

The Best Of "Creative Living with Sheryl Borden"



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Home & Hearth

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Due to the size of this section, it has been divided into two section which will enable it to be downloaded much more quickly. For instance “Box Top Window Treatments” is in Section I on page 3 whereas “Hardwood Floor Finishing” is in Section II on page 8.

Hardwood Floor Finishing

Scratching, stomping, dirt, mud and spills - no wood surface in your home endures more use and abuse than your floors. Whether you are installing a new floor, refinishing an old one, or just keeping your existing floor looking good as new, Minwax® has a full range of products to make and keep your floors beautiful.



Minwax® Super Fast-Drying Polyurethane for Floors is a durable, protective finish specifically formulated for use on hardwood floors. Minwax® Super Fast-Drying Polyurethane for Floors has a 25% faster recoat time than regular polyurethanes and does not require sanding between coats. Its professional anti-settling formula levels to a smooth,

even sheen. A hardwood floor topcoating project can be completed in just one day!

Minwax® Hardwood Floor Reviver refreshes hardwood floors that are worn, scratched, or dull. It is available in both High-Gloss and Low-Gloss sheens. Applying Reviver requires no sanding or special preparation, just squirt onto floor, spread with application tool and let dry.

Provides beauty and protection for 3-6 months.



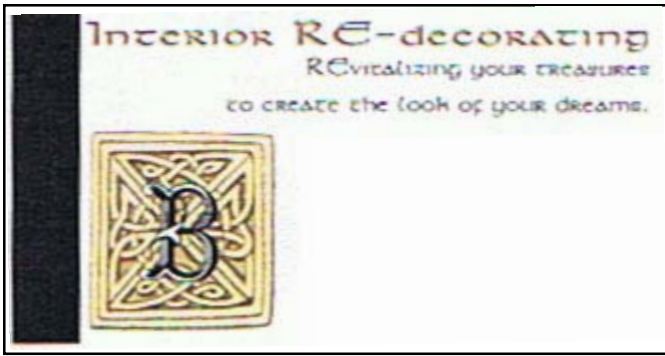
Minwax® Water Based Polyurethane for Floors is a durable protective finish specifically formulated for hardwood floors. Minwax® Water Based Polyurethane for Floors is water-based, therefore has little odor, dries quickly and cleans up with warm water. Most projects can be completed in one day!



Minwax® Water Based Polyurethane for Floors Base Coat dries quickly to provide an outstanding clear base coat for Minwax® Water Based Polyurethane for Floors. Minwax® Water-Based Polyurethane for Floors Base Coat seals the wood grain, preventing discoloration (tanin reaction) between the wood and Minwax® Water Based Polyurethane for Floors. Many water based finishes have a high pH level that can react with bare wood causing it to discolor.



COURTESY: Bruce Johnson
Minwax
www.minwax.com



Advantages of Hiring an Interior Decorator

Many people have an idea of a certain look they want to achieve, but they just don't know how to assemble their treasures together to create that look. It's all about following a few basic principles.

Whether you're building a new home or simply redecorating a room, a decorator has a trained eye to look for basic principles of design as well as traffic patterns that evolve from furniture placement. Many times these are two focal points, and a decorator may be able to rearrange the furniture to accommodate both or create two sitting areas within one room so that both focal points are used most effectively.

Unless the homeowner has given thought to furniture placement and relays that idea to the architect, electrical outlets may be placed in the wrong areas, or the room may not have enough outlets to accommodate all the technical equipment, lamps, etc. Art and paintings need to be given consideration in the electrical planning stages as well. Too many times this is an afterthought, and the art does not receive the attention that you intended.

When placing furniture that you already own in the new home, bring new life to your pieces by selecting colors for the walls that will unify your sofa fabrics and draperies into a harmonious whole. Vary the texture in the room, if possible. If you have a twill, tweed or olefin type fabric, it has a heavy texture. To add softness, create some throw pillows in cottons or chenille embellished with fringes or beads.

Flooring requires careful planning especially when you're using the same flooring throughout the home. Tile and laminate flooring create a beautiful, unified look, however, unless you have some very large pieces of furniture and a variety of textures, your home will echo and create a cold, uninviting atmosphere. Painting the walls in warm tones and

adding area rugs will provide warmth and coziness. Plants and accessories will also absorb some of the echo within a room.

