

# Instructions For Translucent Three Pleat Pinch Shirring Tape, (TT22)

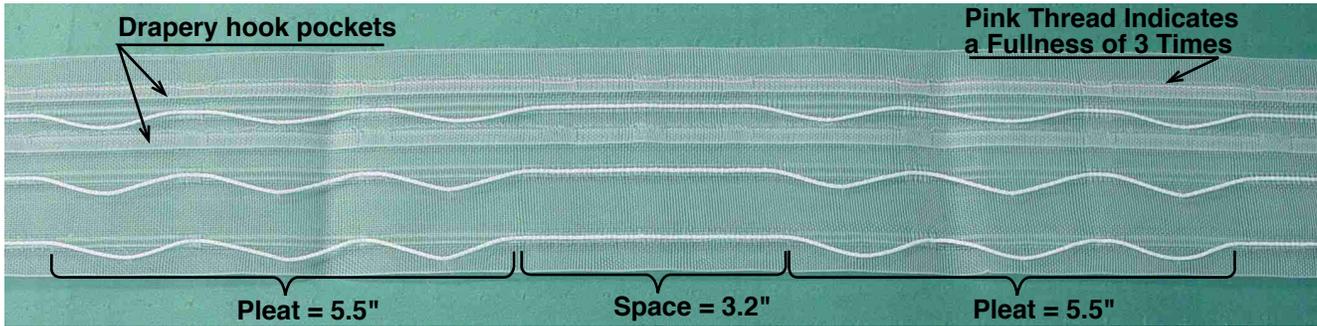
## Translucent Tape Advantages:

- Excellent for sheer fabrics.
- Less obvious when used with any fabrics.
- Creates three pleat pinch pleats on panels, top treatments etc. quickly and automatically.

## Introduction to Translucent Three Pleat Pinch Shirring Tape:

In the picture bellow, the draw cords were slightly pulled out to show the spaces and pleats.

**Do Not Do This To Your Tape!**



## Step By Step Instructions:

### 1. Hardware considerations and panel length

- 1a. Many rods with glides or rings, our pleat pin strips (Stock #: **HS210**) etc. can be used with these translucent shirring tapes. The two-prong drapery hooks (Stock #: **DP20**) should be used with these types of hardware.

#### To determine the panel length:

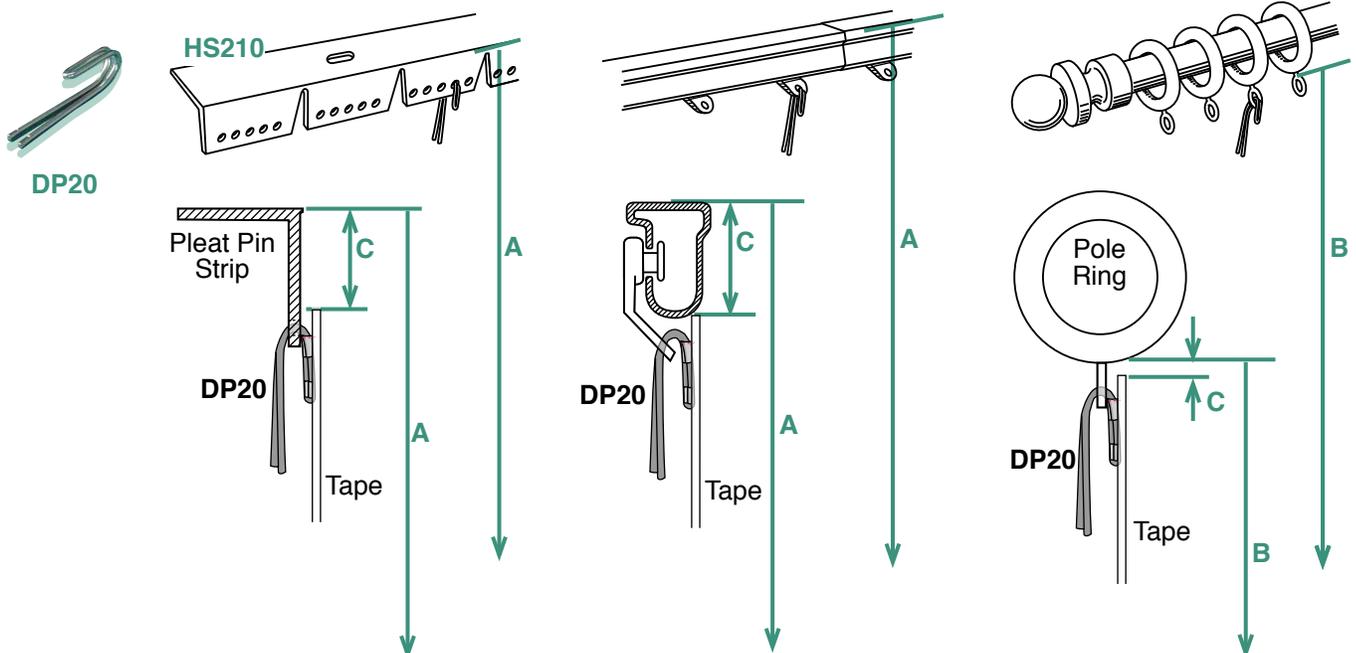
Measure from the top of the strip or rod (**A**) or from the screw eye at the bottom of the ring (**B**) to the window sill or floor or any other desired panel finished length.

