

# Fabric and Lining for Curtains and Roman Blinds



## Composition

There are multiple fabrics available all with varying compositions. There are no fabrics which are 100% full proof against mildew or fading, by choosing a fabric with high man-made fibre content such as polyester will increase the durability and lifetime of your curtains. Fabrics with 100% natural fibre composition whilst looking beautiful are not stable, Linen for example is prone to atmospheric conditions and will shrink in intense heat and drop in cooler conditions.

## Colour & Design

The space of the room and size of your windows as well as your own personal style and preferences plays a huge part in this decision making process. If you have multiple large floor length windows in a single room/area with minimal wall space you are potentially better to choose a plain fabric. A bold patterned fabric, when your curtains are closed at night can dominate the room and make it appear smaller.

However due to the flat nature of Roman Blinds a patterned fabric can create a beautiful feature point to a room as it is almost like hanging a piece of art on the wall.

Jacquards have a self-pattern which is woven into the base cloth an effective way to add interest to the fabric without it becoming too dominated in the room.

Plain fabrics can be dressed up with the use of decorative rods. Also a plain fabric can have a texture still adding interest & allowing it to become a feature point in the room.

Dark colours can make a room appear smaller whilst light tones will make a room appear larger however if you have light coloured walls this will counteract a dark fabric and be a lovely contrast.

## Fabrics are divided into 3 main categories

### Thermal Coated/Triple weaves

Thermal coated fabric has a suede coating fused onto the back of the face cloth; this is available as either 1 or 3 pass which refers to the number of layers of the suede coating. 1pass coating will blockout 60% of light whilst 3pass will blockout 100%. Triple weaves provide the same insulation properties as Thermal coated fabrics & blockout 50-90% of the light depends on colour depth. Both of these fabrics do not require a separate lining making them an economical option.

## Uncoated

Uncoated fabrics encompass a wide range of fabrics with varying compositions, basically that means these fabrics require a separate lining to be sewn onto the back.

## Sheers

Voiles, Organza's & Muslin fabric is transparent allowing visibility out. During the day a sheer curtain will provide privacy & and filter the light & UV rays.

## Linings for Curtains and Roman Blinds

If an uncoated fabric has been selected then a separate lining must be added to the back. The reason for this is not only to provide longevity and protection to the front cloth but also for insulation purposes as well.

There are countless linings available in the market. The most popular linings are showing below.

### **Triple Weave** (Workroom stock Luna 300cm wide, product from Warwick)

The most superior lining available, Triple Weave linings are mildew resistant and are machine washable offering great insulation properties and 50-90% light blackout.

### **Thermal 3 Pass Coated** (Workroom stocks Thermal Guard black out/Simplicity Silicon blackout, product from Basford Brands; Ultimate blackout from Warwick and Solarline Silicon blackout from James Dunlop)

Like a Thermal Coated fabric the suede coating is fused onto the back of a poly cotton face cloth. Thermal lining has the same insulation properties as a Triple Weave but do not perform as well against mildew however do provide 100% light blackout, making it the best choice in situations where someone maybe needing to sleep in the room during the day. This lining is water proof but it is not washable.

In 2017 a new technology came out and replaced the suede coating with silicon coating. Silicon coating is softer, smoother and environmental (no dust at all). This lining is also washable and so it became to be the top seller soon after release.

### **Thermal 1 Pass Coated** (Workroom stock Satinline 1pass, product from James Dunlop)

The 1pass lining is thinner and lighter than 3pass and it provides about 60% light blackout. This is normally attached to thick/heavy fabric where 3 pass is not suitable, or used in somewhere does not require being too dark when curtain closed during the day. This lining is not washable.

### **Poly cotton** (Workroom stock Exceline poly cotton, product from James Dunlop)

PC lining is a plain piece of fabric without any suede coating at the back. It is thin and light so it's the cheapest option, widely used in school, hospital, restaurant and other commercial areas where only light/medium duty curtains are required.

### **Sateen** (Workroom stock Sunteen, product from James Dunlop)

Sateen is the premium version of Poly Cotton lining which is 50% thicker than normal version. This lining is particularly used with cotton or linen fabric to make the curtain feel soft and comfortable. This lining is washable as well.

**Interlining** (Workroom stock interline, product from James Dunlop)

The interlining can be inserted between fabric and lining to make the curtain 3 layered. This will ensure your home get best result of insulation.

## Difference in choosing coated fabric and uncoated fabric with separate lining

Uncoated fabric with separate lining has much more insulation benefit than single layered fabric. We need to dress our windows like we dress ourselves in winter, snug-fitting, with layers. Just like we do not spray rubber onto a T-shirt and go for a walk in the middle of winter.