Another common error is selecting exterior paint colors. Consider the exterior brick or siding and then use a color deck to pull hues that are in the same color tones as the brick or siding or select a contrasting or complementary color.

Another strength of a decorator is to discover new ways to use the treasures you already own. Pull all accessories, lamps, occasional tables, pictures, mirrors, plants and floral arrangements into one room. Separate them into categories: sentimental treasures, collectibles, and a general section.

By utilizing what you already own, your home has more personality and creates a warm and cozy atmosphere.

**COURTESY: Latricee Brooks
Brooks Re-Decorating**

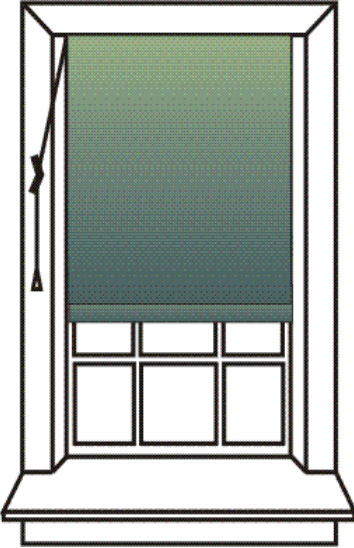


TERRELL DESIGNS

Roman Shade Artisans

How to Make a Professional Roman Shade

It is simple to make an attractive Roman shade for your window. By using several "professional" construction techniques, your shade will work perfectly every time you pull it up.



What you need to make a Classic Roman shade:

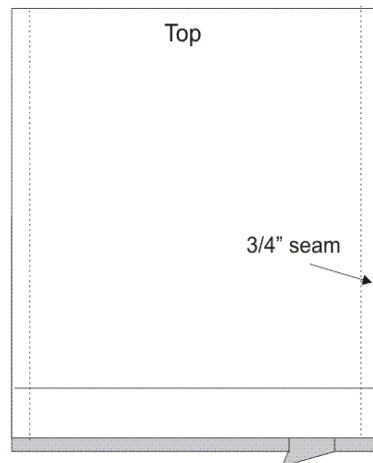
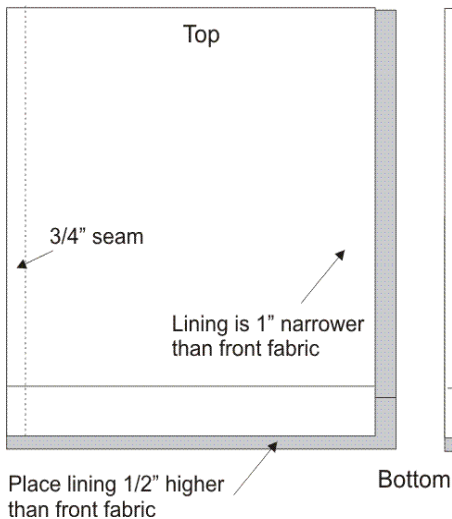
Finished width and length of your shade and the folding specifics, which can be obtained by using the Folding and Hardware Calculator on www.TerrellDesigns.com. The calculator will also tell you the number of lift lines for your shade.

Shade Fabrics:

- Decorator or quilting fabric cut 4" wider and 8" longer than your finished shade dimensions
- Drapery lining fabric cut 3" wider and 7.5" longer than your finished shade dimensions

Shade Hardware and Supplies

- A 1"x2" board cut 1/4" shorter than your finished shade width
- Muslin cut 5.5" wide and 4" longer than your board
- Plastic battens, one for each fold, cut 1/2" narrower than your finished shade width
- Simple pulleys, one for each lift line
- Lift rings, lift cord, weight rod (cut 1-1/4" shorter than the finished shade width), cord cleat and cord drop, glue to attach battens to shade



