HOW TO Measure your windows

Bring your window measurements in-store and follow the prompts on the touch screen.
Come window shopping with Spotlight …

For curtains that hang beautifully and blinds that fit to perfection, we recommend you measure your windows carefully. It takes a little time to get your measurements right but it can make all the difference between a beautifully dressed window and curtains or blinds that don’t quite fit.

This guide is your first step to bringing the ultimate designer look into your home.

Spotlight has a huge range of fabrics and accessories for you to create a customised window solution uniquely made for you including:

- Curtains & Sheers
- Tracks, Rods & Finials
- Pelmets, Valances, Tie-backs, Swags & Tails
- Aluminium, Timber Style & Timber Venetians
- Roller Blinds
- Vertical Blinds
- Roman Blinds
- Cellular Blinds
- Panel Blinds
- Motorisation
- Outdoor Awnings*
- Shutters*

*Due to the complexity of measuring awnings and shutters a Custom Made consultant is required to measure for these products.
Choose from a large range

curtains

roller blinds
Getting started

If you’re measuring the width and drop (length) of a window, we’d suggest taking a number of measurements at different points. Windows are not always absolutely square - especially older windows and floors can be uneven - therefore the width and drop can vary.

Never assume that all windows are the same. Measure all windows individually at points across the window and take the smallest measurement. Remember measure twice to be sure or even have a friend also take the measurements.

What you need

Whether you’re measuring for rods, tracks, curtains or blinds, remember to measure in metric units (mm).

You will need the following equipment:

- A metal measuring tape - never use fabric as it can stretch and give you an inaccurate reading
- A pencil to enter your measurements in our guide

If you prefer

Across Australia and New Zealand Spotlight employs over 100 trained professionals who can advise you on the appropriate curtains and blinds to suit your home, style & budget. We offer a free of charge, no obligation, in-home measure and quote service.
Understanding your window

To understand how to measure, you need to know a little about your windows and decide where you would like to place your window furnishings.

Window with Architrave (timber or molding surround)

![Diagram of a window with Architrave]

Ways to fix your curtains or blinds

**Recess Fix**
Recess Fix is where the curtains or blind are installed inside the window framing.

**Face Fix**
Face Fix is where the curtains or blind are installed on or above the window framing. (Architrave)
Measuring Curtains

Start by looking at your window to decide where you want your curtains to go.

If it is a recessed window, do you want the curtains hanging within the recess or outside it?

Tracks & Rods

The best way to get your window looking just right is to install your tracks or rods before you measure up for your curtains.

Sometimes you will need to add or deduct from the measurements but it is easy if you follow the steps. To find out what best suits your needs talk to our sales team when you bring your measurements to the store.

Choose the type of track or rod that will suit your lifestyle.

A track is a standard hand or cord operating option available in up to 6 colours.

A rod is a decorative finish to a window which can be dressed up with different finials. They are available in a number of options, styles and colours, in hand or cord drawn.

Tracks - Face fix

Measure the width from the architrave edge on the left to architrave edge on the right.
Add extra to the measurement
If you would like to maximize your view, add an additional 150-300mm to either side. This will make space for your curtains to be drawn back. Add this to the architrave measurement to determine the total track width. To find out what best suits your needs talk to our sales team when you bring your measurements to the store.

Tracks - Recess fix
Measure the width of the internal opening of window from left to right.

Deduct extra from the measurement:
For the curtains to sit inside the recess, deduct 10mm from the width of the track for the curtains to fit properly.

Rods - Face fix above window
Measure the width across the top of the window from left to right.
Remember the rods will have finials (the decorative ends attached to your rod) so there will need to be enough space for them.
Rods are placed a minimum of 100mm above the window. This is to minimise light coming through the window and provide a secure fixing for one rod.

Add extra to the measurement:
To maximize your view add an additional 150-300mm to either side. This will make space for your curtains to be drawn back; or where the window has no architrave add an additional 150-200mm to either side to ensure the window is fully covered. Add this to the window measurement to determine the total track width.
How to measure your curtains

When you’ve installed your rods or tracks, you’re ready to measure up for your curtains.

Width:
Measure the total width of your track or rod (excluding the finials).

Drop:
Think about what heading type and how long you want your curtains.
Measurements will vary for each heading type, so first choose the type you want, either pleated or eyelet. Remember eyelet headings only work on a rod. Eyelet drapes do not pull across the rod very well and are best suited as a stationary drape.