#### Fabric Length Requirement:

**Panel Finished Length  
+ Allowance for a Double Folded Bottom Hem  
+ 5" Extra for Top Hem.**

#### To determine how far down the top edge of the tape should be from the top edge of the panel:

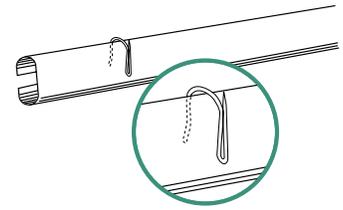
Insert a hook into the piece of tape you are going to use. Take the measurement (**C**) as shown in the figures below. The translucent tape must be positioned so that the distance between the top edge of the tape and that of the panel is **C**. This allows the hardware to be adequately covered by the treatment. Refer to Step 10a to learn how to insert the hook.



**1b.** Certain sizes of curtain rods can also be used. In that case, drapery pins (Stock# **DP50**, **DP53**) must be used.

The top edge of the tape may be placed 1/4" to 2" below the top edge of the panel, based on the desired effects one wishes to achieve. A larger distance creates a ruffle effect.

Please note that the drapery header may have a tendency to dip forward when drapery pins are used.



**2. Planning for the panel width:**

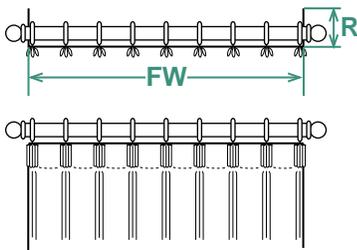
Three typical panel arrangements are shown below.

The abbreviations are explained as follows:

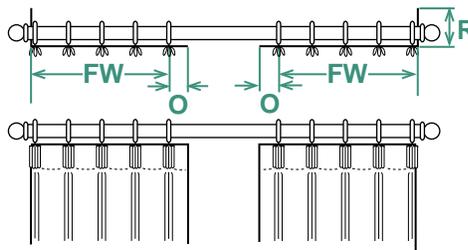
**FW:** Panel finished width excluding return and overlap.

**R:** Return.

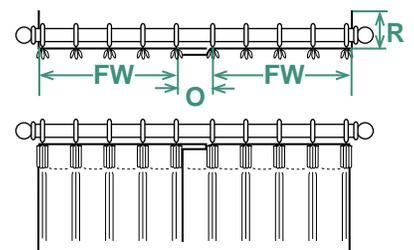
**O:** Overlap. In Figure (2), although the flaps do not actually overlap, we will still call them overlaps for simplicity.



(1) A single stationary panel



(2) A pair of stationary panels not meeting in the center



(3) A pair of panels meeting in the center

The calculations outlined below will let you make a finished panel width the same or slightly wider than what is required. This is due to the fixed spacing of the tape. The slightly wider finished width will never be a problem for a pair of panels not meeting in the center (Fig. 2). However, for a single stationary panel (Fig. 1) or a pair of panels meeting in the center (Fig. 3), and if the panel widths are extremely narrow, the extra width may cause panels to not hang evenly.