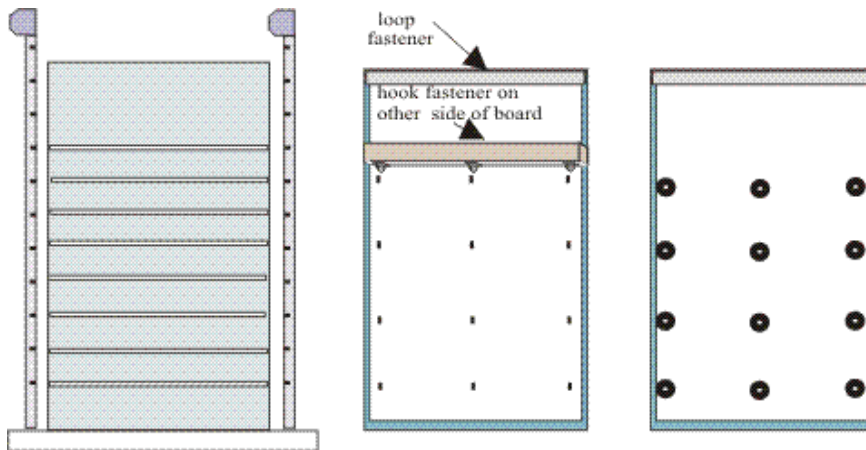
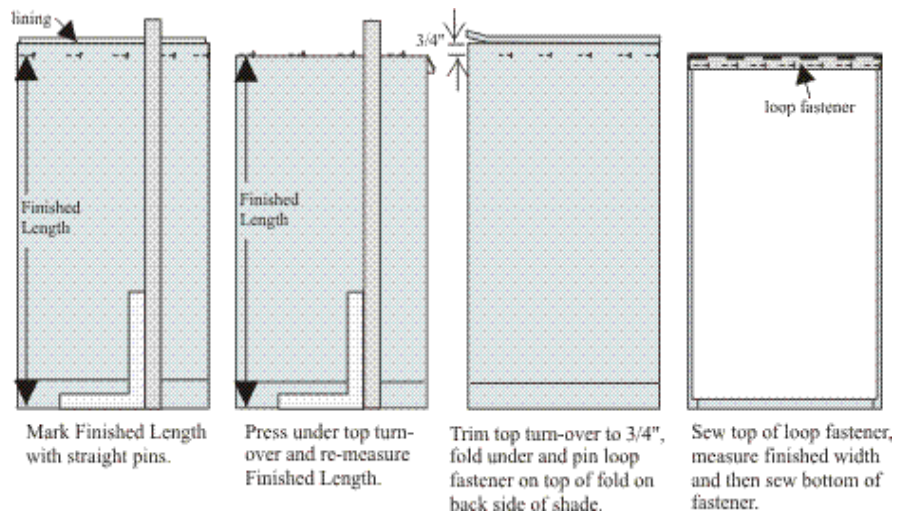
- Hook and loop fastener (Velcro) the width of your window. The loop portion should be the sew-on variety. The hook portion will be stapled to the board.
- Thread, both a neutral color such as white or gray, and a color that matches your front fabric

Step 1. Measure 3" from the bottom of your front fabric and press right sides together, fold again and press, making a double 3" hem. Stitch through all layers at the top of the fold using matching thread. Do the same with the lining fabric.

Step 2. Place the front fabric right-side up.

Place the lining on top of the front fabric, right sides together. Align the top edges and the left sides. The lining will be 1/2" shorter than the front fabric and 1" narrower. Using a 3/4" seam, sew first side seam. Pull right side of the lining flush to the right edge of the front fabric, right sides still together. Sew the second side seam (3/4"). Turn right-side out and press. The front fabric should wrap around to the back 1/4" on each side.

Step 3. With the front side up, mark the finished length of the shade using pins. Turn the shade under along the pins and press. Trim the shade and lining 3/4" PAST the pins. Pin the loop fastener (the soft part of the Velcro) of top of valance 1" over to the back and press. Mark the location of side tucks on the front. Stitch close to both edges of the loop fastener using thread that matches the front fabric.



