

Make

YOUR OWN



DRAPERIES

By
Myrtle Carter

Federal Cooperative Extension Service • Oregon State College • Corvallis

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, F. E. Price, director. Oregon State College and the United States Department of Agriculture cooperating. Printed and distributed in furtherance of Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

EXTENSION BULLETIN 721

REPRINTED APRIL 1956

MAKE YOUR OWN DRAPERIES

MYRTLE CARTER

Home Furnishings Specialist, Oregon State College

YOUR DRAPERIES you make at home can have that professional touch. To bring this about you must give careful thought to accurate measurements and proper construction methods.

Fabrics do much to create the mood of a room: the cheerful room in contrast to a dull spot, or the colorful, modern one in contrast to the more formal, traditional type. Before selecting the fabric and the style for your draperies consider the relationship the window has to the rest of the room. Consider the effect you desire; the style, color, and design in the furnishings; wall and floor coverings; size, shape, and location of the room.

Your draperies should tie the decorative scheme of your room together through color, texture, and design. Colors in draperies may be closely related to the colors in the rug, walls, or furnishings. In small rooms draperies in solid colors and colors the same as the wall covering, or the same value, detract less from the size of the room.

Linings are usually desirable. They protect the fabric from light and lessen fading. The lining increases weight, making the drapery hang better and adding to the attractiveness of design and color. Linings are usually made from regular sateen in white or ivory. If, to keep down cost, a choice must be made between a lined drapery where the panels must be split, it is far better to have a full-width, unlined drapery.

Crinoline is used as a stiffening at the head of the drapery. It is available in different weights and widths. Crinoline in tape form is preferred to crinoline bought by the yard and cut into strips, since the width is usually truer, and no piecing is necessary.

Well-made draperies require sewing skill. They call for patience and precise work, but repay you in grace and beauty if construction is properly done.

MATERIALS AND TOOLS

Good equipment is an asset to the construction of well-made draperies. Table space where the material can be laid flat during the construction process makes the work less fatiguing and the finished product more desirable. Collect these items for your drapery making:

Yardstick and tape measure

Sharp scissors

Thimble

Needles

Dressmaking pins

Matching sewing thread

(ordinary weight and heavy duty)

Contrasting basting thread

Tailor's chalk

Weights

Drapery hooks

Hem and heading gauge

Iron and pressing cloth

Yardage

Lining

Interlining

(where needed)

Crinoline for headings

BASIC MEASUREMENTS

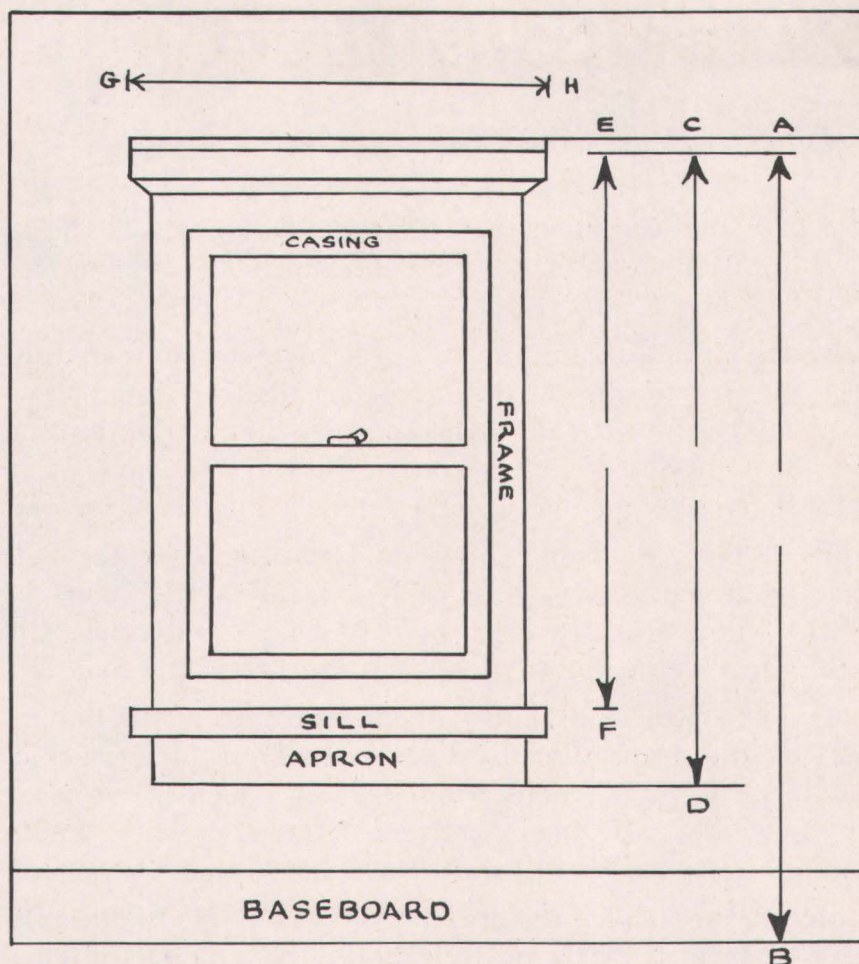


FIGURE 1

1. Take measurements carefully. Use a steel tape if available. It will not shift, stretch, or slump.
2. For LENGTH measure from rod to the floor (Figure 1, A-B) or to the bottom of the window "apron" (C-D), or to the sill of the window frame (E-F).
3. Be generous in WIDTH. Allow 100% or more fullness, which means a full width of drapery material at each side of a normal-size window. (Figure 1, G-H)
4. Allow for *matching* figures where designs are large.
 - a. Measure the distance from the top of one design to the top of the next. This is called the "bouquet repeat" and should go evenly into the amount of yardage allowed for each drapery.
 - b. Determine whether the number of inches in the design will divide evenly into the whole length of the curtain.

c. If not, add enough inches to the curtain length to make a measurement that is evenly divisible by the pattern measurement. Example: If a design measures 25 inches and the drapery is to be 95 inches, add 5 inches to the total measurement, making 100 inches. Divide the 100 inches by the 25-inch measure for the design. (100 divided by 25 equals 4). Thus, each drapery would require 4 designs.

5. ALLOW HEMS AND HEADING:

There are three hems and a heading to consider in draperies: the two side hems, one bottom hem, and the top hem or heading. Allowances are as follows:

- 8½ inches on any drapery for a 4-inch heading, doubled.
- 6½ inches on any drapery for a 3-inch heading, doubled.
- 3½ to 4½ inches on any drapery for a single bottom hem.
- 1½ to 2½ inches, finished, for side hems.

In washable draperies, or draperies that are not preshrunk, plan to double the bottom hem to allow for shrinkage. This is not necessary if you *preshrink* the fabric before starting your construction work.

6. Plan lining material 1 inch narrower and 1 inch longer than the *completed* drapery.

PREPARATION FOR CONSTRUCTION

Pull a crosswise thread, and *cut on this line*. Drapery materials do not tear well without puckering and stretching.

Fabrics are always woven straight, but often in the pressing process they are pulled out of shape before they are wound on bolts. *If the material is not pulled and pressed back into shape, the drapery will not hang straight at the window.* Straighten all materials by pulling, zig-zag, from corner to corner, gradually working toward the center of the fabric. If this pulling does not straighten the fabric completely, bring the two ends

together and pin them to the ironing board. Pin the lengthwise edge together at intervals. If it will not harm the fabric, dampen the section with a cloth. Now press toward the part that needs straightening.

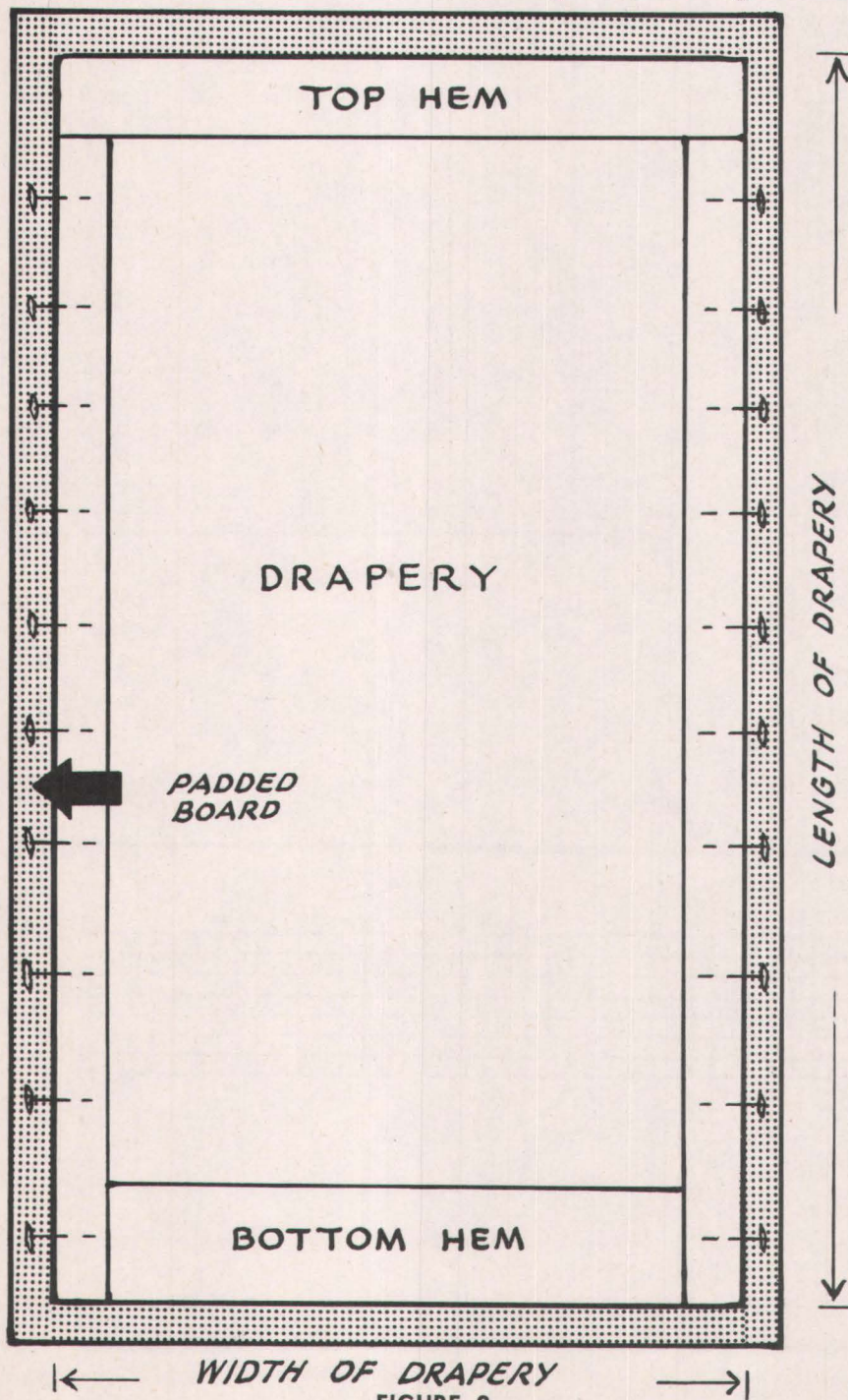
Selvages are usually woven more firmly than the rest of the fabric. To avoid a puckered drapery cut off all selvages.

Recheck all measurements before cutting your fabric.

Use crinoline the depth of the desired finished heading. For wash draperies buy only the *permanent finished* crinoline. *Pre-shrink it before making your draperies.*

Plan to work on a flat, firm surface large enough to lay out the entire drapery.

A suggested table arrangement which makes an excellent working surface for draperies is shown in Figure 2. The base may be an old table, a plywood board, or other lumber placed on an improvised base to stand at least 36 inches high. Pad the board or table with old blankets or cotton. Cover the entire surface with clean muslin, then tack securely. With a yardstick and square mark off directly on the muslin



a rectangular shape approximately 1 inch from the edge of the board. You must be very accurate in this marking.

Pin the drapery, finished measurement size, accurately along this penciled line. All work and pressing is to be done directly on this board. See page 12 for method of construction.

Hand-stitch draperies if you want them to look better and hang more gracefully.

When machine-stitching draperies, do not stitch side seams in opposite directions.

STEPS IN MAKING LINED DRAPERIES

Lay crinoline along top of fabric. Pin on wrong side of panel $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from top and $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches from the sides. (Figure 3.)

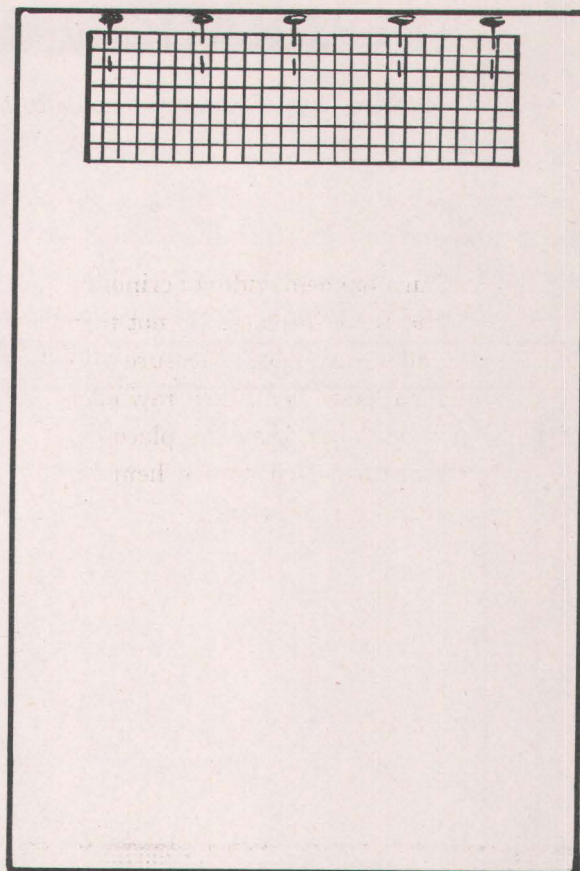


FIGURE 3

With a long needle baste crinoline in place with a long diagonal stitch. Working on the wrong side insert needle through crinoline and material parallel with warp threads. Skip 2 inches to right, and repeat. Remove pins. (Figure 4.)