**Step 1.** Estimate the **Number of Spaces** per panel using the desired finished width excluding return and overlap:

**Finished Width Excluding Return & Overlap ÷ 3.2**

Always round the answer up to the nearest whole number to get the number of spaces. (e.g. if answer is 13.2, the number of the spaces is 14).

**Step 2.** Calculate the flat **Panel Width Excluding Return and Overlap:**

**Number of Spaces x 8.7 + 5.5**

**Step 3.** Calculate the **Complete Panel Width.**

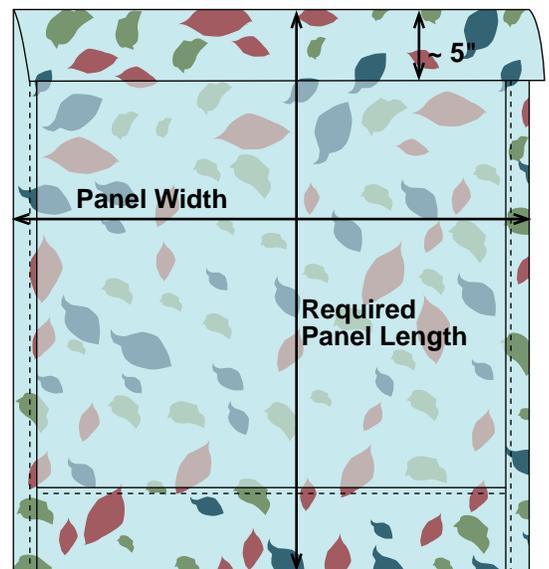
**Panel Width Excluding Return and Overlap  
+ Return  
+ Overlap.**

**Step 4.** Total **Fabric Width Requirement:**

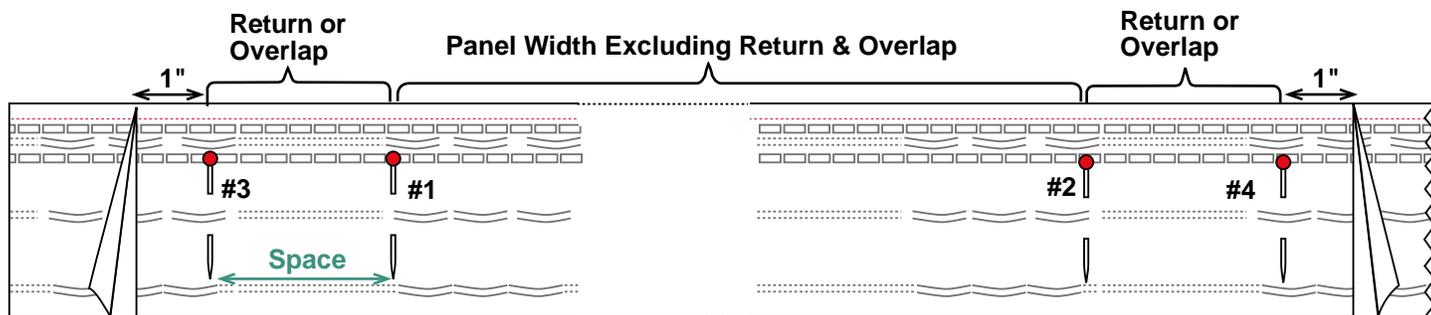
**Complete Panel Width  
+ Allowance for Side Hems  
+ Allowance for Seams if any.**

**3. Assemble the panels:**

Fully assemble the panels to the size as shown in the figure below. Fold the 5" top flap to the back side and press.