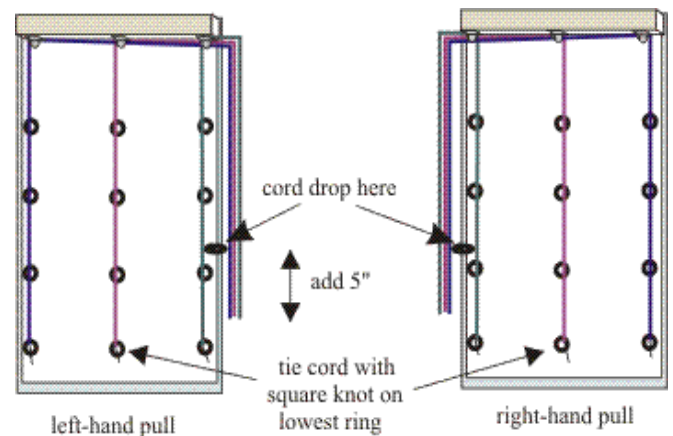
Step 4. Turn your shade inside out and lay on your work surface with the back side of the front fabric facing up. Glue a batten at each fold location. Let dry overnight and then turn the shade right side out.

Step 5. Cover the mounting board with the muslin using a staple gun. Attach hook fastener to the front top of the board with staples. Attach a pulley or screw eye on the bottom of the board at each lift line

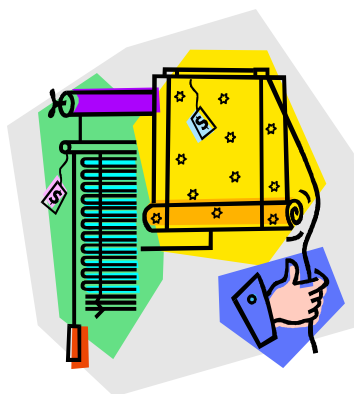
location. Starting at the bottom batten, use the board to mark the location of the lift rings on the back of the shade (on the lining). Mark the lift ring locations on every other batten. For example, if you have 8 battens, you will have 4 rows of lift rings. Sew the lift rings in place using thread that matches the front fabric.

Step 6. String the shade using the drawing at the right as a guide. Braid the lift cords together and secure the ends with a cord drop.

Note: For much more detailed instructions for making a professional Classic Roman shade as well as a top-down/bottom-up shade, you can go to: www.TerrellDesigns.com.

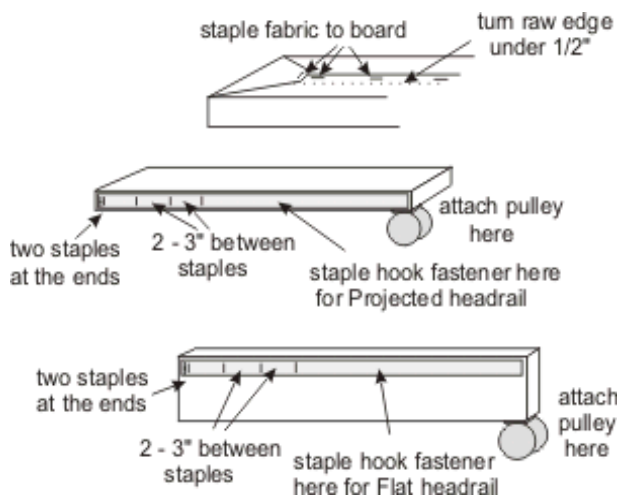


COURTESY: Terrell Sundermann
www.TerrellDesigns.com



How to Make a Roman Shade Headrail

It is simple to make a headrail for a Roman shade for your window.



What you need to make a Roman shade headrail:

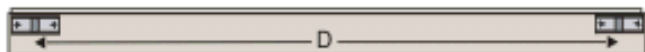
Finished width and number of lift lines for your shade, which can be obtained by using the Folding and Hardware Calculator on www.TerrellDesigns.com.

- A 1"x2" board cut 1/4" shorter than your finished shade width
- Muslin cut 5.5" wide and 4" longer than your board
- Simple pulleys with screws, one for each lift line
- Hook fastener (Velcro) the width of your shade. The loop portion has already been sewn onto the top back of your shade.
- Staple gun, staples, awl, Philips head screw driver, hammer

Pulley Placement: Projected Installation



Front of Board with Hook Fastener



The two outside pulleys are placed close to each end of the board and close to the long edge next to the Hook Fastener.



Three lift lines: the third pulley is placed in the center of the board.



Four lift lines: measure the distance between the center of the "edge" pulleys and divide by 3.



Five lift lines: the third pulley is placed in the center of the board, the remaining two pulleys are then placed half way between the center pulley and the "edge" pulleys.