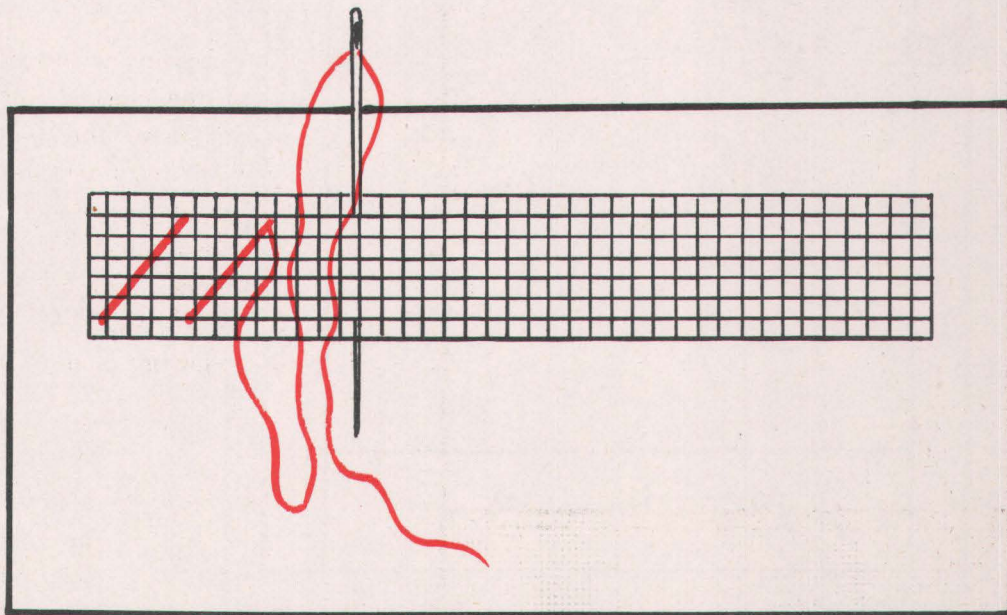


FIGURE 4

Turn top hem width of crinoline and baste in place. Do not turn under raw edge. Measure $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch lower hem, turn raw edge under, and baste in place, or make a 3-inch double hem for shrinkage allowance.

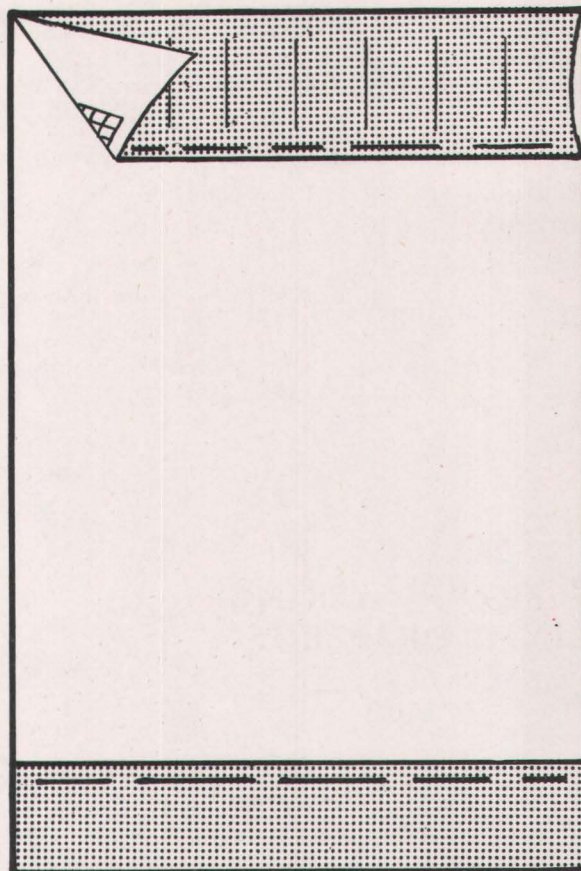


FIGURE 5

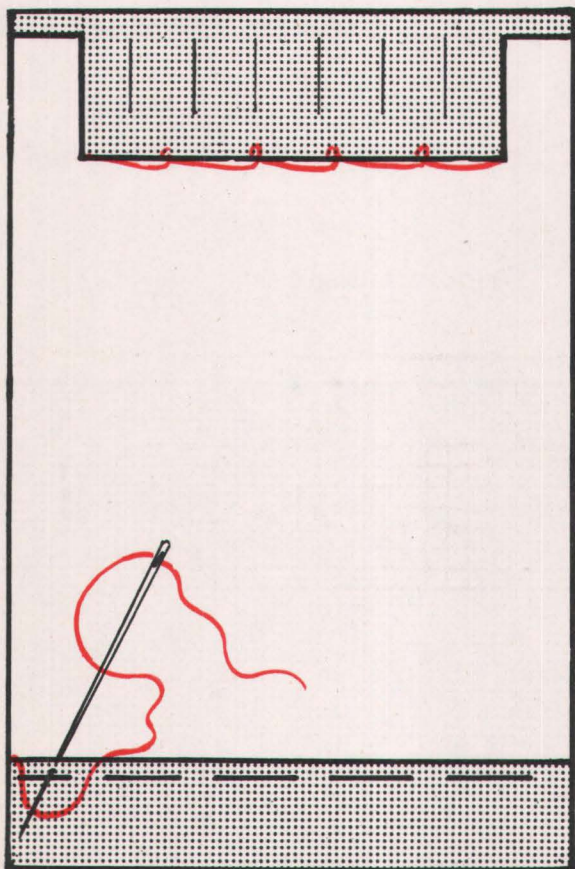


FIGURE 6

Cut away surplus at *top corners* to the crinoline on the sides and to within $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of top. With matching thread stitch upper and lower hem to panel as shown above. Use *long, loose* stitches. Now miter upper and lower corners as shown in the following pictures.

DETAIL OF MITERED CORNER AT TOP OF PANEL

(Step 1)

Turn corners as shown.

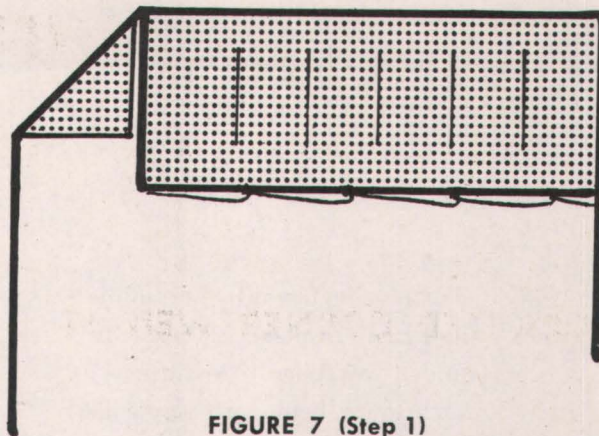


FIGURE 7 (Step 1)

(Step 2)

Cut corner on diagonal fold, allowing approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ inch for seam. Turn seam allowance as shown.

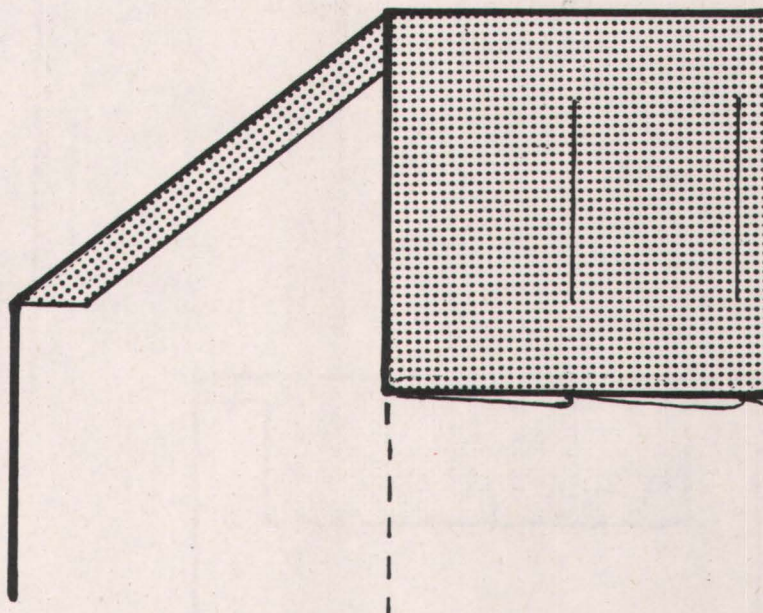


FIGURE 7 (Step 2)

(Step 3)

Corner when side seam is turned back $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches over crinoline and basted.

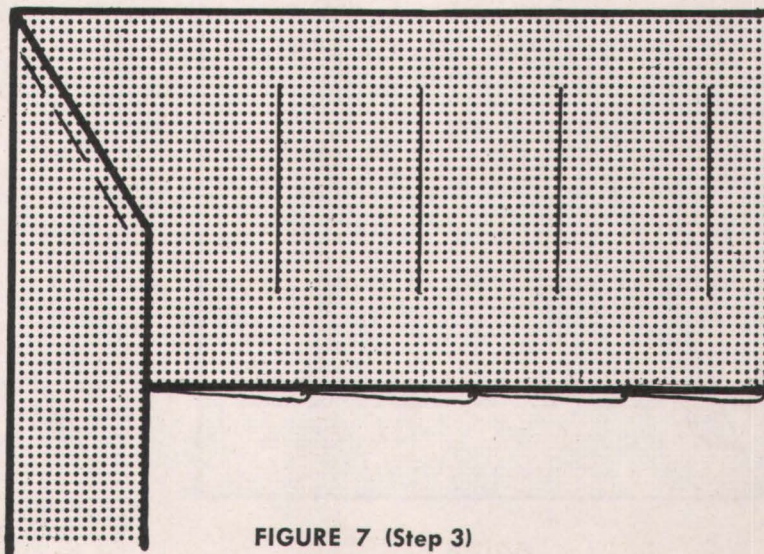


FIGURE 7 (Step 3)

DETAIL OF LOWER MITERED CORNER

(Step A)

Turn corner as shown $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches in from outer edge.

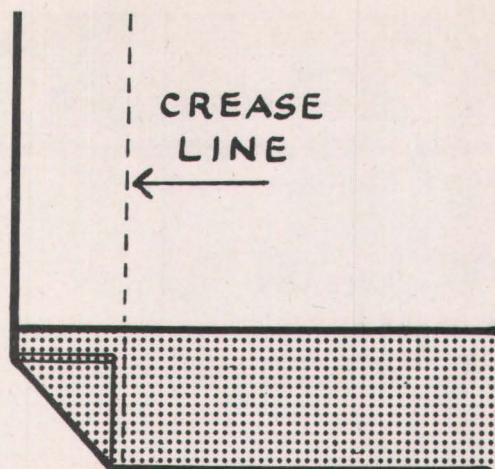


FIGURE 7 (Step A)

(Step B)

Cut corner on diagonal fold allowing $\frac{1}{4}$ inch for seam. Turn seam. *Omit cutting if fabric is not thoroughly pre-shrunk or if a double hem is used.*

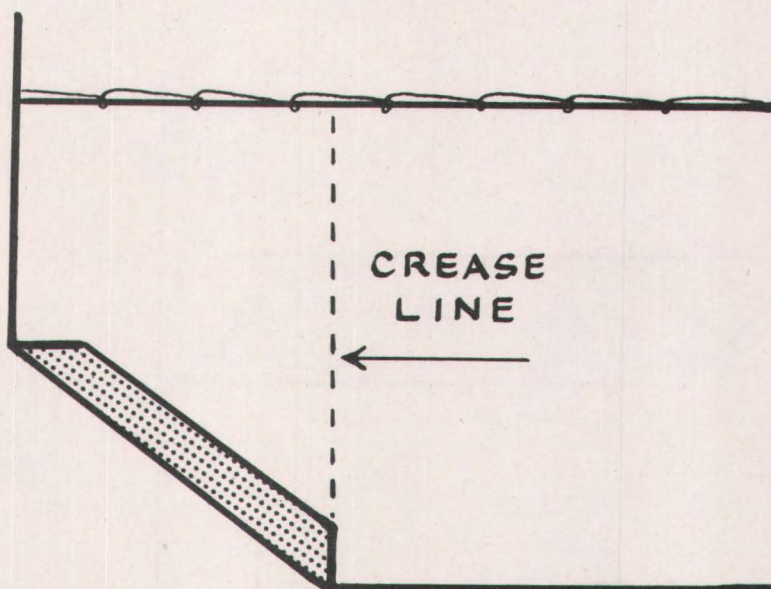


FIGURE 7 (Step B)

(Step C)

Corner when side seam is turned back $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches over hem.

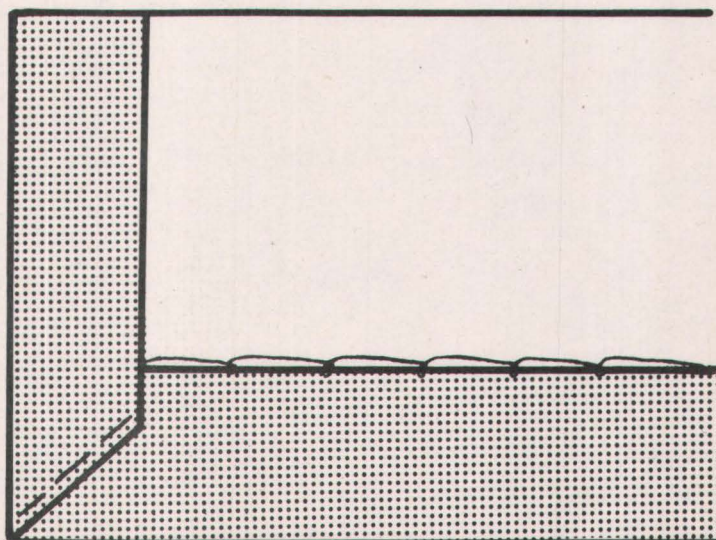


FIGURE 7 (Step C)

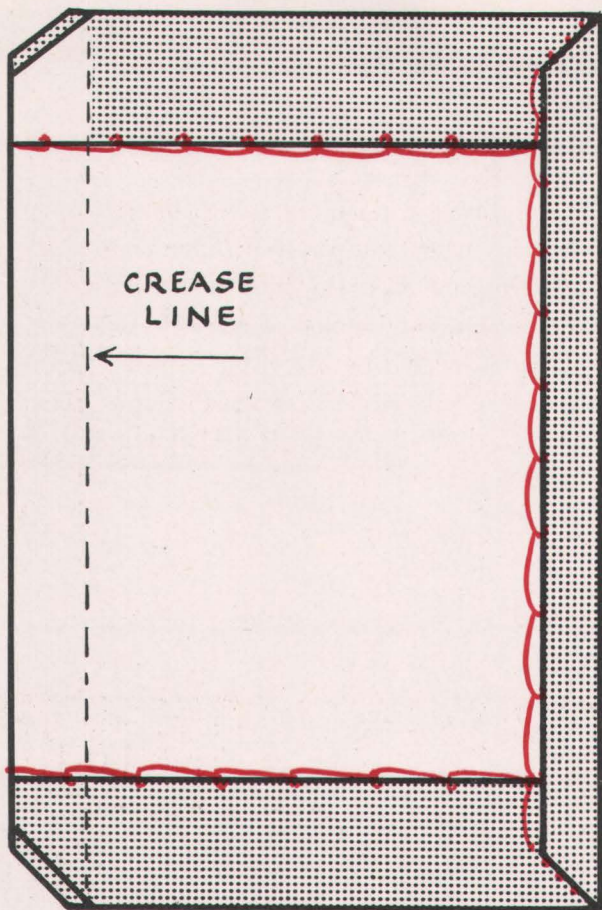


FIGURE 8

Turn $1\frac{3}{4}$ -inch hems at side. Do not turn raw edges under. Baste in place. Use *long, loose hemming stitches* to secure side hems. Slip-stitch mitered corners. (Figure 8.)