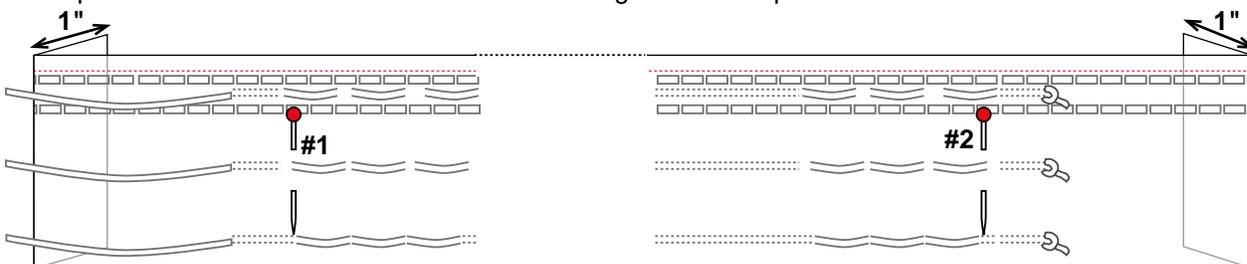


- 4. Cut the tape:** On the tape, find the end of the first complete space and mark it with a pin (#1). From pin #1, measure the **Panel Width Excluding Return and Overlap** and mark it with another pin (#2). Add return or overlap to both ends (pins #3 and #4). Cut the tape 1" beyond the marking pins, #3 and #4.

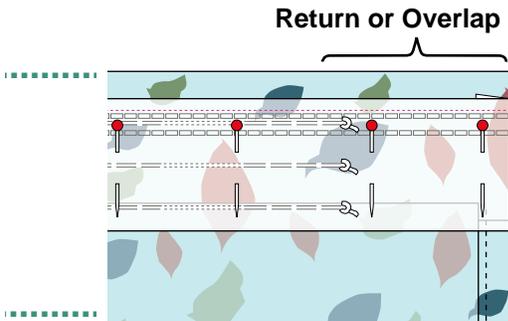
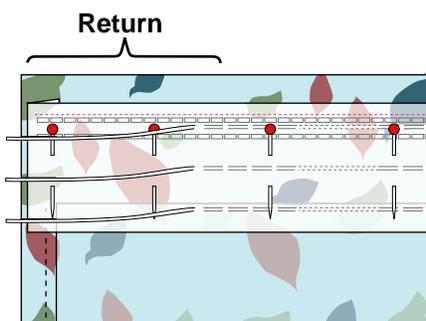
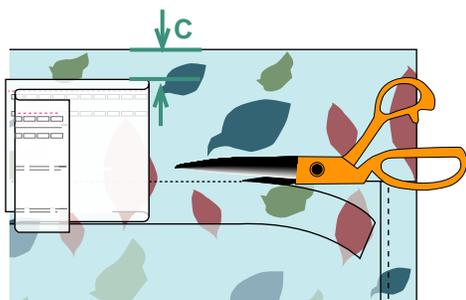


- 5. Free the draw cords:**

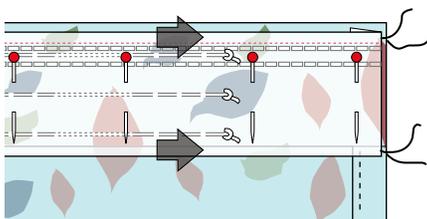
Free the draw cords about 1" away from pins #1 and #2. Make sure the freed draw cords come out from the side of the tape with hook pockets. On one end, knot each draw cord. If the tape is for a pair of panels, make sure the knots are at the overlap end. Trim off the extra cords. Fold 1" raw edges behind tape.



- 6. Lay the fabric panel on your worktable face down. Lay the tape on the panel header with the hook pockets up. The pink thread on the tape must be nearest the top edge of the panel. Refer to Step 1a or 1b to determine how far down to position the tape from the top edge of the panel. Trim the edge of the fabric as shown in the figure below, so that the raw edge is covered by the tape. Pin the tape to the panel.**



- 7. Sew a straight stitching line along top and bottom edges of tape. Make sure not to sew over the draw cords or hook pockets. Sew both stitching lines in the same direction to prevent puckering.**

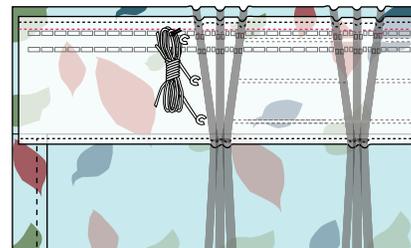


- 8. Pull the loose cords to gather the tape. Gather to the panel finished width. Go back to adjust if necessary. Make knots in the cords near the tape to hold the gathered width.**



- 9. Wind the excess cords to make a neat bundle. Catch the cord bundle with two stitches to the panel or with a safety pin.**

If two-prong hooks are to be used, go to 10a. If drapery pins are to be used, go to 10b.