For pleated curtains on a track
Measure from the top of the track to the desired finished length.

For pleated curtains on a rod
Measure from the eye of the curtain ring to the desired finished length.
For eyelet curtains on a rod
Measure from the top of the rod to the desired finished length.

Where to end
For Sill length curtains measure to the bottom of the sill.
If you prefer your curtains to hang below the sill, we’d suggest allowing an extra 150mm in length.
For Floor length curtains measure to the floor.

With all heading types, the curtain hook will raise your curtain 10mm from the bottom measuring point. The industry standard is 10 – 30mm from the sill or floor.
Sheers installed under drapes should be a further 10mm shorter.

**TIP:** If the pleated curtains are too long or too short, you have the ability to change hooks to compensate, the higher the hook, the lower the curtain.

Bring your measurements in-store and choose from a wide range of fabrics to get curtains individually made for you.
Measuring blinds

Start by looking at your window to decide where you want your blinds to go; recess or face fix.

To determine whether the blind is more suitable for a recess or face fix, look at the following:

- Depth of the recess – blinds will need to be between 30mm to 100mm for the headrail dependent on product
- Are there any obstructions such as window winders that will get in the way?
- Frame work of the window
- Window type – louver, hinged, sash, sliding doors etc

Sometimes you will need to add or deduct from the measurements but it is easy if you follow the steps. To find out what best suits your needs talk to our sales team when you bring your measurements to the store.

Blinds - Face fix with architrave

Measure the **width** at the top of the window from architrave to architrave.

Measure the **drop** from the top of the architrave edge to the bottom of the sill or the floor. Measure on the left and right of the window to check if window is even.

**TIP:** If uneven: For window/sill measurement: take the smallest. For floor measurement: take shortest.
Add extra to the measurement:

**RECOMMENDED** - Where the window is not to the floor, Blinds should be extended for an additional 150mm below the sill to minimise light seepage.

**Blinds - Face fix without architrave**

Measure the **width** from window edge on left to window edge on right at the top of the window.

Add extra to the measurement:

Extend the measurement 50 - 100mm on each side to minimise light seepage and ensure proper fixing of blind.

Measure the **drop** from window edge at the top to the bottom of the window or floor. Measure on the left and right of the window to check if window even.

**TIP:** If uneven: For window/sill measurement: take the smallest. For floor measurement: take shortest.

Add extra to the measurement:

**COMPULSORY** - Add 100mm to the top of the measurement for secure fixing.

**RECOMMENDED** - Where the window is not to the floor, Blinds should be extended for an additional 150mm below the sill to minimise light seepage.
Blinds - Recess fit

Measure the **width** at 3 points across to check the window is square and provide the smallest measurement. The manufacturer will allow for brackets from the measurements you supply.

Measure the **drop** at 3 points and provide the smallest measurement.

**If there are large variations in either your width or drop measurements, it is advisable to face fix your blinds to minimise light seepage and the imperfections of your window.**

Brackets are usually positioned one at each end but some wider blinds, particularly venetians, need an additional centre bracket for support.

Keep in mind, if you do choose recess (inside) fit blinds, that light will show through gaps on either side. For greater light blockout choose face fix.

*If your window is larger than 2400mm you may need to install two or three blinds.*
Choose from a large range of fabrics in-store!
Are you choosing window furnishings simply to add style, colour and texture to your room or are there more practical considerations such as a need for privacy, light control and comfort?

Research shows that correctly fitted blinds and curtains in your home or office deliver significant advantages including:

- An increased sense of safety and security
- Improved heat retention
- Reduced power costs
- Reduction in your carbon footprint

Whether you need privacy screening, total blockout or light filtering we have your windows covered.

**Things to think about before you order**

- Which side do you want the cord?
- Do you want one or two curtains?
- Do you want any curtain accessories like pelmets?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Window location</th>
<th>Product type</th>
<th>Recess or face fix</th>
<th>Width</th>
<th>Drop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lounge window 1</td>
<td>Curtain &amp; track</td>
<td>Face</td>
<td>1800mm</td>
<td>2100mm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Custom Made Curtains and Blinds bring the ultimate designer look into your home, allowing you to create window furnishings uniquely made for you.

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Bring in your measurements today or if you prefer, we’ll come to you!

We offer a free of charge, no obligation, in-home measure and quote service.

Call 1300 305 405 to make an appointment today for an in-home consultation.