

1965

EC65-1185 Draperies : Machine Made with Pleater Tape

Magdalene Pfister

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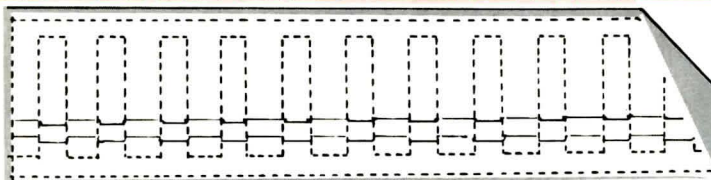
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DRAPERIES



machine made
with

**pleater
tape**

EXTENSION SERVICE
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Draperies—MACHINE MADE with pleater tape

by
Magdalene Pfister
Assoc. Prof. Family Economics
and Management

Pleater tape can simplify drapery making and save time both in construction and care. With pleater hooks removed, drapery can be washed or dry-cleaned and pressed flat.

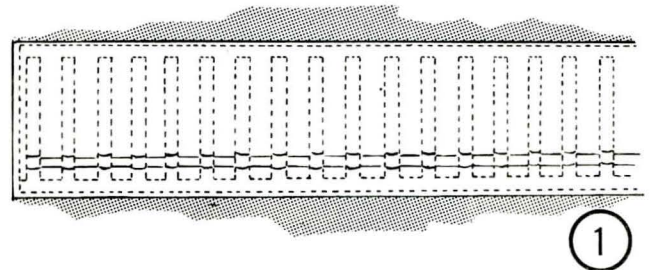
Completed draperies may not look as good as those hand made and customed to fit the window space precisely. However, there is tape available for greater flexibility in spacing pleats. It has twice as many pockets and three rows of pocket openings, one above the other, which permits altering heading height and thus the length. (Illus. 1).

Directions are generally provided by tape manufacturer. These steps and suggestions will help you make attractive draperies easily and quickly:

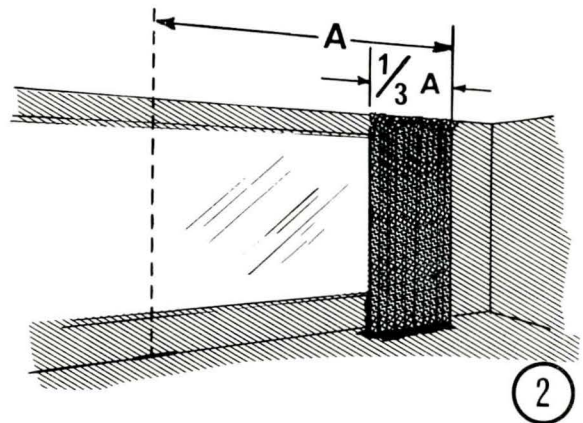
1. Install rod. If you wish drapery to clear window when it is pulled open, use an extended drapery rod so fabric will stack up on wall at sides of window. Amount of stacking of fabric will depend upon type of fabric, with heavy material taking more space. A general rule is that stacking will take about one third entire space. (Illus. 2).

2. Measure across rod. Purchase pleater tape about two and a half times rod measure and purchase adequate hooks or pins. Four pleater hooks are needed for each yard of tape, and five hooks for 48" of fabric. Four end hooks are needed for each pair of draperies.

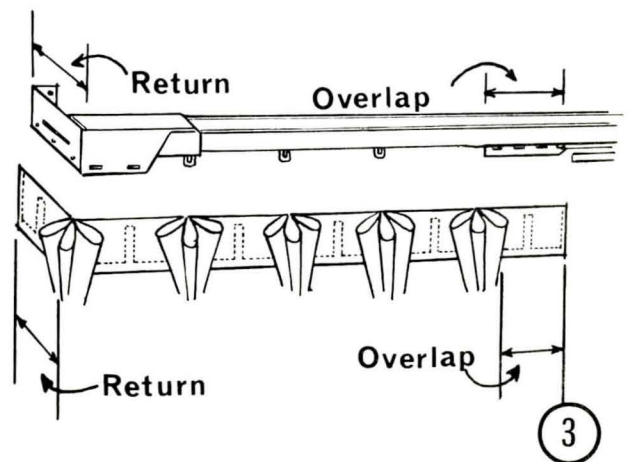
3. Determine exact width of drapery fabric needed by pleating tape and hanging it on rod. (Illus. 3) Begin at master slide and allow 4 inches for overlap at center. Skip one pocket between each pleat. Last pleat will come at turn of rod. Allow 1/2 inch to turn under at each end. Drapery width is length of tape plus amount for side hems.