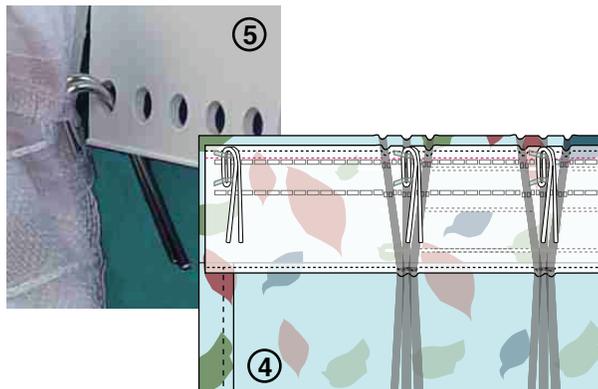
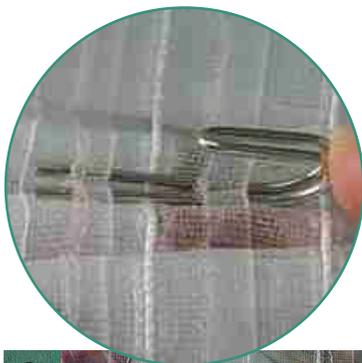


### 10a. Insert two prong hooks:

One hook is needed at the back of each set of pleats and at each end of the panel (4).

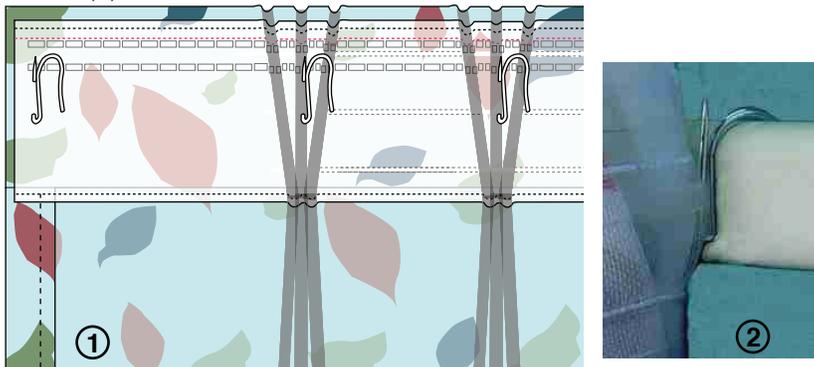
Insert one of the two prongs into each of the two adjacent pockets (1). Pull both prongs through, while flipping the hook (2). The hook is now securely inserted (3).

Hang the panel by inserting hooks into eyes of the pole rings, glides or the holes in the strip as shown on the right(5).



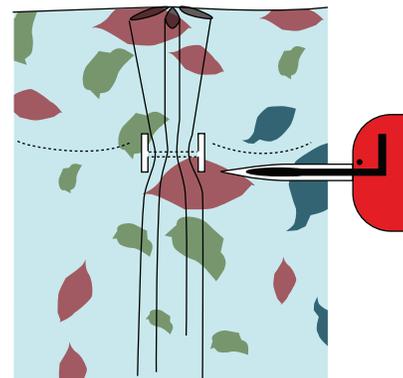
### 10b. Insert drapery pins:

Pierce the pins directly into the tape at the appropriate position, one pin at the back of each set of the pleats and at each end of the panel (1). Hang the panel on the curtain rod as shown (2).



### Tip:

To better define the v-shaped pleats, one may insert a tacking fastener (Stock #: **ST27**) at the base of each pleat group with tacking gun (Stock #: **ST26**).



### Note:

1. The tape will not let you pleat seams under if the treatment is pieced together with multiple widths of fabrics. This is true for any automatic pleating tapes. Railroaded or using wide width fabric eliminates any seams.
2. The instructions deal mainly with the application of the tape. Detail of how to make a particular treatment is beyond the scope of this instruction and should be found in numerous instructional books.
3. These tapes are well suited for stationary panels, but not traversing panels.



Updated on 2/26/08



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