Panel ready for lining. (Figure 9.)

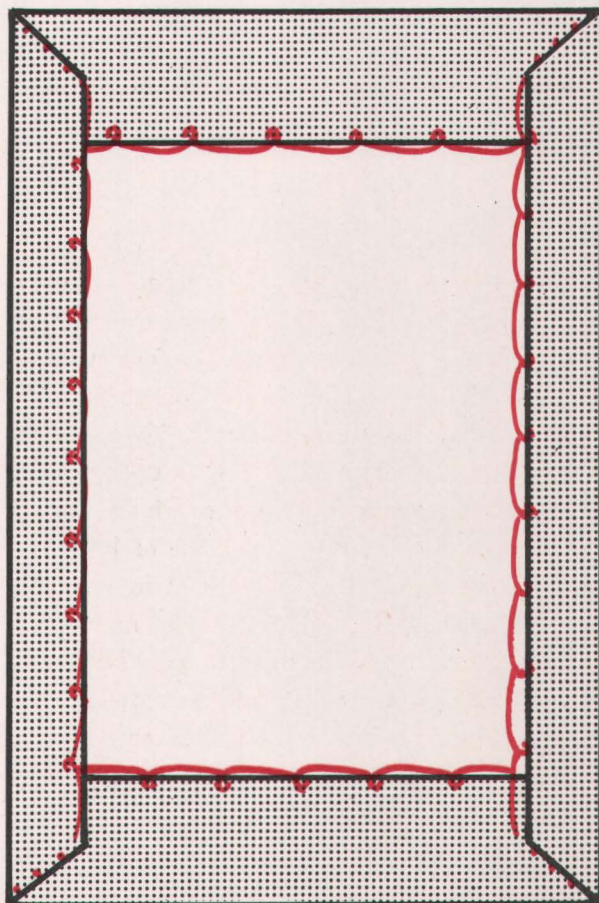


FIGURE 9

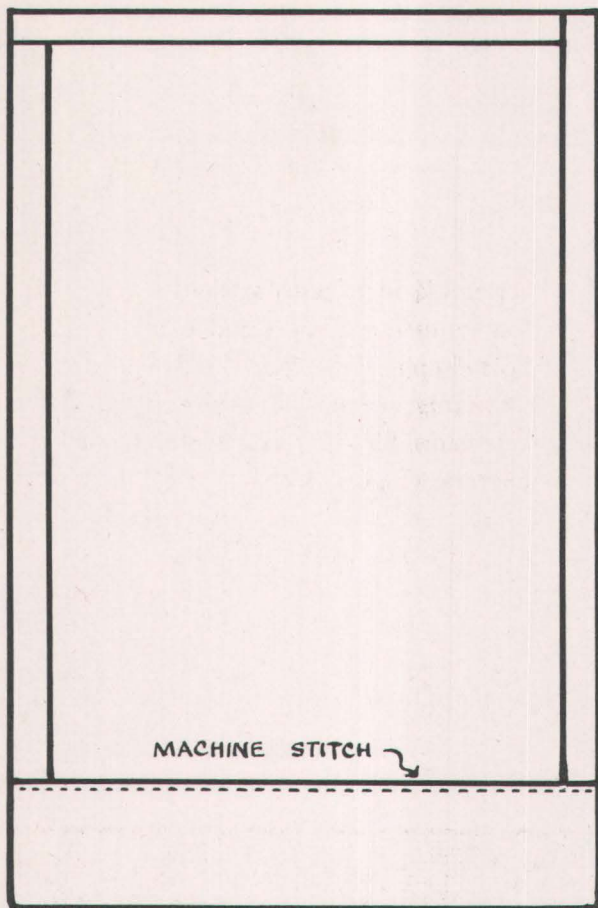


FIGURE 10

Place wrong side of lining to wrong side of drapery. Lap lining over side hems 1 inch and to the line formed by the mitered corners at top and bottom. Place approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches from bottom of hem. Fold the lining lengthwise on itself, through the center and toward right side of lining. Crease lightly and pin at intervals. Along this center crease make a lengthwise line of extra *loose button-hole stitches* 6 inches apart to anchor lining to drapery. Use 3 or more rows if drapery is wide or extra heavy. (Figure 11.)

Cut lining 1 inch narrower and 1 inch longer than *completed drapery*. Turn raw edges $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to wrong side all around including across hem. Turn 3-inch hem in bottom. Double 3-inch hem if hem is doubled in drapery. Baste hem and stitch on machine. (Figure 10.)

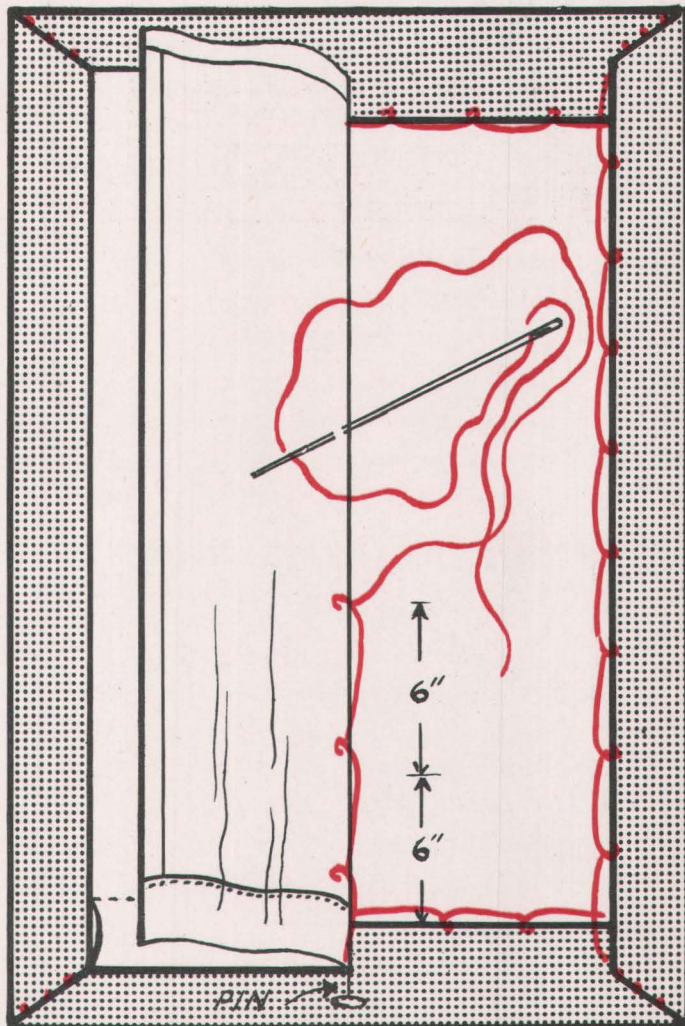


FIGURE 11

Pin lining accurately around all edges except bottom hem and baste. Slip-stitch working from the bottom to the top. (Figure 12.)

INTERLINED DRAPERIES

Interlining adds to the work of construction and requires skill in handling. Interlinings may be used in making formal, heavy draperies, or to soften the light which filters through light-weight, open weaves.

Attach the interlining to the wrong side of the drapery material, using parallel rows of buttonhole stitches described in Figure 12 under "Lined Draperies." Run one line of these stitches **CROSSWISE**, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch above the line that will mark the base of the heading. This crosswise line "anchors" the interlining to the top section of the hanging.

After tacking the interlinings, proceed with the regular lining in the usual manner.

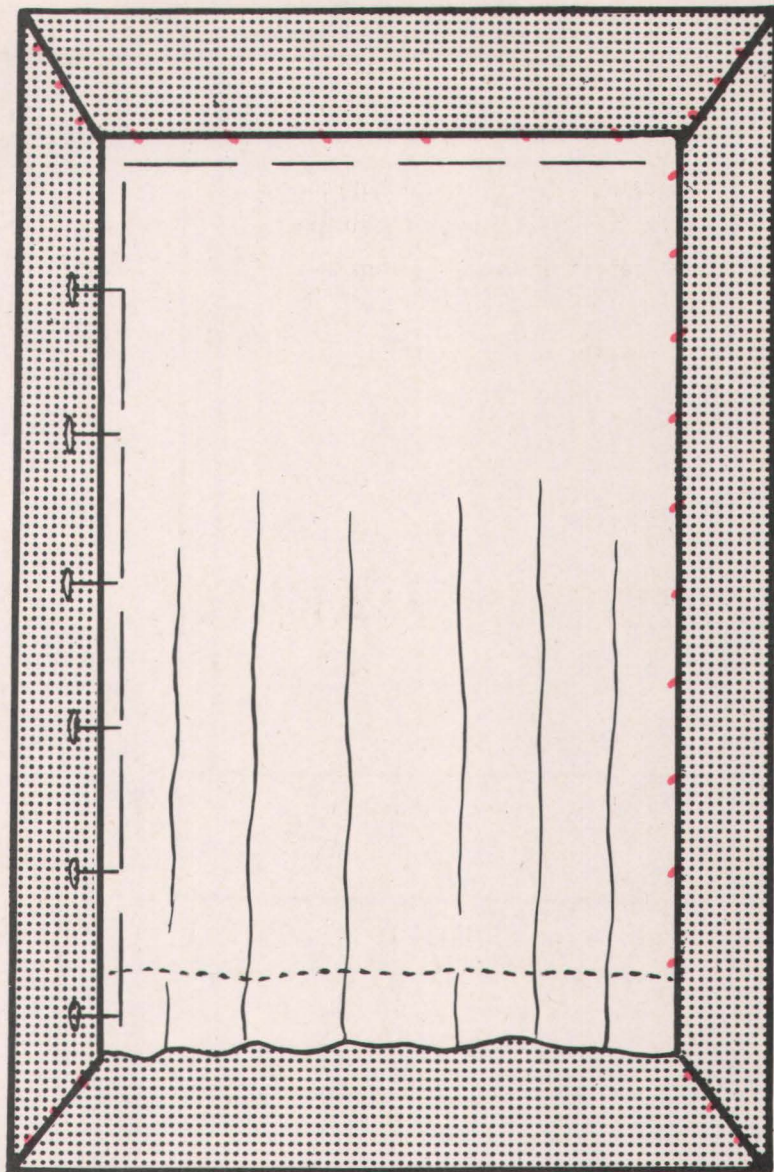


FIGURE 12

CONSTRUCTION VARIATION

When using the large padded board as shown in Figure 2 as a base for making your draperies, follow this order of construction:

Drapery is not to be removed from board during the entire construction period.

Turn and hand-stitch bottom hem and press. Pin edge of completed hem accurately to the 1-inch guide line on the muslin. Place pins at right angles to edge.

Measure and turn side seams. Pin on side seam marking lines. Thoroughly press the drapery directly on the board. Constantly press as you work, taking care always to press and work from the bottom upward.

You may omit hand-stitching side seams.

Miter corners.

Press entire drapery upward to determine accurate length at the top. Define length and press a sharp line at the top of the heading.

Now insert the crinoline and baste in place. Allow at least 1 inch of fabric to turn back over the crinoline. Press and miter corners. Omit hand-stitching the top.

Cut lining, and machine-stitch bottom hem. Place wrong side of lining over drapery hem and pin so mitered corners match. Divide lining into thirds. Pin lengthwise and fold back to right side. Starting from the hem line or the wrong side, stitch a row of loose buttonhole stitches 6 inches apart. Watch to keep these very loose.

Turn under seam allowance and pin lining flat on all side seams. Pin completed lining approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the top of the drapery. Starting at the hemline, slip-stitch lining in place.

Press drapery and remove from board. Measure and construct pinch pleats.

STEPS IN MAKING UNLINED DRAPERIES

See Page 6 for details of stitches

Baste crinoline with long diagonal stitches (see Figure 4) on wrong side of panel $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from top and $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches from each side. (Figure 13.)

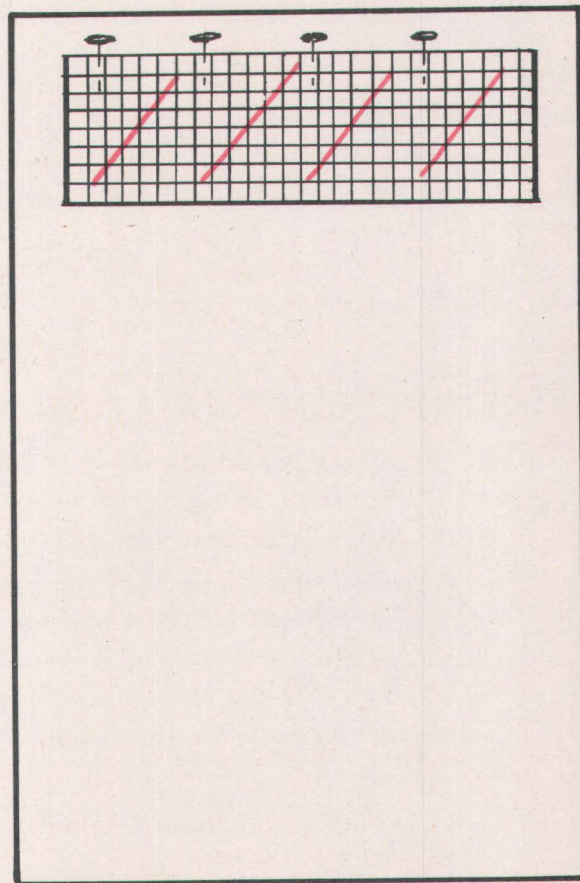


FIGURE 13

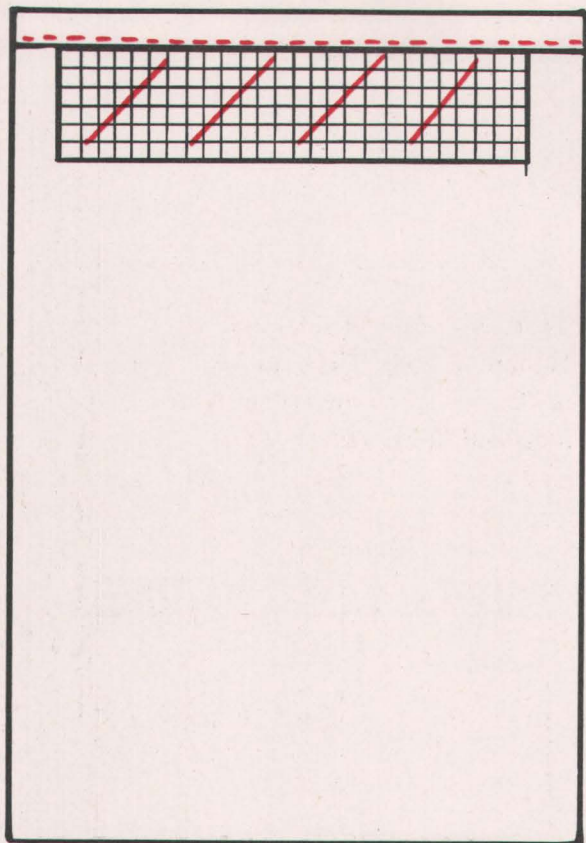


FIGURE 14

Turn $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch allowance at top over crinoline. Baste and stitch in place. (Figure 14.)

