

THE FIX

The Best-Dressed Windows and How to Get Them

Roman shades, curtains, drapery — or some combination? Here's how to figure out exactly what your windows need.



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Hanging curtains or shades can have a transformative effect on a room, adding warmth and style to a drab space or hiding unfortunate views out the window. You can even create the illusion that you have more space than you really do by exaggerating the appearance of ceiling height.

But figuring out which window treatment is right for your space can be tricky. What if there's no room for curtains on either side of the French doors in your tiny apartment? What's the best way to play up the lovely leaded glass in those prewar casement windows while keeping out the draft? How do you gracefully cover a bay window?

We asked interior designers to share their tricks for dressing up a range of window styles.

Oddly Shaped Windows

What about round or arched windows?

If you want the window to stand out, choose a window dressing that's the same color or pattern as the wall, so it blends in. That's the effect the designer [Martin Brudnizki](#) was going for in a luxury suite at the Grand Hotel Stockholm, in Sweden, which has porthole-style windows. Mr. [Brudnizki](#) used the same fabric for the wall covering and the curtains, which made the window pop.

"We had to use a special technique for the curved window treatment, which included using a center-split, full-length curtain, which is manually operated using an Italian-cord pulley system," he said. "The curtains are pinch-pleated to the top and fixed onto an arched runner. We also lined them with blackout material, to ensure guests can enjoy a peaceful night's sleep, especially considering how light Swedish evenings can be."



In a luxury suite at the Grand Hotel Stockholm, in Sweden, the designer [Martin Brudnizki](#) used the same fabric for the walls and the curtains, to make the view through the porthole-style windows pop.

James McDonald