with different designs. Some of the widely known coil types include the hourglass shaped coils, continuous coils and pocketed coils. Here are a few basics about different types of mattress coils:

- The most common type coil is hourglass in shape, and includes Bonnell coils and offset coils.
- Some like the pocketed coils (also called Marshall coils) are individually wrapped coils which move separately from one another. These types of coils are designed to reduce movement on a mattress.
- Other mattresses are made with continuous coils and are connected with one another through ringlets.
- 

### ***Coil Covering or Insulator Layer***

Insulator is attached to the coils and is made from materials like wire mesh, foam or some type of natural fiber. The insulator needs to be strong and stable to support the cushioning layer. This layer is often attached to the coils by hand.

### ***Cushioning Layer***

The mattress cushioning layer is typically made from foam, cotton, or blends of polyester. Mattresses have different amounts of cushioning layers and they vary depending on the type of mattress.

Mattresses have varying degrees of cushioning layers ranging generally from a couple of layers to eight layers or more. The depth of the cushioning layer also varies from less than an inch to upwards of two inches.





## ***Stitching and Quilting***

The stitching in the mattress quilting is decorative but it is also used to create different mattress feels. Smaller quilting patterns tend to create firmer feel with larger patterns feeling softer. The mattress quilting also serves to keep the mattress cover from slipping or clumping over the cushioning layers.

## ***Panels and Flanges***

When the mattress fabric is quilted, it is cut into panels of fabric that are designed to fit on the bottom and top of the mattress frame. The fabric for the side panels is sometimes cut from this same material. Other times it is created separately on a machine used for bordering.

Often vents and side handles are added to the mattress. These are applied to the side panels before being attached to the body of the mattress.

The panels are connected with strong and durable border tape. Tape edge experts use special machines to close and bind the mattress. After a mattress is closed it goes through a detailed quality inspection process.

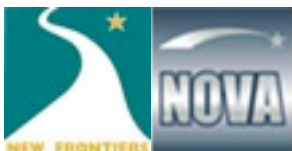
The mattress flanges are attached to the mattress with special staples used to secure fabric. The staples are referred to as hog's rings. The rings connect the mattress cover to the innersprings.

## ***Mattress Ticking***

The mattress ticking is sewn with border tape through a special machine. This machine closes the mattress and creates a finished product. Mattress ticking is most typically made with polyester. Luxury mattresses sometimes combine polyester with other materials like rayon, cotton, silk, cashmere or wool.

## ***Pillow Top Mattresses***

If a mattress is a pillow top, this pillow top layer is also added during this part of the manufacturing process. Pillow top cushioning layers are made from a variety of materials including cotton and wool.



Summary:

The foregoing 33 pages are important features of window design/styling but by no means does it represent the totality of influences, issues and considerations relative to good window covering design.

You've heard me say it many times - as long as you the decorator/designer can figure out how to make a concept work, you can do anything at all, creatively.....as long as you have a good understanding of all aspects of the performance of fabrics when they are used in a draping situation.

Aside from this Study Guide you must also be comfortable with the conventions of calculations for sheers, drapery panels, lining, roman shades, austrian shades etc.

The key is an understanding of the norms of fabric widths for different types of drapery stylings and the expected performance in the installation.

Hope this will allow you to focus your review/study of window coverings.

Bedding, except for the basics about mattresses has not been included here - refer to your most recent in-class hand-outs and e-mailed PDF files for the requisite information regarding bedding styling, design, etc.

Michael