(Figure 15)

Turn top hem width of crinoline and baste. Cut away surplus fabric at *top* corners to edge of crinoline. Stitch top hem as shown in Figure 6. Miter top corners (see Figure 7).

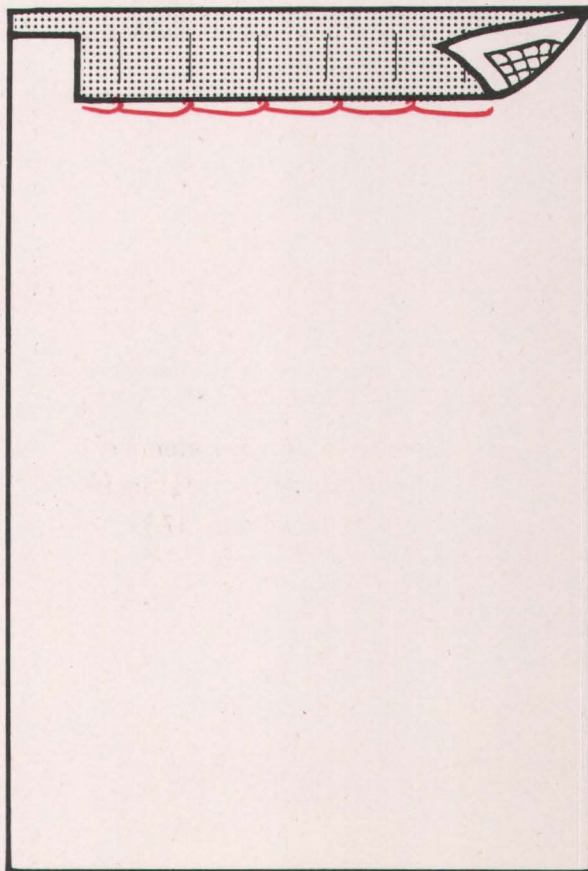


FIGURE 15

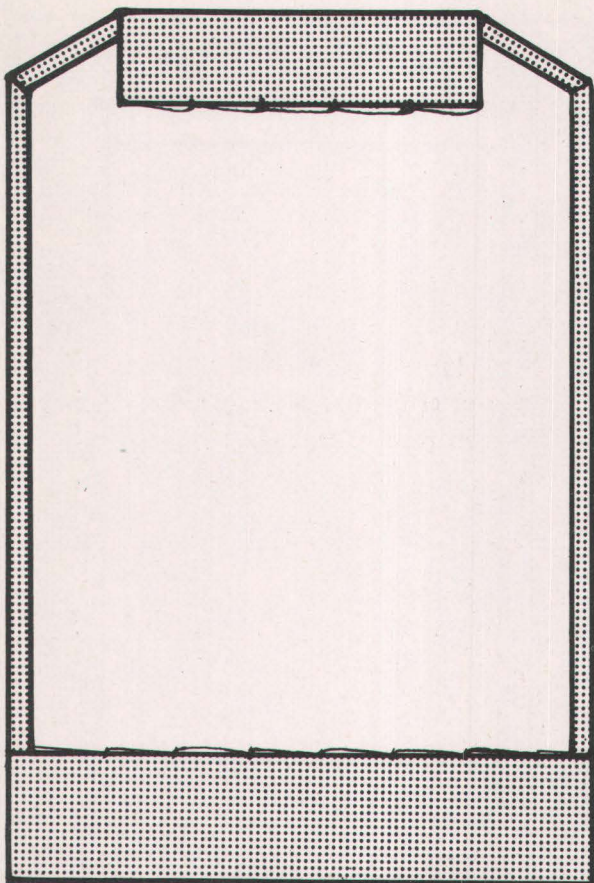


FIGURE 16

Turn raw edges at sides and bottom $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. Turn single or double 3-inch lower hem, baste and finish. (Figure 16.)

Miter corners at bottom hem, turn side hems $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches and baste. (Figure 17.)

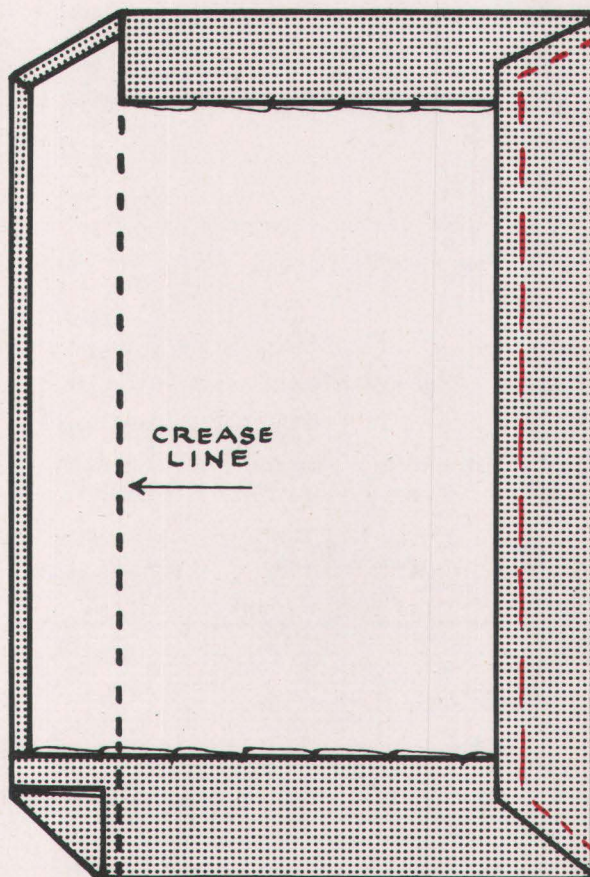


FIGURE 17

Stitch side seams with *long, loose* slip-stitches for permanent hemming. Slip-stitch all mitered corners. (Figure 18.)

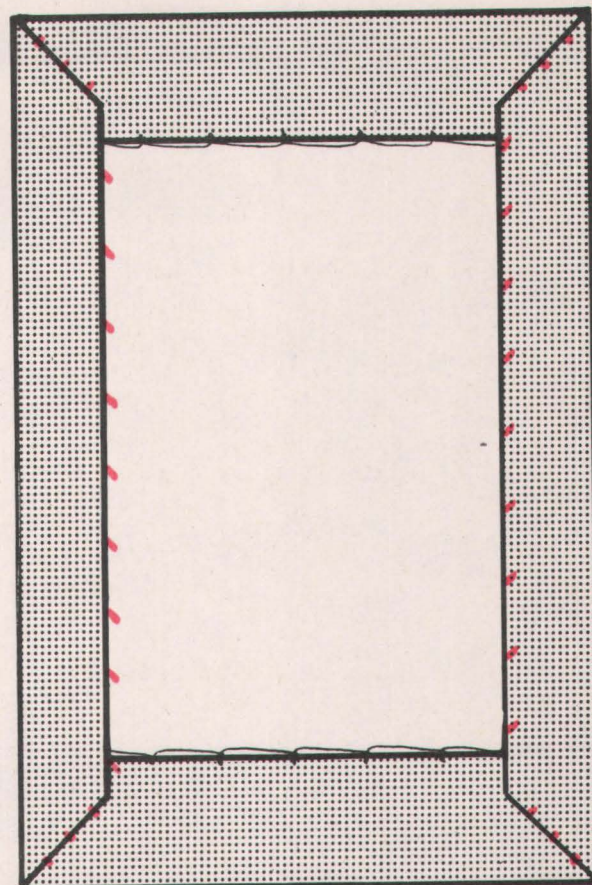


FIGURE 18

HEADINGS

You have a choice in types of headings for either lined or unlined draperies. The most popular are pinch pleats, box pleats, cartridge pleats, pipe-organ pleats, and shirred tops. Each has its place in drapery construction.

Pleats vary in width according to the amount of fullness allowed for the drapery. The space between pleats is not necessarily the same as the pleat itself. If a 3-inch pleat is required, an allowance of 6 inches for each pleat is necessary as illustrated in Figure 19.

For estimating pleats and spaces between them, refer to the section on "Draw Draperies"—Pages 20-21.

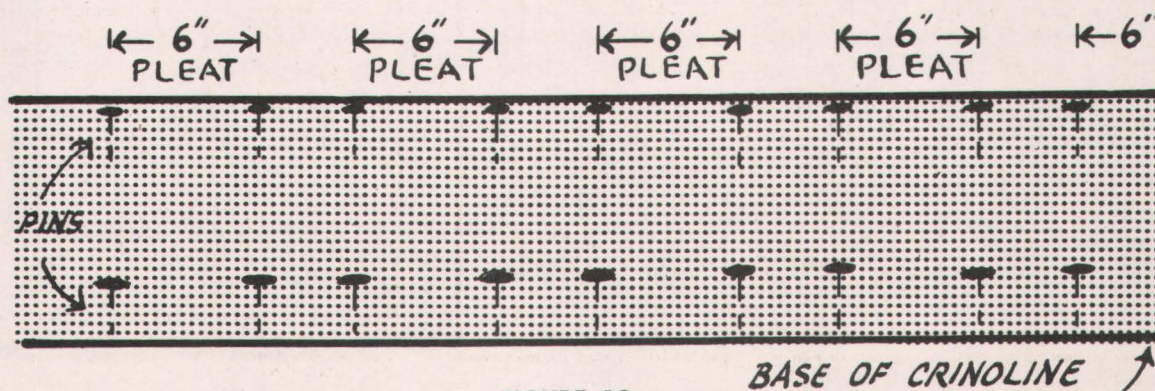


FIGURE 19

PINCH PLEATS:

Steps in making pinch pleats are shown in Figure 20.

A—Match pins marking pleat space.

B—Starting at top of pleat machine-stitch pleat to the base of the crinoline.

C—Divide this space into three small pleats. Start pleating at the top of the crinoline. Tack each pleat to the crinoline heading with two small stitches through each pleat. Now crease all pleats evenly to the base of the crinoline.

D—Catch all pleats together at the bottom just off the edge of the crinoline with firm, small hand-stitches. Using heavy-duty matching thread insert the needle back and forth through the pleats about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch from the top of the pleats. Take several stitches through the pleats taking care not to bring the thread over the top of the pleats but to keep it concealed at all times. Start and end stitching behind the pleats.

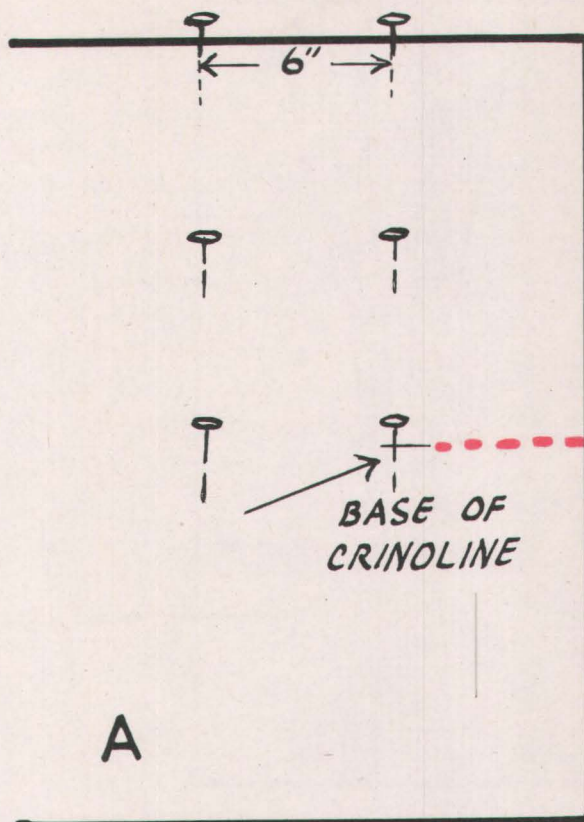


FIGURE 20 (A)

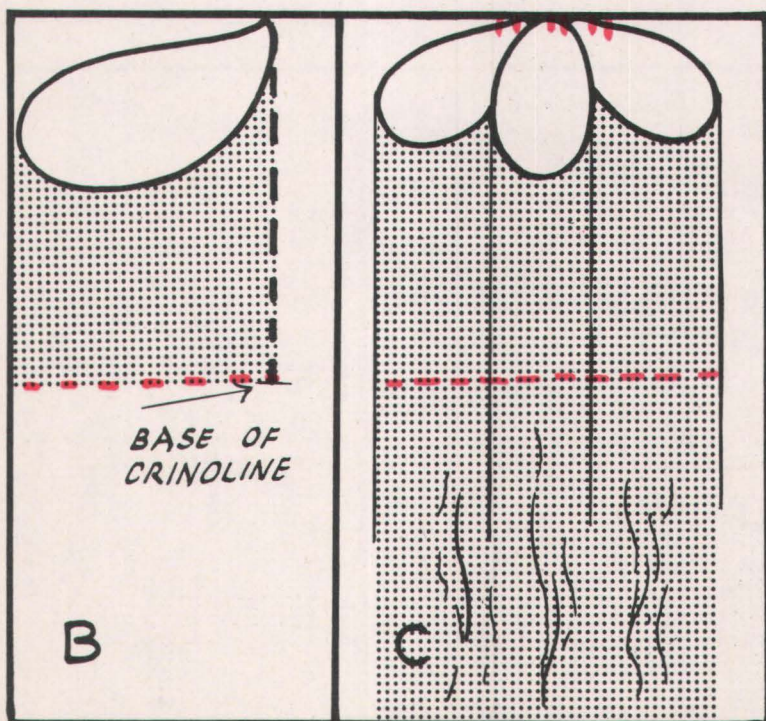


FIGURE 20 (B)

FIGURE 20 (C)