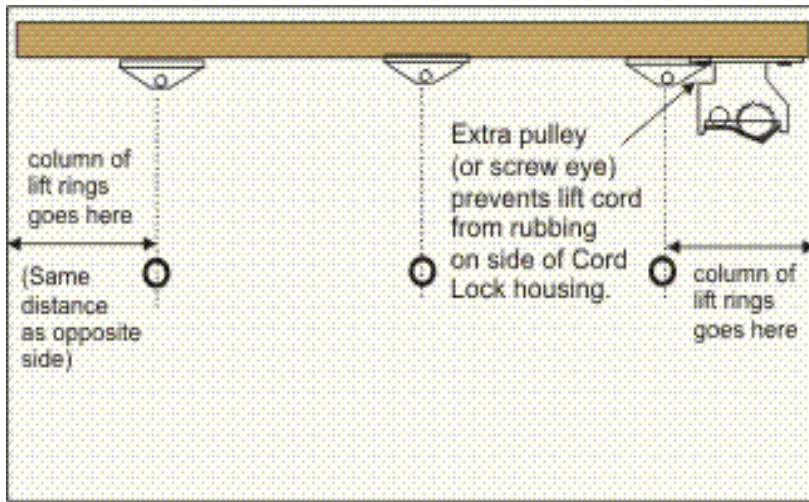
Six lift lines: measure the distance between the center of the "edge" pulleys and divide by 5.

Step 1. Cover the board with the muslin. This is the same as wrapping a present except that you turn under the raw edges. Use a staple gun to secure the muslin in place. Now attach the hook fastener (Velcro) to the top front of the mounting board. See the drawing above for the location of the fastener.

Step 2. Attach the pulleys to the bottom of the board, at the front edge. Using an awl, mark the screw hole locations of the two edge pulleys. Attach the pulleys using screws and a Philips head screwdriver. Attach the remainder of the pulleys so that there is the same distance between each pulley.

You use the headrail to mark the location of the lift rings on the back of your shade. The headrail is attached to the window trim or wall. Match the loop fastener on the top backside of your shade with the hook fastener on the headrail to easily hang your shade.

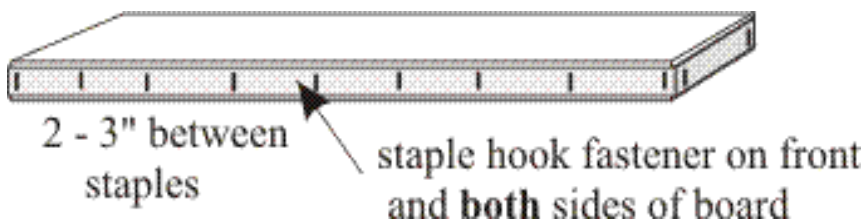
Cord Lock Pulley. A cord lock pulley is used to lock the lift cords into place without having to use a cord cleat. This item has two rollers, one with notched "teeth", that catch the lift cord. It is placed on the edge of the headrail on the side of the board where the lift cords will be exiting. The drawing to the left shows a cord lock for a left-handed shade. (You are looking at the back of the shade, so when it is turned around, the lock will be on the left-hand side!)



You need to install a "tandem" pulley butting up to the cord lock pulley. If you don't do this, the lift cord will rub on the cord lock housing. You attach the cord lock and tandem pulley first. Then place the pulley for the opposite side of your headrail the same distance in from the edge.

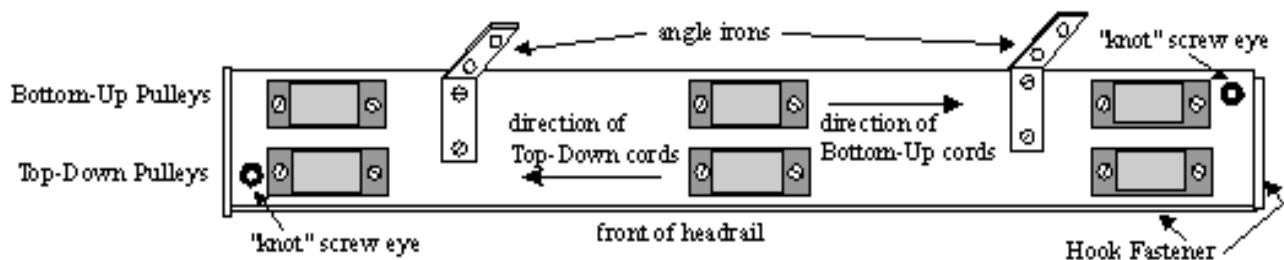
Top-Down/Bottom-Up Roman Shade. The headrail for a Top-Down/Bottom-Up Roman shade is similar to the headrail for a classic Roman shade, except there are two sets of hardware: one for the top-down function and one for the bottom-up function. In addition, the shade is not attached to the headrail, but "hangs" from the Top-Down hardware. You

