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*Window Treatments & Accessories, and...
Our Unique Line of Decorator Patterns!*

Swags and Jabots

Traditional swags and jabots are a very formal and popular window treatment; they are adaptable to a variety of fabric and window styles. Traditionally, swags are made 16" to 20" deep, and most often are lined with drapery lining. As a general rule of thumb, you can figure on approximately 1.5 yards of fabric for a swag that would fit a standard size window (up to about 40" wide).

If swags are the only treatment being used at a window, the returns can be 1 1/2" or 3 1/2". If installed over a single drapery rod, returns should be 5 1/2"; if installed over a double rod or draperies, 7 1/2" to 9" returns should be used. The reason for these returns is to clear the face of the under treatment and avoid wrinkling the swags / jabots. Swags and Jabots can be stapled directly to the mounting board, or applied with velcro to the board.

Jabots are fashioned in lengths from half sash (or shorter) to floor length, and can be mounted over or under the swag(s). Generally the jabots are either self-lined or lined with a contrast fabric.

We suggest that you use the following approximate guide to determine the number of swags per window width:

Windows up to 48" wide	One swag
Windows 49" to 81" wide	Two swags
Windows 82" to 120" wide	Three swags
Windows 121" to 151" wide	Four swags
Windows 152" to 182" wide	Five swags

There are many different styles of swag treatments. They range from the loose and informal look of the "throw" swag (simply a long single piece of fabric draped over poles or some type of decorative hardware and pulled out to attain a "swagged" look), to elaborate Queen Anne and Empire-style swag treatments for formal rooms and areas. Embellishments such as trims, tassels and buttons can be added for extra impact – don't limit your imagination!

Almost any type of fabric can be used; we do however recommend against stiff “upholstery weight” fabrics. The reason for this is that they do not fall into folds nicely as do more medium and light-weight fabrics when cut on the “bias” (against the grain of the fabric).

Swags are an open treatment, but can also be combined with blinds and shades-this is for windows where light control is a factor. Also, long stationary panels can be used in place of the jabots to add color to the entire length of the window, without detracting from the look of the swags themselves. There are many different ways to combine this treatment for exactly the look you want!