

WINDOW TREATMENTS

It's spring time again and its your windows' time to shine. The days are getting longer and sunnier and rooms should be less dependent on artificial light. Our panes are designed to let the new springtime vibe into our rooms and should be decorated to enhance this fresh new atmosphere. Give your windows that magic touch this season with a selection of the latest blinds, curtains shutters and decorative accessories.

Expert Advice

Jane Everard from Mix'n'Match Interiors gave us these top tips:

'This is where our expert advice really comes into play. We deal with tricky windows every day of the week where we advise on which window treatments will enhance your window best and what railing systems / poles to use. We will help you choose the fabric and provide the full manufacturing and fitting service for your blinds and drapes.'

Jane's quick TO DO and what NOT TO DO to dress your window to its full potential.

Tall narrow windows:

Make use of the wall either side of the window if you have it. Extend the curtain out 8 to 10 inches either side of the window opening. This will create an illusion that the window is wider than it is. Only you will know its size!

Don't skimp on the amount of fabric width used. It's so important to get it right the first time. You can never have too much fullness.

Large wide windows:

Frame the window to square it off. Not every room can take the same window treatments. A large room can usually take the classic swags and tails which will take the bare look off the window. For those of you who want a more streamlined look, the upholstered fitted box pelmet will achieve this and again will camouflage the bare look. Pelmet are not for everyone so you can also bulk up your window with a chunky pole and plush full length curtains which will still give your room an opulent look.

Don't use short curtains that come just below the sill on large windows. Use full length curtains as this will elongate the window.

Apex or Arched windows:

Shape your window treatments around the interesting architectural shape of the window. Using a pole with a standard pair of curtains will hide the unique shape. It's a feature so frame it. A rail is used instead of a pole. The rail is custom bent into the window shape and the curtains are manufactured to fit perfectly around the shape of the rail. The curtains will not functionally pull around the rail so they have to be tied back with ties during the day and released at night. The trick is to place the tie as high as possible as this will maximize light. Don't forget unique window shapes are a feature. Show them off.

Bay Windows:

A bay rail is custom bent on site and fitted around the contour of the bay along with curtains. Using roller blinds in the bay will also protect your bay curtains from the fading sunlight. Bay curtains can be teamed with a pair of mock curtains on a chunky pole on the outer side of the window. The classic swags and tails or fitted pelmet are options here also.

Don't use 100 per cent silk fabric around the bay as the light will hit the curtain from all angles and fade the silk rapidly.

Take Home Hot Tip:

Window treatments make a room complete so get the right advice and get it right first time.

