ROOMSCAPES
INSPIRATION   EDUCATION   FABRICATION   INSTALLATION

Rowley project list: Inverted Pleat Drapes with Color Block Banding

Inverted pleat drapes create a flat yet slightly folded drapery header which showcases window treatment fabrics with intricate patterns. In the Master Bedroom Roomscape, we've designed and fabricated pleated panels with a color block banding which adds color and texture to the bottom.

MATERIALS & SUPPLIES

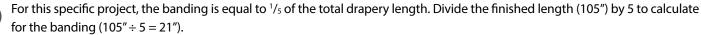| Rowley Products	SKU
Lining	**LN44**
Interlining	**LN10**
9" Professional Shears	**CU22**
Straight Serger Needles	**ORB27**
John James Needles	**TP100**
Gutermann Thread	**TG1M**
Optional Materials	
Walking Foot Needles	**OB135**
Blind Stitch Needles	**OR251**
Fabric Covered Lead Weight with Tab	**LW45**

INVERTED PLEAT DRAPES: STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

This project guide covers the steps to fabricate inverted pleat panels with a color block banding technique.

Measuring the Face Fabric, Banding & Lining:

1 Find the finished length. The Master Bedroom Roomscape example measured 105".

2 For this specific project, the banding is equal to $\frac{1}{5}$ of the total drapery length. Divide the finished length (105") by 5 to calculate for the banding (105" ÷ 5 = 21").

3 The primary fabric accounts for the top $\frac{4}{5}$ of the drape totaling 84". To calculate this number, multiply the number calculated for the banding ($\frac{1}{5}$ of the drape = 21") by 4 (21" x 4 = 84"). The bottom banding will total 21" with both bands. To check the math, these 2 numbers should equal the finished length measured in step 1 (84" + 21" = 105").

Cutting the Face Fabric, Banding & Lining:

1 Cut the face fabric at 84" +.5" (for bottom seam) + 8" (for the header) to equal a total of 92.5".

2 Cut the first banding (navy blue) at 19.5" + .5" (for the top seam allowance) + .5" (for the bottom seam allowance) to equal a total of 20.5".

3 Cut the second banding (orange) at 2" + .5" (for the top seam allowance) + 8" (for the 4" double hem).

4 If using a thin or flimsy fabric, use iron-on fusible stabilizer to give fabric more structure and make it easier to work with.

Assembling & Sewing the Panel:

1 All widths should be sewn together first. Each drapery has a width and a half, totaling 80".

2 Sew the navy blue banding to the orange banding, then sew the face fabric to the combined banding.

3 When sewing the face fabric width, match the patterns at the seams, pin and sew to keep the pattern cohesive across the width of the panel.

4 Press a 4" hem at the bottom. Take that hem and fold it, creating a double 4" hem. Then press and sew in place.

5 Add in drapery weights if desired. Sew in place. *(Shown below.)*

6 Press ¹/₂" hem on each side. Take that hem and fold it. Then press another 1 ¹/₂" hem on each side. Then sew in place using method of choice.

7 Cut lining to the finished length + 4" (105" + 4" = 109"). Cut the interlining to the finished length, minus 1" (104").

8 To calculate the width, trim lining and interlining to face width minus the side hems. If face is 54" then subtract 3" on both sides = 6". So, 54" - 6" = 48". Cut your lining width down to 48".

9 Fold lining 2" and press. Fold another 2" and press. Sew in place.

10 Place the face fabric wrong side up on the table. Lay interlining on top 1 ½ " from the bottom then lay lining on top of the interlining right side up, 1" from the bottom of the face fabric hem.

11 Fold in side hems of the face fabric, encasing the lining and interlining and sew in place using blind hemmer, hand stitch or straight stitch. Tuck in the corners of the side hems for a professional finish. *(As seen in photo above.)*

12 Lay panel wrong side up.

13 For the header, fold face fabric down 4" and press.

14 Add buckram under the first fold then fold 4" again, encasing the buckram. Press in place.

15 The pattern of the face fabric was used as the guide for the inverted pinch pleats. Fold the pleats desired toward the back to invert the pleat. Sew in place 4" down from the top.

16 Repeat across the whole header.

17 Insert drapery pins and install on desired drapery hardware.
(*The inverted pleat draperies from the Master Bedroom Roomscape were coordinated with Finestra® Custom Decorative Hardware in our Royal Crest finial and hand-painted Rubbed Gold finish.*)

18 Steam and dress drapes to complete the project.

TIP: Don't forget to take a picture of the final product to add to your portfolio!