

Fabric usually comes in a standard 54 inches width. Some Dupion silks are only 44 inches wide. There are also good selections of double-width fabric: 108 inches or wider. These are great for duvet covers as you can avoid seams, saving on labour costs.

I recommend that your Designer or Manufacturer take the final measurements and advise you on the precise amount of fabric you will need. If you need a rough estimate just for budgeting purposes, you can use the following method:

For Blinds

Step 1: Measure the width of your window in inches.

Step 2: Add 6 inches to allow for 3 inch side hems. If this amount is more than 54 inches, you will need more than one width of standard fabric for your blind. If this amount is between 28 and 54 inches, you will need one width of fabric for your blind. If this amount is 27 inches or less, you will get two blinds out of one width of fabric. Now you know how many drops/widths of fabric you will need.

Step 3: Measure the length of your window.

Step 4: Add 16 inches to allow for the flap and seams at the top and bottom.

Step 5: Multiply this amount by the number of fabric widths you will need (answer of Step 2). Now you have the amount of fabric you will need in inches. Divide by 36 inches to get the amount of fabric you will need in yards.

For Drapes

Step 1: Measure the width of your rod in inches. If you don't have drapery hardware installed yet, measure the width of the area you would like covered by the drape.

Calculating Fabric Amount

Step 2: Multiply this amount by 2 if you want your drapes to be 2 times fullness. If you choose a fuller look, then multiply by $2\frac{1}{2}$.

Step 3: Divide this amount by 54 inches. Now you know how many drops/widths of 54 inch wide fabric you will need.

Step 4: Measure the length you want the finished drape to be in inches.

Step 5: Add 16 inches to allow for the hem (8") and heading (8"). Now you know how much fabric you will need for each drop/width of 54" wide fabric.

Step 6: Multiply this answer from step 5 by the number of drops you will need. (answer of step 2) Now you have the amount of fabric you will need in inches. Divide by 36 inches to get the amount of fabric you will need in yards.

For Sheers

Step 1: Measure the width of your rod in feet. If you don't have drapery hardware installed yet, measure the width of the area you would like covered by the drape.

Step 2: For every foot in width you want the sheer to cover, you will need one yard of fabric. That will give you 3 times fullness.

Step 3: Sheer fabric comes in double widths ranging from 108" to 120" and is usually railroaded to make sheer drapes. Railroaded means using the width of the fabric to cover the length of the window. The width of sheer fabric is usually enough to cover the length of standard sheers. If you have very high ceilings (more than 9ft), make sure you choose sheer fabric that is wide enough to cover that length and allow for a hem and header.