

Workroom Threads

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carolina custom draperies Workroom to the Trade



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What Is Italian Stringing?

Italian stringing (also called reefing) is a technique that allows the lower portion of a drapery to open while the header remains stationary. Unlike a tieback, the lower portion is elegantly drawn back in soft folds. This portion can be operable, although it is not recommended. This same technique is often used in theater curtains.

Let's explore how Italian stringing is done and view some results.

Sylvia Marvell



Behind the Scenes

On the back of the drapery a series of rings is sewn in a diagonal line upward from the leading edge. A cord is then threaded through the rings and secured to a tenter hook that is placed near the return at the highest point of the stringing. This supports the graceful draping of the folds.

The results of the draping can vary greatly depending on the placement of the rings and the degree of the angle.







Getting The Hang Of It

When designing with Italian stringing you need to provide the workroom with a simple sketch of the curvature you are wanting at the leading edge. If the curve is stretched too tight, giving it a pulled look, it can resemble a facelift gone wrong.

Also consider that when the leading edge is raised some lining may show on the bottom hems. Remedies for this can be discussed with your workroom.

Have you ever pondered over how to treat an arched window with a drape? Italian stringing could be the perfect solution! The stationary heading covers the arch, yet the stringing allows as much light as desired to come into the room with the graceful and elegant draping of the fabric.

Images from the Internet

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