

Installing blinds instructions

Installing blinds can vary depending on the type of blinds you have and whether you're mounting them inside or outside the window frame. Below are general instructions for installing typical inside-mount and outside-mount blinds. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's specific instructions that came with your blinds as well.

Tools and Materials:

- Blinds
- Mounting brackets (usually included with the blinds)
- Screws
- Screwdriver or drill with appropriate bits
- Level
- Measuring tape
- Pencil
- Anchors (if necessary)

Inside-Mount Blinds Installation:

1. **Measure the Window:** Measure the inside width of the window frame at the top, middle, and bottom. Use the narrowest measurement to determine the width of your blinds. Also, measure the height of the window frame to determine the length of the blinds.
2. **Attach Brackets:** Hold one of the mounting brackets against the top corners of the window frame (usually on the top or backside of the window frame). Use a level to ensure it's straight, and mark the screw hole locations with a pencil.
3. **Install Brackets:** Pre-drill pilot holes for the screws if necessary. Then, secure the brackets in place using screws. Repeat this process for the other bracket on the opposite side of the window frame.
4. **Attach the Blinds:** Most blinds come with a headrail. Insert the headrail into the brackets. Ensure that the blinds are level and adjust the brackets if necessary. Lock the blinds into place if they have a locking mechanism.
5. **Test and Adjust:** Lower and raise the blinds to ensure they work properly. Make any necessary adjustments to the blinds' length if they are too long.

Outside-Mount Blinds Installation:

1. **Measure the Area:** Measure the width and height of the area you want to cover with the blinds. It's usually a good idea to add a few extra inches to the width for better light control.

2. **Attach Brackets:** Hold one bracket against the wall or window frame, ensuring it's level, and mark the screw hole locations with a pencil. Depending on the blinds and the material of your wall, you may need to use anchors.
3. **Install Brackets:** Pre-drill pilot holes and then secure the brackets to the wall using screws. Repeat this process for the other bracket on the opposite side.
4. **Attach the Blinds:** Slide the headrail of the blinds into the brackets and make sure they are secure.
5. **Test and Adjust:** Lower and raise the blinds to ensure they work properly. You can make further adjustments to the blinds' width if necessary.
6. **Finish Touches:** Attach any valances or other decorative elements that came with the blinds.

Remember to follow the manufacturer's instructions for your specific blinds as there may be slight variations in the installation process. Additionally, make sure you take all necessary safety precautions and use the appropriate tools for your installation. If you're not comfortable with DIY projects, it's always a good idea to hire a professional to install your blinds.

Measuring blinds

Properly measuring your windows is crucial to ensure that the blinds you purchase fit correctly. The measurements you need will depend on whether you are planning to install inside-mount blinds or outside-mount blinds. Here are instructions for both scenarios:

Inside-Mount Blinds:

1. **Width Measurement:**
 - Measure the width of the window frame at the top, middle, and bottom. Use the smallest of these measurements, as it ensures that the blinds will fit inside the window frame without rubbing against the sides.
 - Measure from the inside of the window frame or where the mounting brackets will be placed.
2. **Height Measurement:**
 - Measure the height of the window frame from the top to the bottom. If you prefer a precise fit, measure at multiple points and use the shortest measurement.
3. **Depth Measurement:**
 - Measure the depth of the window frame, especially if you plan to install blinds with a deeper headrail or other features. The depth will help you select the right blind style.

Outside-Mount Blinds:

1. **Width Measurement:**

- Measure the width of the area you want to cover with the blinds. To ensure good light control and privacy, add a few extra inches (typically 2-3 inches) to the width. This will allow the blinds to overlap the window frame or molding.
- Measure the width from where the brackets will be placed.

2. Height Measurement:

- Measure the height of the area you want to cover from the top to the bottom. For outside-mount blinds, you have more flexibility in the height measurement. You can choose to have the blinds extend above the window frame or sit below it.

Additional Tips:

- Always use a metal measuring tape for accuracy.
- Round your measurements to the nearest 1/8 inch or 1/16 inch, depending on the precision required by the blind manufacturer's guidelines.
- Double-check your measurements to ensure accuracy before ordering blinds.
- If you're ordering blinds for multiple windows, measure each one separately, as window sizes can vary.
- If you are not certain about your measurements, consult with the blind manufacturer or retailer for guidance.

When ordering custom blinds, provide the manufacturer with the exact measurements you've taken. Keep in mind that some blinds may have slight deductions made by the manufacturer to ensure they fit properly, especially for inside-mount blinds. Always follow the specific measuring guidelines provided by the manufacturer or retailer you are purchasing from to ensure the best fit for your blinds.