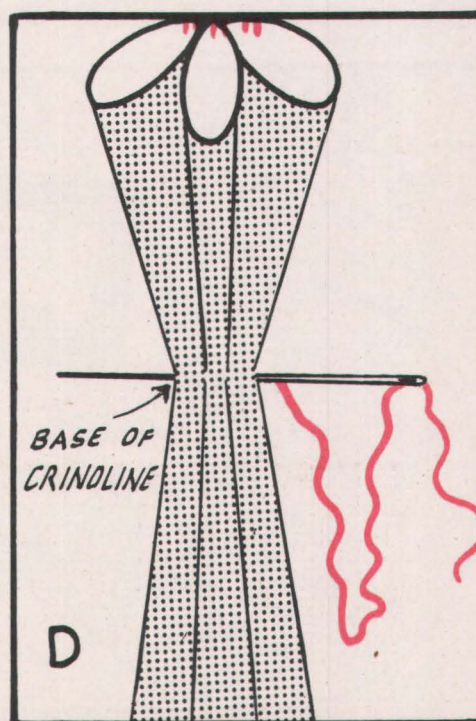


FIGURE 20 (D)

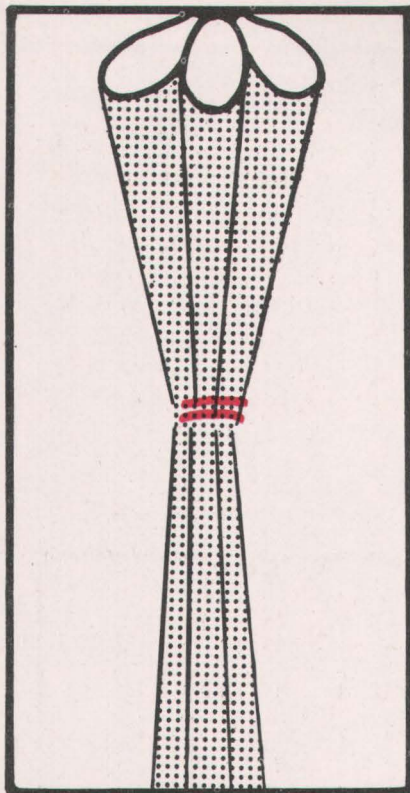


FIGURE 21

A second method of anchoring the pleats is shown in Figure 21. Follow procedures given in Figure 20 — A to C. You start stitching the pleats at the bottom as explained in Figure 20-D except with each stitch you bring the needle and thread over the outside of the pleats, permitting the thread to show from the right side. Repeat stitch several times in exactly the same place. End thread by pushing the needle to the wrong side of the drapery and fasten thread securely.

A third method of finishing the pleats is to stitch them together by your sewing machine. Follow method, Figure 20-A to C, then stitch twice across the base of the pleats. (Figure 22.)

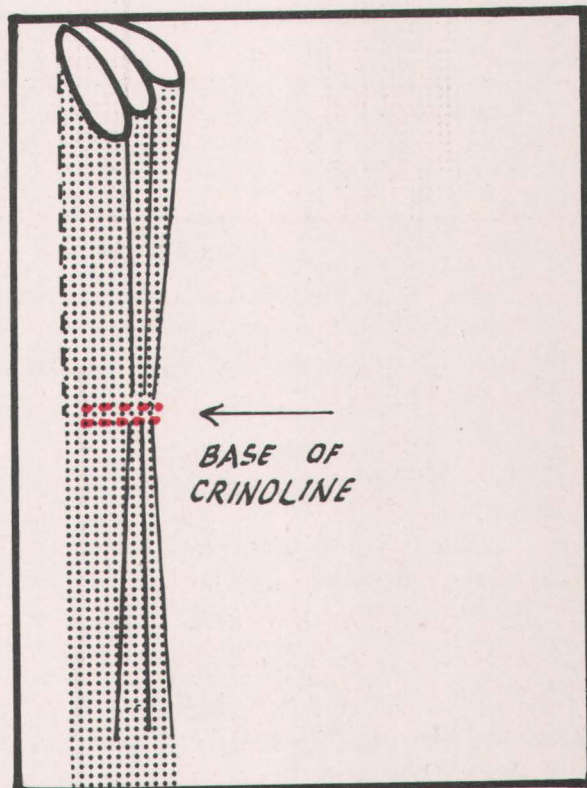


FIGURE 22

Pleating tape may be bought by the yard. It is made of very stiff material with definite spaced slits in the cloth. The pleats are held in place by sewing through the slits, catching the back folds of the cloth pleats. Fasten securely and press to form sharp creases in the cloth. (Figure 23.)

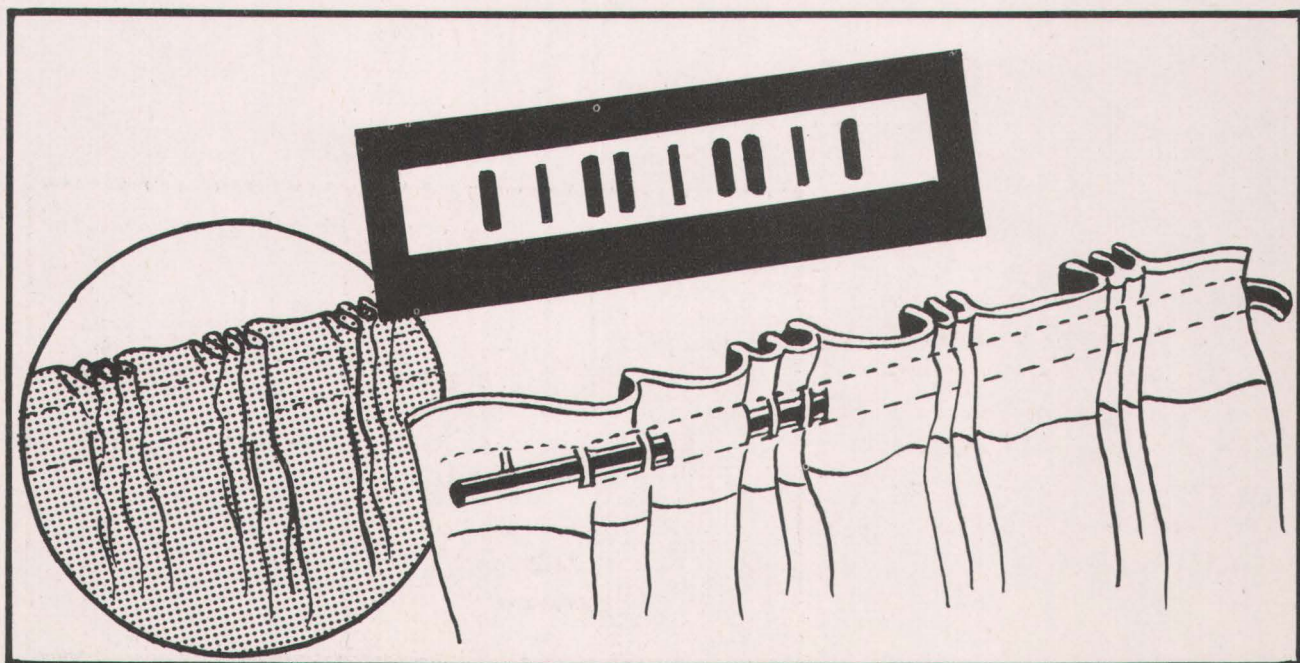


FIGURE 23

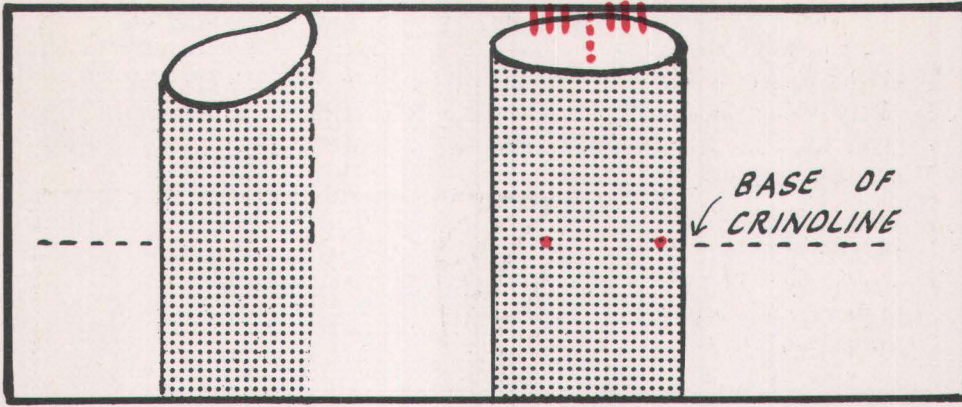


FIGURE 24

BOX PLEATS

Measure and stitch pleats as indicated in Figure 20. Flatten and press instead of pulling together in a group of three pleats as shown in Figure 24. Catch top and bottom of pleat securely with heavy-duty thread.

CARTRIDGE PLEATS

This type of pleat is used for glass curtains when draperies are not used or for formal, heavy draperies. This is a round pleat, left loose and filled with a roll of cotton. The pleats usually take up 2 to 2½ inches and are spaced 3 to 3½ inches apart. Note tacks at top edges to hold pleat in curved shape. Otherwise, the pleats are planned and stitched as for pinch or box pleats.

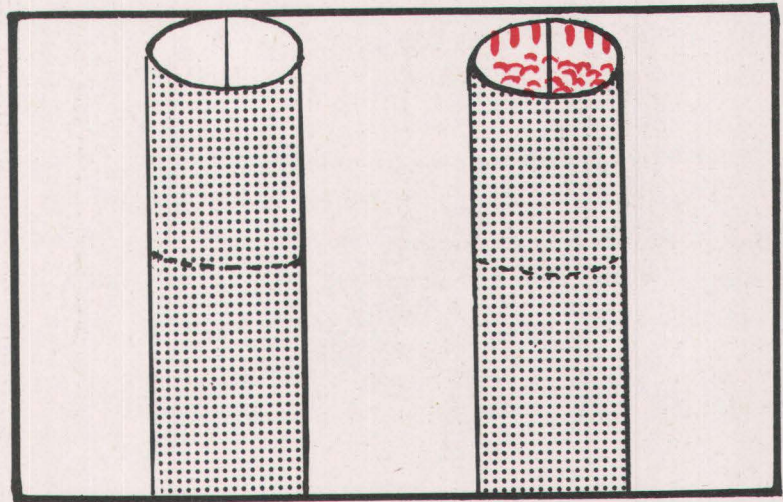


FIGURE 25

This treatment resembles cartridge pleats except the pleats are larger and longer. They are used on long, wide windows in a formal setting. Each pleat is 4 to 5 inches wide and from 6 to 8½ inches long. Fill with cotton rolls in a crinoline foundation as shown in Figure 26.

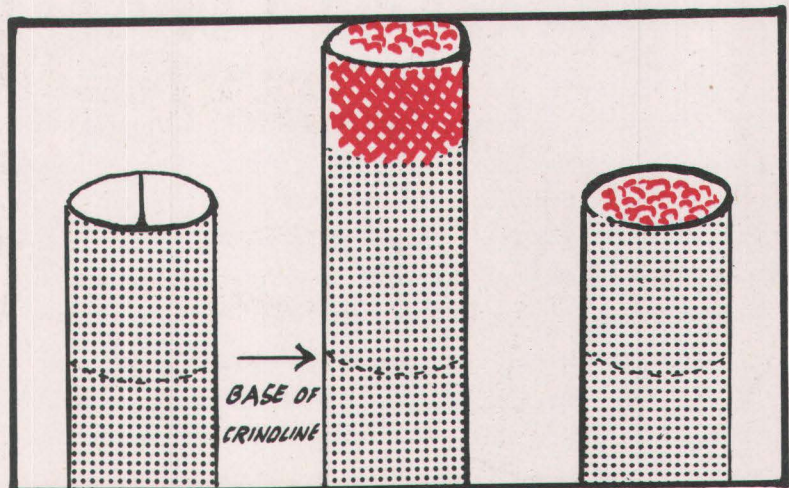


FIGURE 26

SHIRRED HEADINGS are suitable for lightweight curtains, and are recommended for wash draperies. Allow 8 inches for a heading. Begin a shirred heading by placing a 2-inch strip of muslin or other interfacing on the wrong side of the material. Pin it 2 inches down from the top edge of the drapery. Stitch the muslin at top and bottom. Fold the drapery top forward 4 inches. Turn $\frac{1}{4}$ inch on the edge and stitch. (Figure 27.)

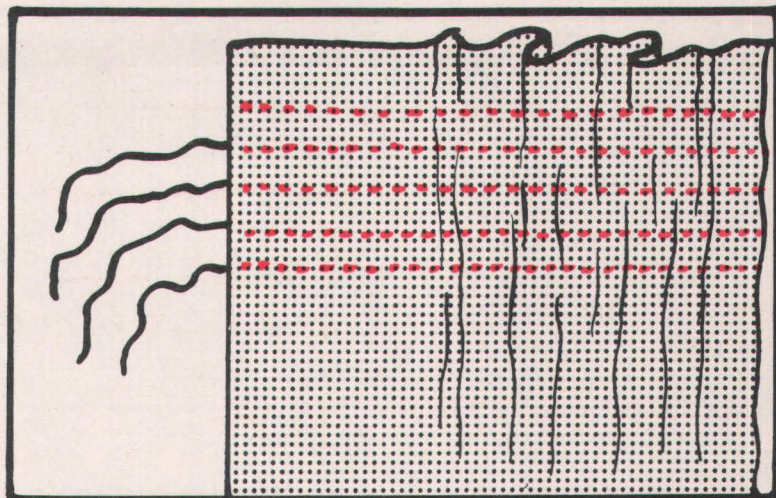


FIGURE 27

Place a line of stitching two inches down from the top of the heading, then divide the remaining space into $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch rows of stitching. Thread twilled tape or selvage strips through the rows created by the stitching and shirr to the desired fullness. The use of tape as shirring strings adds to the appearance, durability, ease in making, and convenience in ironing. Attach tapes firmly by machine, within 1 inch of the center hem.

If the heading allowance is not desired, place the muslin $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the top edge. Continue shirring to the top of the drapery making 8 rows instead of 4.

DRAW OR TRAVERSE CURTAINS

Draw curtains are used primarily to eliminate the necessity for window shades, and for insulating value at night over large window areas. They are placed over the glass curtains and under the draperies, or they are the draperies themselves, and may be the only curtain at the window. They are hung from a traverse fixture, operated by cords through a series of rings, which eliminates the necessity of jerking the curtains together by hand. Now on the market is an inexpensive wooden fixture to replace the standard traverse rod. Since this fixture is not fully automatic, it is necessary to close the draperies by hand.