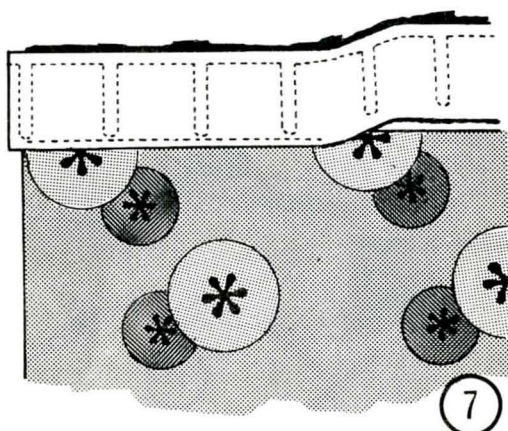
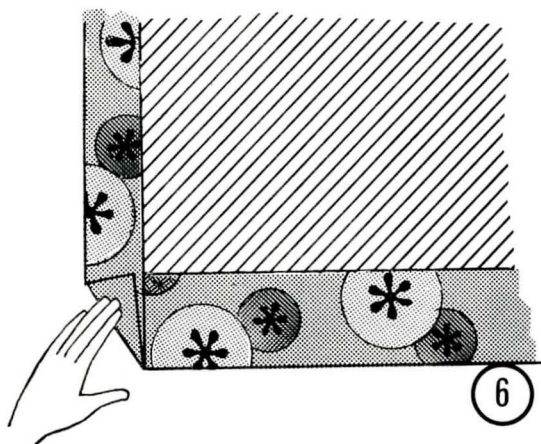
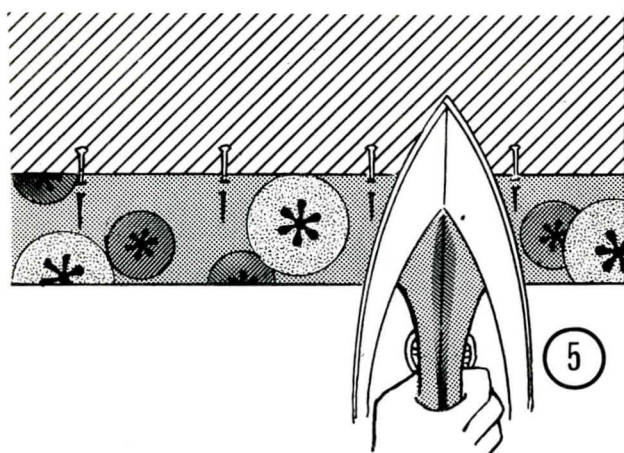
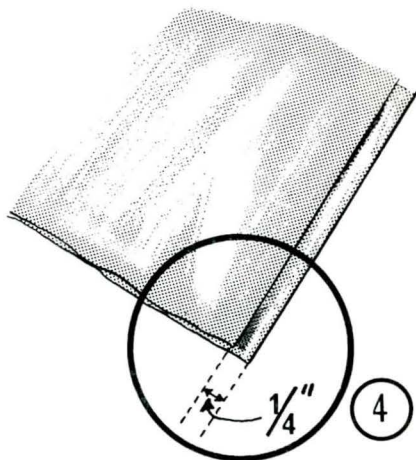
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2



3



4. Decide on size of hems and heading to turn under. Hems usually vary 3 to 6 inches. For sheer curtains a double side and bottom hem will look better. Fabric at top of sheer fabric should be turned the width of the tape.

5. Measure length desired from installed rod. Use a steel rule. Add bottom hem allowance and heading allowance for length of one cut.

6. Straighten and press fabric if necessary. Cut off selvage since it tends to pucker. If fabric ravels badly, clip selvage at regular intervals instead.

7. Lay fabric on flat surface and cut lengths, making sure panels will match. If width needs to be pieced, join sheers with French seam or interlocking fell seam. (Illus. 4). Latter is made by placing two right sides together with lower edge extended 1/4 inch. Fold over top piece; then make narrow fold with both pieces. Press and stitch.

8. Press, pin, and sew 1 1/2 inch side hems. Place pins at right angles to hem. Press in direction hem is turned. (Illus. 5). Stitches should be 8 - 10 inches with easy tension so fabric won't pucker.

9. Make a false miter at the bottom hem by slanting and folding fabric under. (Illus. 6). It is generally better not to cut this out because extra weight at corners is desirable and sometimes it is necessary to lengthen. Hem by hand if you wish.

10. Attach pleater tape to drapery.

a. Center pleater tape across top of drapery, right sides up, covering 1/2 inch. Pocket openings should point up with tape overlapping 1/2 inch at each side. Pin and stitch. (Illus. 7).

b. Turn pleater tape over edge of drapery. Sew bottom edge of tape to drapery only where pockets are used for pleats. Row of stitching will not show from right side of drapery.

- c. Turn under 1/2 inch pleater tape on ends. Slip stitch.

11. Insert drapery pins.

12. Hand sew over bottom of each French pleat at least three times with heavy duty thread for a nice, crisp pleat. This can be clipped to release pins when drapery is ready for cleaning. This takes a little time but improves appearance. (Illus. 8).

13. Hang draperies and pull open. At top of each pleat run fingers down each about a foot. Tie this portion loosely and continue tying about a foot apart. Leave tied for two to three days, and then see how nicely they will hang in even, attractive folds. (Illus. 9).

FOR LINED DRAPERIES - PLEATER TAPE

1. Choose lining fabric. Straighten and press.

2. Cut lining three inches narrower and two inches shorter than finished drapery. Depth of pleater tape could be subtracted so lining will come to bottom of tape with 1/2 inch slipped under. Cut off selvages.

3. Stitch 2-inch hem in lining.

4. Prepare drapery fabric as directed (steps 1 - 9) for unlined drapery.

5. Attach lining to drapery. Place drapery right side up. Place hemmed lining right side down. Pin along both sides. (Illus. 10). Machine stitch lining from top to bottom edge of lining on both sides. Note: It's important to sew both sides in same direction to keep smooth and prevent fabric from pulling.

6. Place this drapery lining tube over ironing board (Illus. 11) and press seams open.

7. Turn drapery right side out like a pillowcase. Center lining on drapery and press.

8. Apply pleater tape following steps given for unlined drapery, (steps 10 - 13).