do need to hide the hardware from view when the shade is lowered, so you will be attaching a short fabric Valance to the board using hook fastener (Velcro).



Step A. Cover the board with the muslin following the directions for a projected installation in Step 1, above. Now attach the hook fastener (Velcro) to three sides of the mounting board (both sides and the front). See the drawing below for the location of the fastener.

Step B. Attach two sets of pulleys. The top-down pulleys are placed at the FRONT of the headrail. The outside pulleys should be about 1/2" in from the side of the board. Place the bottom-up pulleys directly behind the front set of hardware. Note: attach a small screw eye on each side of the board as shown in the drawing below. This is called the "Knot Screw Eye." Your lift cords will be threaded through this eyelet and then knotted. This knot prevents your top-down shade from falling on the floor when you lower it.



You use the headrail to mark the location of the lift rings on the back of your shade. The headrail is attached to the window trim or wall using angle irons. See www.TerrellDesigns.com for detailed instructions on stringing your top-down/bottom-up shade.

COURTESY: Terrell Sundermann
www.TerrellDesigns.com

FAUX FUN

with BARBARA WURDEN

Wall Treatments



Rag Painting

Here you'll learn several different types of rag painting techniques along with other mottled finishes. Barbara will also demonstrate with a few rag painting rollers which are available off the shelf. You'll learn how one might work with these tools and if they are useful for creating rag-type finishes. Additionally, you'll be shown examples of common mistakes people make when they are learning rag-painting techniques. You'll learn what causes the problems, how to avoid them and how to fix them if they do occur. All the finishes are created with basic tools and water-base paint products.



decorative wall creation. You'll also learn how to paint a stone block patterned wall finish. From there, you'll learn how to create a textured faux brick wall surface. With both the brick and block wall finishes, you can interchange their application processes and create a textured block wall or simply a painted faux brick pattern. All of these finishes are created with water-base paint products and easy to find tools.



Sponge Painting



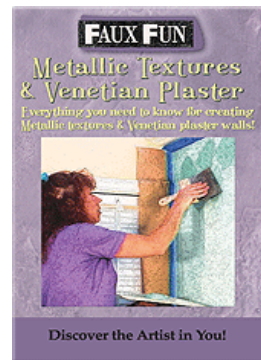
With this DVD you can easily learn how to paint uniform, interesting and creative sponged wall finishes. There is much more to sponge painting than just dabbing the wall with a sponge, and you'll be shown just how much more through examples of skilled technique. You will also be shown the common mistakes made with sponge

painting. You'll learn why they happen and how to avoid the problems and fix them if they occur. All of the finishes are created with basic painting tools and water-base paint products. Simply learn everything you need to know to make sponged finishes look great!

Rocks, Blocks & Bricks

With this DVD you'll learn how to transform ordinary paper and create torn paper rock patterns; then you'll learn how to apply them to your walls for a stone-like

Metallic Textures & Venetian Plaster



Here you'll easily learn new ways to add color and texture with Metallic paints and Venetian plaster. You'll be shown how to paint plain walls with Metallic colors. And, you'll learn how to combine this paint with different texture materials to create both classical and contemporary patterns. You'll learn how to apply Venetian plaster and create beautiful walls that

look and feel like marble. Plus, you'll learn a new way of working with Venetian Plaster to create an old world cracked plaster wall finish. Additionally, you will be guided on how to avoid making common mistakes and how to fix problems if they occur. This DVD is simply an excellent tool for everyone to learn how to paint his or her walls with fun and easy decorative painting techniques using both Metallic paint and Venetian Plaster!

For information on videos available from Barbara Wurden, go to: www.fauxfun.com.

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