The allowance required for pleats in a traverse drapery or curtain will vary according to the amount of fullness allowed when you purchased your fabric and your individual taste. The drapery will hang better if the pleats are spaced approximately 3 to 4 inches apart. Since the pleated drapery must fit an exact rod space, it is possible to work out this problem on a mathematical basis.

A simplified method for planning the pleats in your completed drapery is given in Figure 28.

PLANNING PLEATS FOR A DRAW CURTAIN HUNG ON A TRAVERSE ROD

Cut two identical pieces of narrow paper (use adding machine paper or cut continuous strips not less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide) as long as the combined width of your two completed draperies. *You must be very accurate in these measurements.* Make sure the two lengths of paper are identical. Put one length of paper aside.

Working with one length of your paper strip, measure off the exact length of the entire curtain rod. Recheck it for accuracy, then cut off this length. Mark this paper "rod section" and put it aside.

The remainder of your paper strip represents the amount of fabric available for pleat fullness in both draperies.

Measure and cut off from this strip 3 inches which is the total amount of center overlap allowed in this traverse rod. (Check *your* rod for correct measurement here.)

Estimate the size pleat best for your weight of fabric by pinning the fabric together (see Figure 20). The average pleat allowance is 4 to 6 inches, but this must vary with the weight and width of your fabric. Allow more space for heavier fabrics. Open the pleat and measure how much fabric is required.

Cut two pieces of lightweight cardboard about 3 inches wide and nearly as long as the amount of fabric required for each pleat.

With paper clips fasten these two together to form an adjustable marking gauge as wide as your estimated pleat space.

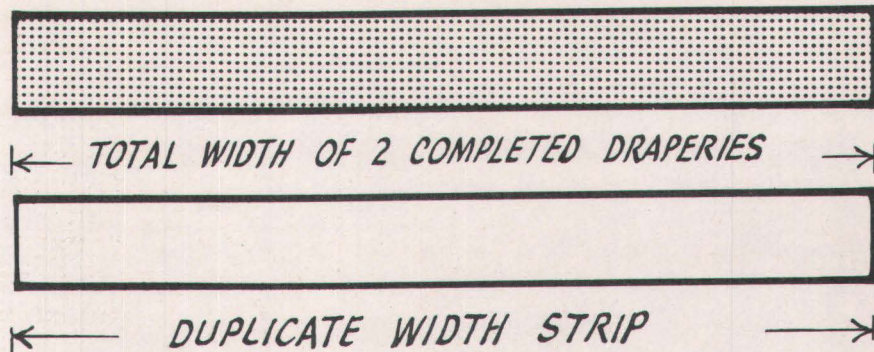


FIGURE 28 (Step 1)

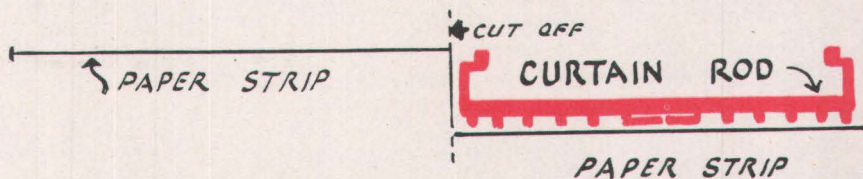


FIGURE 28 (Step 2)

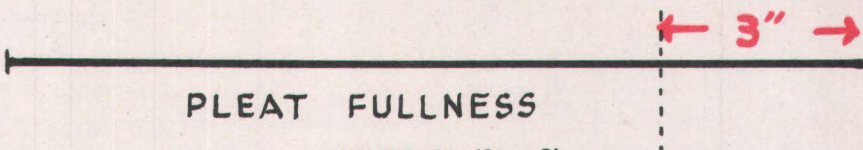


FIGURE 28 (Step 3)

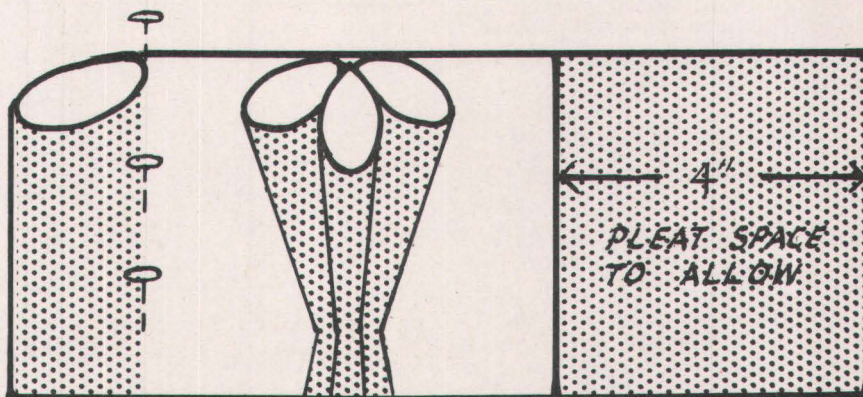


FIGURE 28 (Step 4)

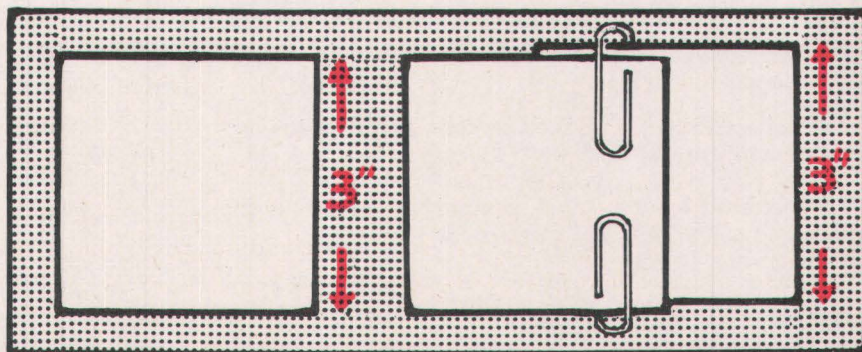


FIGURE 28 (Step 5)

Now mark off the paper representing the pleat fullness into an even number of sections, increasing or decreasing the length of your marker until you have an even number of pleats. Pleats will be more attractive if spaced 3 to 4 inches apart. You must have an even number of spaces—6, 8, 10, 12, 14, etc. Since these spaces represent the total number of pleats for both draperies, you will have one-half this number (3, 4, 5, 6, 7) in one drapery.

Lay out the paper strip labeled “rod section.” On each end measure and cut off 3 inches, or the distance allowed from the corner of the rod to the wall for your rod.

Using a cardboard marker, divide the paper left into *one less* space than you have pleats.

You now know the total number of pleats and spaces required for *both* draperies.

Make a cardboard marker slightly longer than the combined length of both spaces. Notch as shown.

Now take your second strip of paper which you cut when you started your work. Divide this in half, which represents the width of *one* drapery.

Mark off 3 inches (or the distance from corner of rod to the wall). With your gauge mark off all pleat and rod spaces working from the wall side toward the center front. *Commence marking with a pleat space.* You must be *very accurate* in placing your marker and mark inside the notches of your gauge.

Repeat until you have the correct number of pleats and spaces across your paper. You should end at the center front with $\frac{1}{2}$ portion of a rod space plus $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches for your center overlap.

Using your marked paper strip duplicate all markings on your drapery fabric. Mark and construct pleats as shown on p. 17.

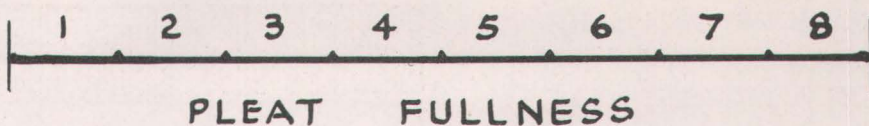


FIGURE 28 (Step 6)

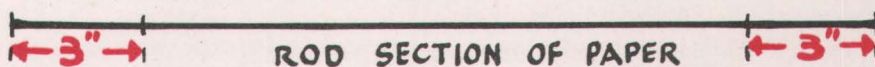


FIGURE 28 (Step 7)

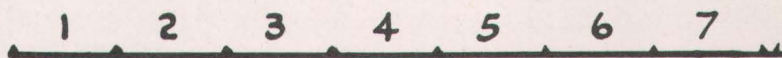


FIGURE 28 (Step 8)

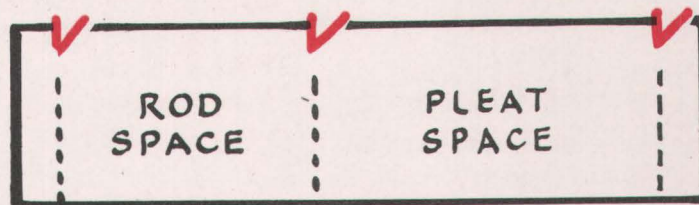


FIGURE 28 (Step 9)

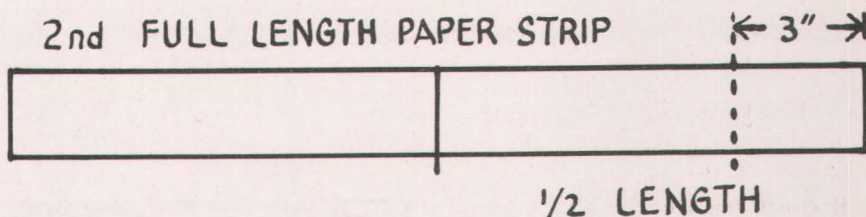
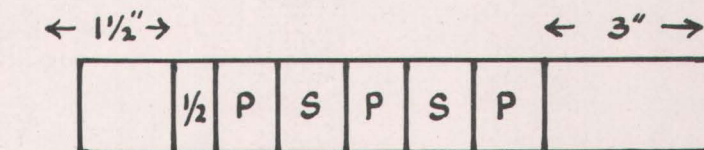


FIGURE 28 (Step 10)



CENTER OVERLAP

FIGURE 28 (Step 11)

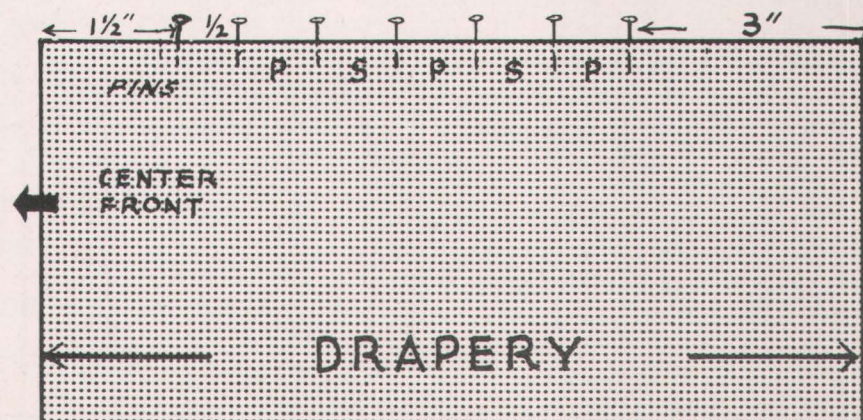


FIGURE 28 (Step 12)

Draw curtains may also be placed on metal, wood, or brass rings, sewed to the top or the back of the curtain, and used on a brass or wooden rod, to be drawn together by hand. To avoid stretching the drapery out of shape, make a self-fabric pull tab and sew to the wrong side of your drapery. Place this tab at the front edge directly under the heading of the drapery.

When you plan to make pinch pleats for side draperies follow the procedure shown in Figure 29:

Cut two identical pieces of narrow paper as long as the width on one completed drapery. Make sure the two lengths of paper are identical. Put one length of paper aside.

Now determine how much of the drapery rod is to be covered by your drapery.

Working with one length of your paper strip measure the exact length of the rod to be covered. Recheck for accuracy, then cut off this length. Mark this paper "rod section" and put it aside.

The balance of your paper strip represents the amount of fabric available for pleat fullness in one drapery.

Estimate the size pleat which will be attractive in your drapery fabric. Refer to this section under "How to Estimate and Plan Pinch Pleats for Draw Curtains Hung on a Traverse Rod" for details of this procedure. Open up the pleat and measure how much fabric is required.

Cut two pieces of light-weight cardboard about 3 inches wide and nearly as long as the amount of fabric required for each pleat.

With paper clips fasten these two together to form an adjustable marking gauge as wide as your pleat space.

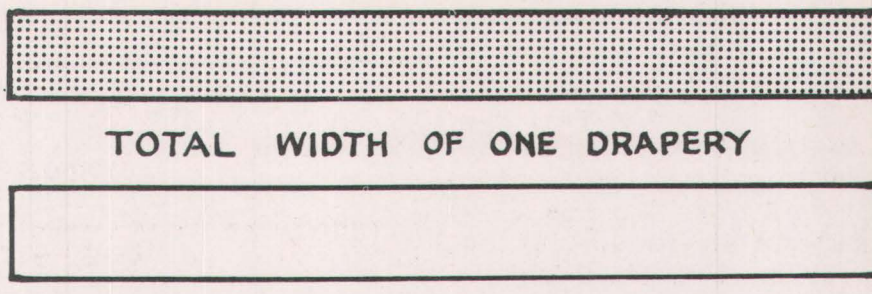


FIGURE 29 (Step 1)



FIGURE 29 (Step 2)

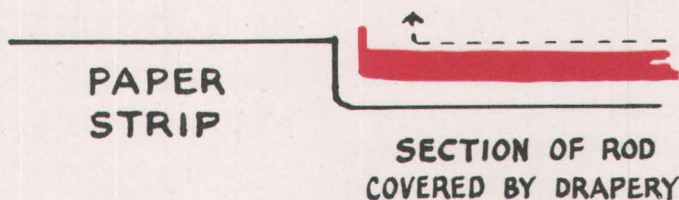


FIGURE 29 (Step 3)

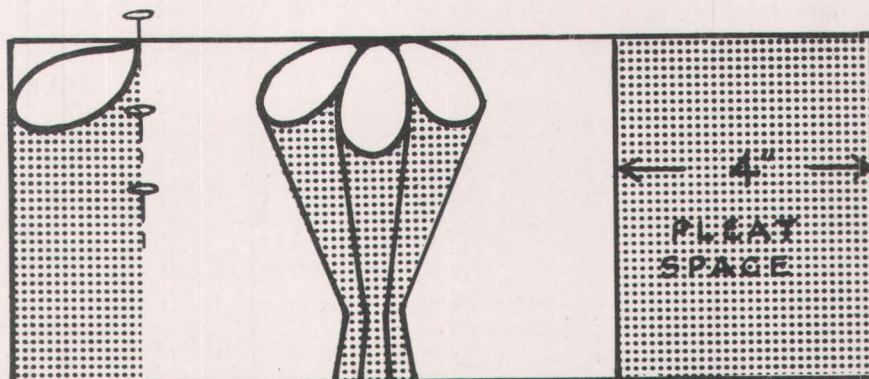


FIGURE 29 (Step 4)

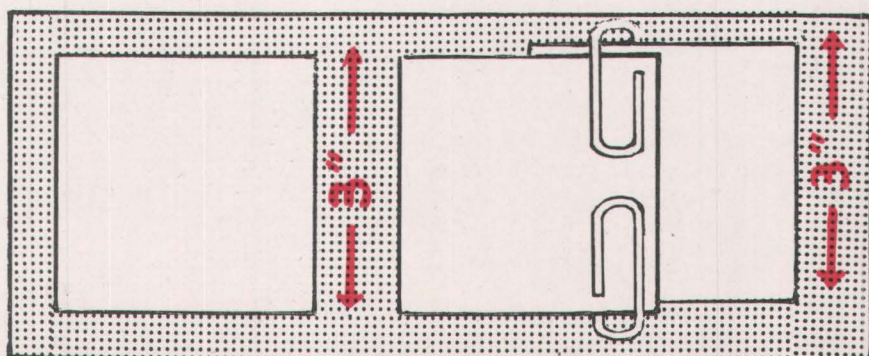


FIGURE 29 (Step 5)

Mark off the paper representing the pleat fullness into spaces an equal distance apart. Increase or decrease the length of your marker as necessary.

