



BE A CURTAIN QUEEN – Curtain Panels

Instructions for Measuring Windows and Hanging Rods – Lesson One

Measuring Windows

Make a rough sketch of the windows you are dressing.

For measuring, I find it easiest to use a 1" x 25' retractable tape, one typically used for woodworking or home building projects.

Measure all distances around the window, making note of those measurements as you draw lines on your sketch. Make note of your inside (the window frame) measurements as I/S and outside measurements as O/S.

These are the measurements you should write down:

- I/S width and height
- O/S width and height of frame (or top of frame to sill)
- From upper frame to ceiling or crown molding
- From lower frame or sill to floor
- Total measurement from ceiling or crown to floor
- Distance between window frames when you have more than one window
- Distance from outer frame to corner of the wall

To measure long distances, draw a long length of your tape and extend it to the starting point. Run the larger numbers to the point of measurement, the point closest to you, for easy viewing (as demonstrated in video).



Hanging Rods

Make a template as shown in the video. To do this, use foam board, cardboard, or poster board according to the size needed to reach from the window frame to the curtain rod bracket location.

Measure 3" to 4" from each edge, drawing the lines both directions. Trim away the corner block where the lines cross at the corner.

Measure the distance out and up from that square the same distances your bracket screw will be placed out from the side edge of the frame and up from the top edge of the frame. Extend those lines until they cross. At the cross point, punch a hole with a pencil. That's where you'll mark for your rod bracket screw at both ends of your window.

Set the first rod bracket screw in place. (Don't worry about a counter-sink screw yet – we'll do that later.) Move the stool or ladder to the other side of your window. Mark the bracket screw location on that side of the frame.

Extend the rod from your hand out to the other bracket, resting it there. On the end where you're standing, place that end of the rod inside the bracket and hold it against the wall. Align your pre-marked location into the bracket hole where the screw will be placed. Rest a level on top of the rod and check for level. Adjust until it's level, and mark the new screw location (the same distance out from side of frame but a new locational vertically).

Place screw in rod bracket hole and replace rod to both brackets.

Homes aren't always built on square, so even though the rod is level, it may appear un-level if the other elements are off slightly. From the floor, if the rod



looks un-level, adjust the screw in each bracket cup until it looks to be aligned properly with your ceiling, crown molding, or window molding – whichever is closest to the rod.

When you have things situated as you like, remove the rod and replace any temporary screws with counter-sink screws in the bracket hole locations. Fill rod with rings, and replace it to the brackets.

Congratulations! You are now ready to measure for the finished length of your panels – from rings to floor or from mid-clip to floor, depending upon which type you are using.