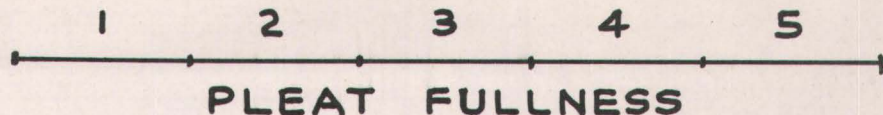


FIGURE 29 (Step 6)

Lay out the paper strip labeled "rod section." On one end cut off the distance from the corner of the rod to the wall, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 inches (distance from the center front to the first pleat) on the other end.

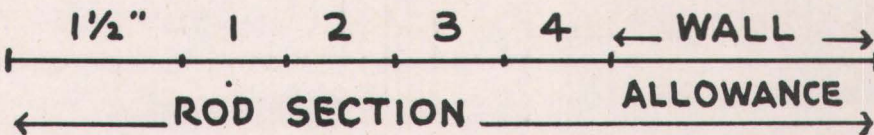


FIGURE 29 (Step 7)

Using your cardboard marker divide the paper left into *one less* space than you have pleats. You now know the number of pleats and spaces required for one drapey.

Make a cardboard marker slightly longer than the combined length of both spaces. Notch as shown.

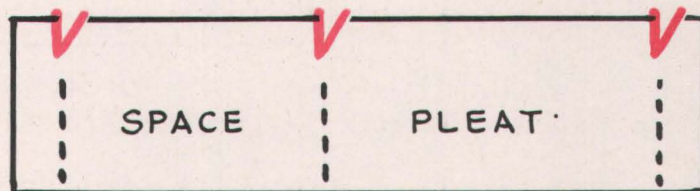


FIGURE 29 (Step 8)

Now take your second strip of paper which you cut when you started your work. Mark off the distance from the corner of the rod to the wall. Using your gauge, mark off all pleats and spaces. Commence marking with a pleat space *working toward the center*. Be very accurate in placing your marker and mark inside the notches of your gauge. Repeat until you have the correct number of pleats and spaces across your paper. Your last pleat should fall the distance you allowed from the center front to the first pleat from the center ($1\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 inches).

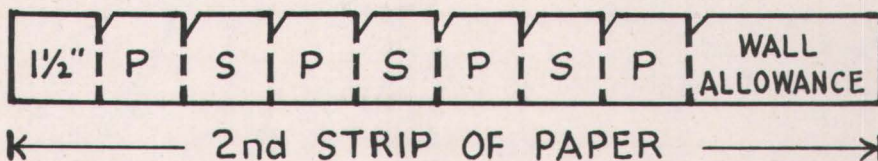


FIGURE 29 (Step 9)

Using your paper guide duplicate all markings on your drapery fabric.

Mark and construct pinch pleats as shown on page 17.

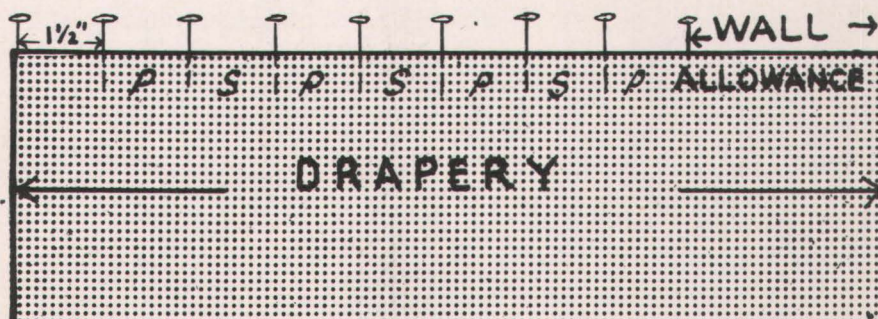


FIGURE 29 (Step 10)

WEIGHTS

Weights add good lines to draperies. Use single corner weights or yardage weights, depending on the weight of materials in the drapery. Steps in using the *pocketed corner weight* are shown in Figure 30.

POCKETED CORNER WEIGHT

- A. Cut square of fabric three times the diameter of the weight being used. Fold the square in half.

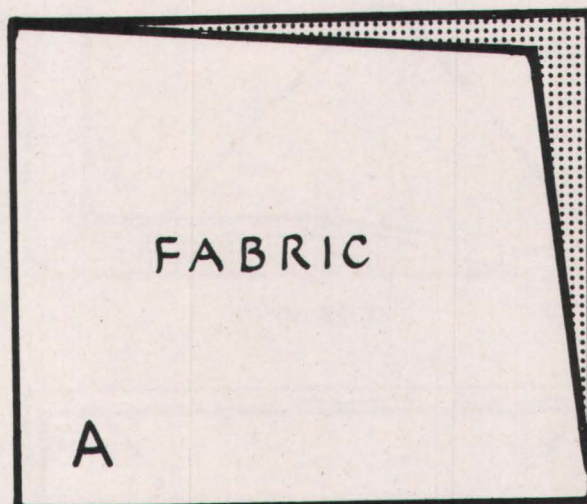


FIGURE 30 (A)

- B. Fold the corners over, and slip the weight into the pocket formed.

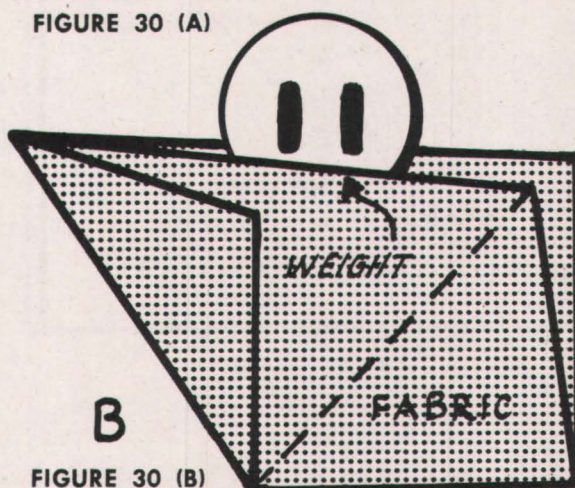


FIGURE 30 (B)

- C. Stitch across the top edge to hold in place.

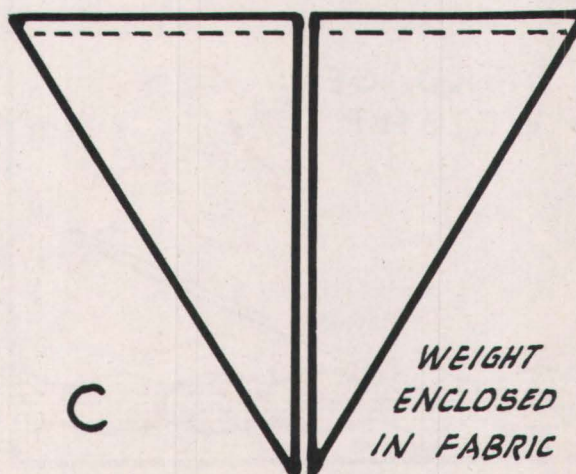


FIGURE 30 (C)

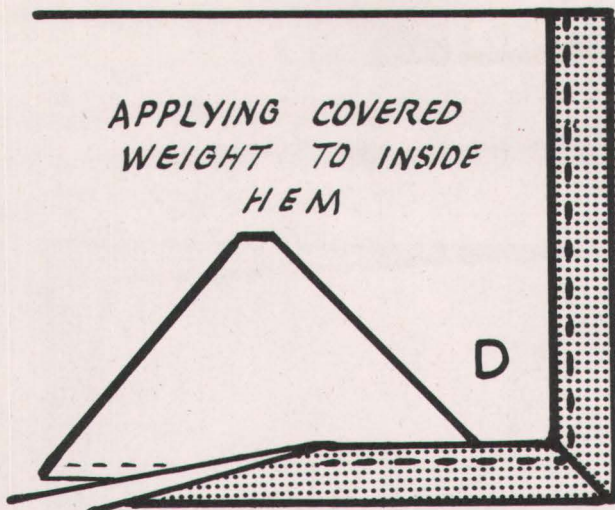


FIGURE 30 (D)

- D. Place weights at the corners of the drapery on the wrong side $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from edge for unlined draperies. Turn raw edge $\frac{1}{4}$ inch over weights and stitch. If drapery is to be lined, place weight pocket on raw edge of material.

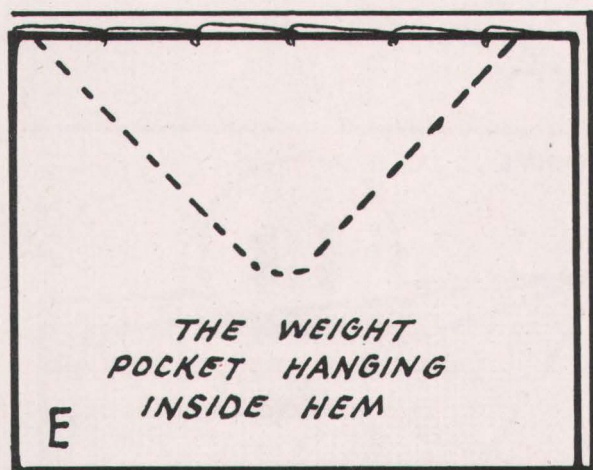


FIGURE 30 (E)

- E. Turn desired hem width and fasten in place with a hand-stitch.

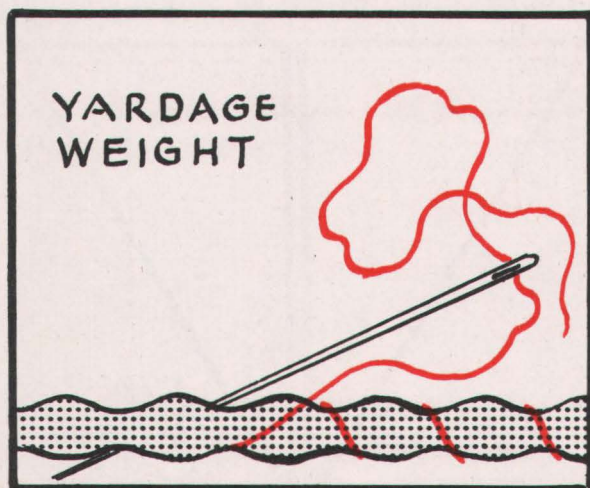


FIGURE 31

YARDAGE WEIGHT

It is desirable to use round string weights in sheer hems. Sew the string weight inside at the base of the hem as shown in Figure 31.

FESTOON DRAPERIES

This type of drapery is effective for many windows. To make, measure width of window or space that is to be covered and add distance that cascade or jabot is to hang down on each side, usually about 36 inches.

If the window to be covered is 60 inches wide and the drapery is to hang down on each side 36 inches, add the 60-inch and the two 36-inch lengths. (Figure 32). This totals 132 inches. Cut the fabric 132 inches long plus 6 inches for hems, or 138 inches. Cut the ends on a bias, cutting from one corner to about 12 inches in on the other edge as shown in drawing. Use wide fabrics to give ample fullness.

If cascade is to be lined, festoon should also be lined. Sew lining by hand to prevent puckering of edges. If lining is not used, make a 2-inch hem all around. Hang, using festoon rings or holders, folding the fabric in even folds where it goes through the rings or over the holders.

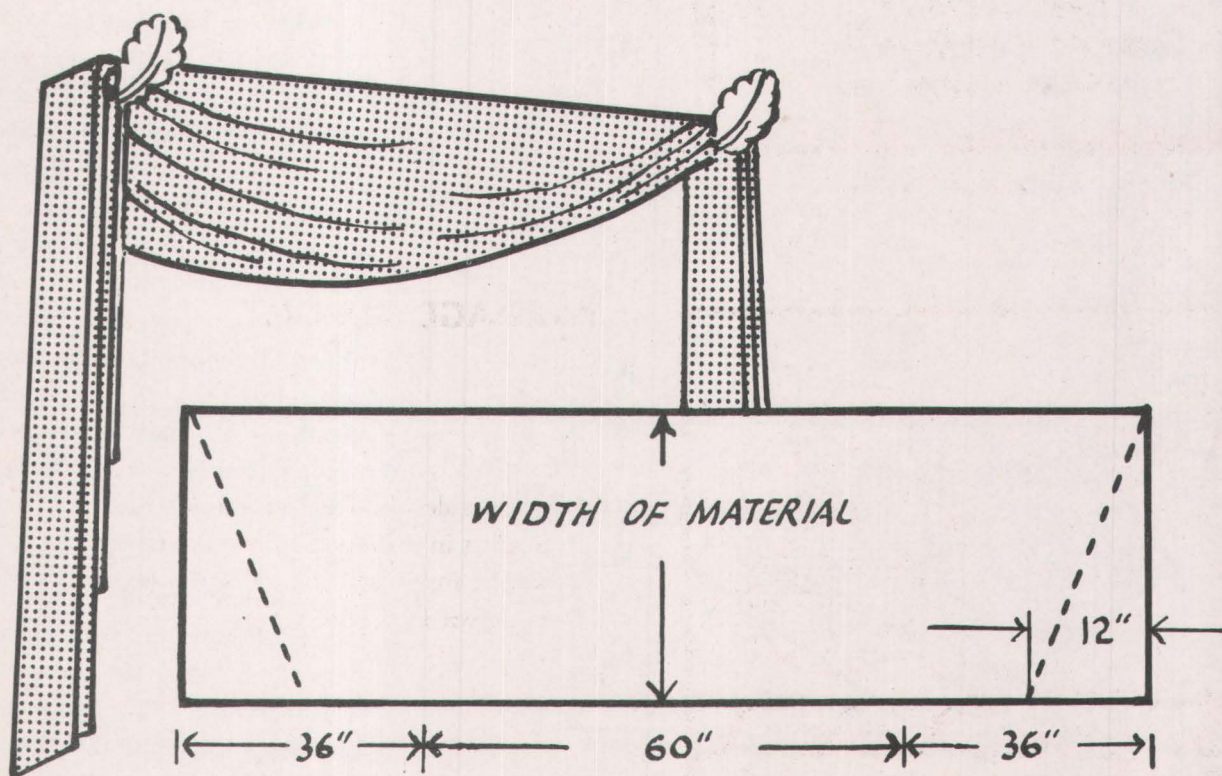


FIGURE 32

SWAG DRAPERIES

The finishing swag for a window of average height is from 14 to 16 inches deep and the cascade at the sides 20 to 25 inches deep.

Measure the width of the window and make a pattern of the swag by laying a piece of sateen or similar material on a flat surface and measure off the width of the window on the sateen. Measure the depth of the swag on the sateen allowing double fullness. If the swag is to be 17 inches deep when completed, lay out the pattern 34 inches deep plus 2 inches for the hem. The edge of the swag pattern should be cut on an angle of 25 degrees and the bottom rounded as shown in the sketch. After the pattern is made, lay it on the fabric and cut. Make a hem on the top and bottom about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Sew by hand or by machine. Press the hems and begin laying in the pleats by picking up the sides about two inches at a time and pin into position. When all the pleats are in, fasten them by hand sewing. After pleats are in place, they should occupy about 4 inches of space.

Make the cascade by cutting fabric as shown in sketch. Hem sides and bottom, fold over in flat folds to a width of 20 or 25 inches, and attach the top to the pleating of the swag. Panel sections are usually tacked to a board.

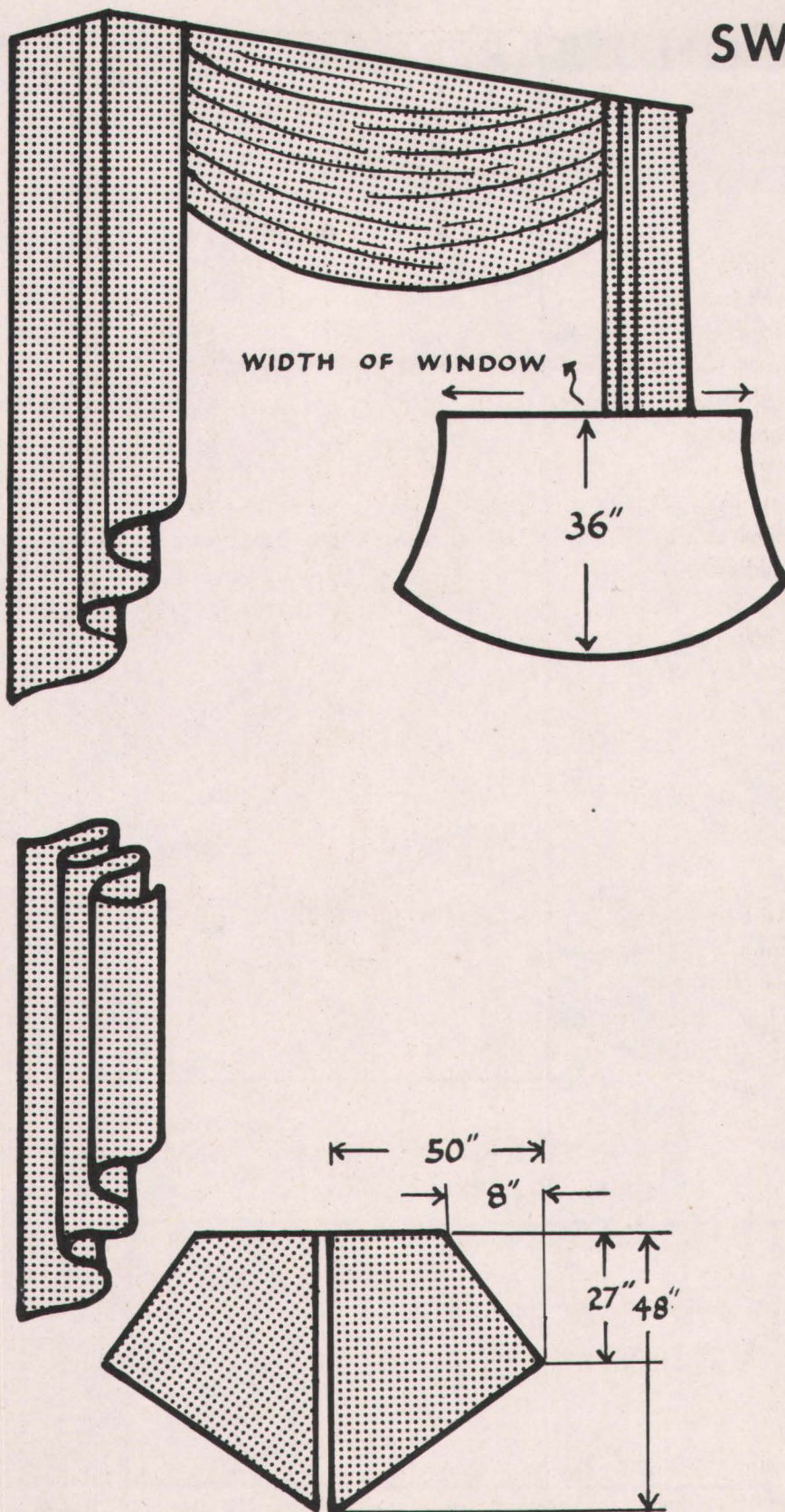


FIGURE 33

HANGING YOUR DRAPERIES

Suitable fixtures add the finishing touch to well-made draperies. Choose bar hooks as shown in Figure 34, B and D. The bar helps support the pleats. Sew the bar on the back of each cluster of pleats approximately $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches from the top of the drapery. A new type bar hook has an effective "safety pin" clasp. For a draw drapery, slip each hook into a carrier on the traverse rod. Add additional carriers if you have more pleats than carriers. Select "pin-on" hooks of the type shown under C for lightweight curtains.

The outside edges of draperies should hang straight from rod to hem. Give them this trim line by anchoring the edges. A ring, attached to the corner of the drapery, slips into a cup hook screwed to the wall or baseboard, as shown in Figure 34, A.

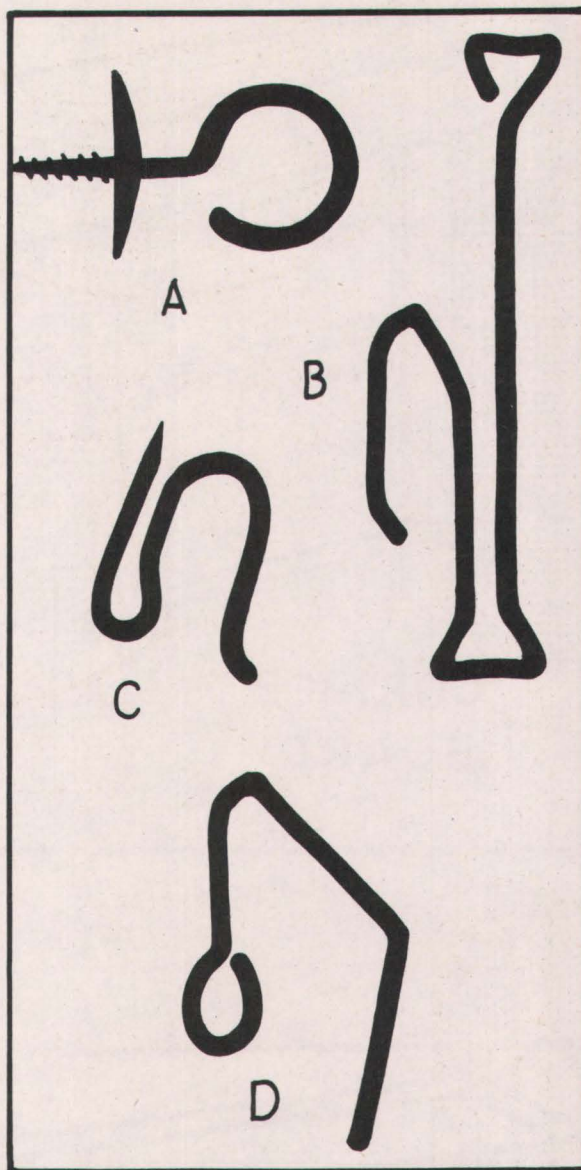


FIGURE 34

VALANCES

Valances should not be used if the ceilings are fairly low, because the long horizontal motif of the valance accentuates the low ceilings. Plain, gathered valances are the easiest to make, and they are the best kind to make if the curtains have to be laundered frequently. Fitted valances suggest stability and dignity and are suited to formal rooms. Between these two are valances made with pinch or box pleats. For the gathered valance allow $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 times the width of the window for ample fullness.

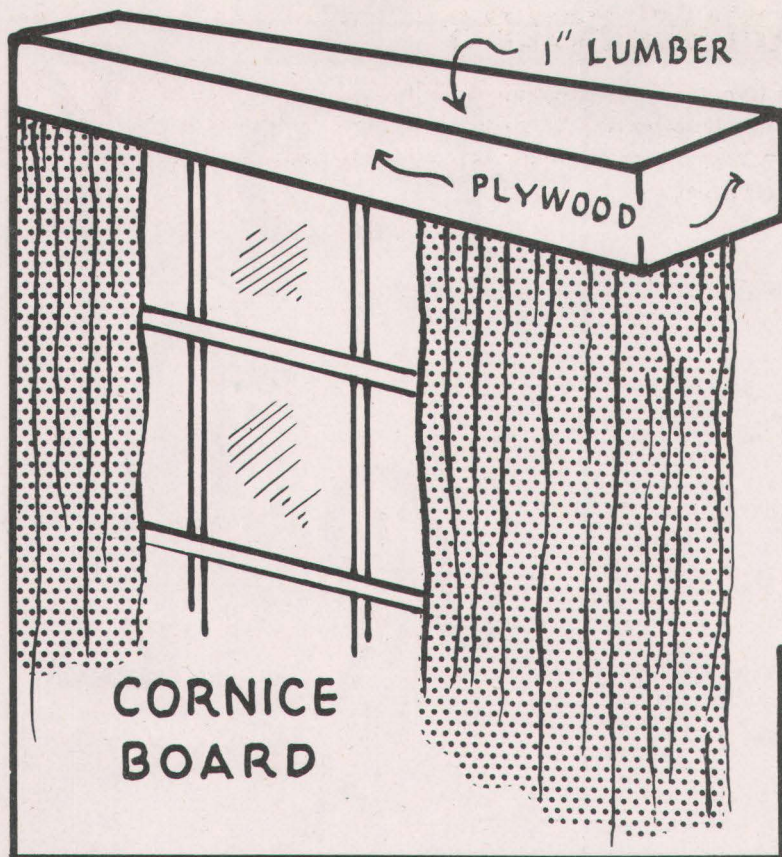


FIGURE 35

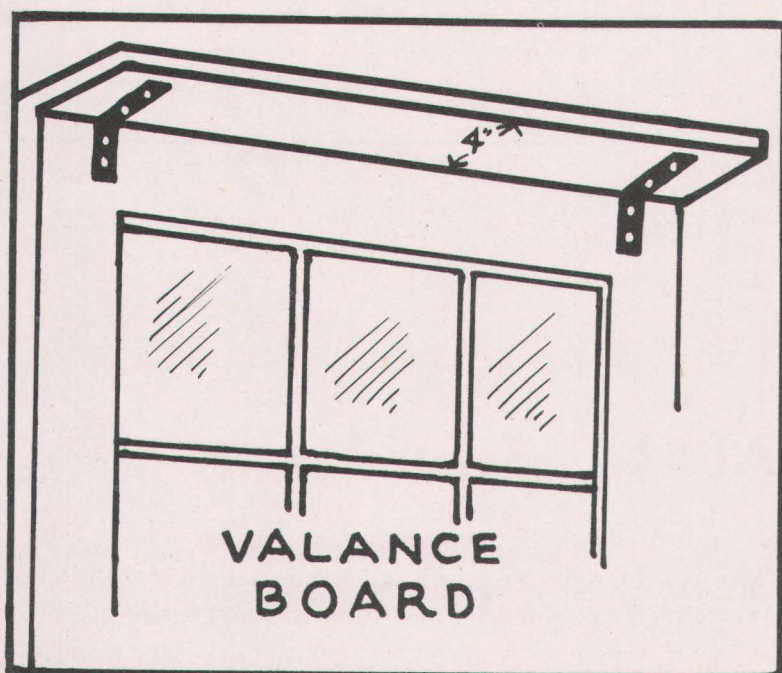


FIGURE 36

VALANCES AND CORNICE BOARDS

Cornice boards can be used very effectively as a finish for the tops of windows. They can be fashioned in different widths and designs to achieve the desired effect. A cornice board offers opportunities for making a narrow window appear wider, by letting the cornice extend beyond the window frame. By moving it up or down, a window may be made to appear taller or shorter. Hardware for hanging draperies is usually attached to cornice board, or valance board. Cornice boards are often treated in the same way as woodwork; pleasing effects result when they are padded and covered with drapery fabric. For a permanent installation you can use angle irons attached with screws. If you want to remove the cornice board easily, drive 2 finishing nails into the top of the frame above the window, about 6 inches in from the sides. Leave enough of the nail heads out of the wood so you can slide the cornice onto them. Now drill holes in the top board of the cornice in locations corresponding to the nail spacing. When you slide your cornice down into place, the nails and sides of the cornice will hold it firmly.

Valances may take the place of cornices. The board is about 4 inches wide and 1 inch thick. It is held in place with angle irons. The board may be the same width as the window frame or wider, depending on the effect desired.

Valances should be cut 8 inches wider than the valance board, to allow for the turn around the end of the board. Valances require a lining, flannel interlining, and buckram lining to make them hang well. Buckram lining and interlining should be cut exact size of pattern and tacked loosely together. The outside covering is cut 1 inch larger than the lining, then folded up over the buckram. Turn edges of the lining under $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and bring down over edge of the outside covering. Baste and slip-stitch in place. Working from wrong side of fabric, tack valance to valance board.

SHAPING FOLDS

Draperies will hang in straighter pleats if handled after finishing as follows:

Lay the finished drapery flat. Fold the pleats lengthwise, "accordion fashion," in line with the pleats of the heading. Now fold the entire drapery lengthwise several times, tying loosely with cord. Let set a few hours to establish the unpressed folds from top to hem.