

Rowley Project List: Color-Blocked Silk Panels

Color-blocking is an easy way to bring additional color to a room and can be used to add length or width to your window treatment. For this project we've added a top and bottom band for color as well as a band on the leading edge for width. Color-blocking is generally done in 3rds or 5ths of the finished length, but can be divided as needed depending on your fabric patterns.



Materials and Supplies

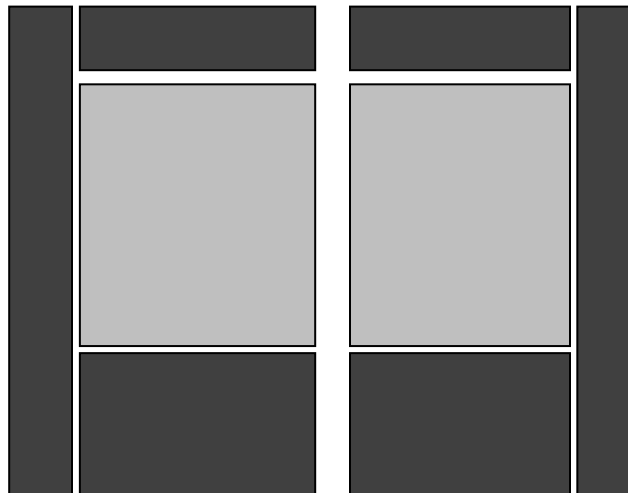
Rowley Products	SKU
English Bump Interlining	LN14
Classic Napped Lining	LN48
Drapery Weights	SW37
Gem Upholstery Nails – Smoke	UN25/NS
Upholstery Nail Lock Tool	MH07
Upholstery Nail Locks	UN11/L
Plastic Backs for Nail Locks (optional)	UN11/W
Straight Edge Ruler	MR26
Chalk Marker	WW13
Micro Welt Cord (optional)	WC85
Hand Sewing Needle	TP100
Scissors	CU22
Thread	TG1M/

Fabricating the Color-Blocked Panels: Step-By-Step Instructions

Planning for the Cuts:

1. Decide on the proportions of the panels. The panels for this project finished at 89", have a 4" top band and a 17" bottom band as well as a 3" leading edge band.
 - a. $89 \div 5 = 17 \frac{7}{8}$ ". Because of the 4" top band I chose to round down to a 17" bottom band
2. Cut the top band at 13" long x 1 width of fabric. One cut for each panel.
 - a. $4" + 8" \text{ (double fold for top hem)} + 1" \text{ (seam allowance)} = 13"$
3. Cut the bottom band at 26" long x 1 width. One cut for each panel.
 - a. $17" + 8" \text{ (bottom hem)} + 1" \text{ (seam allowance)} = 26"$

4. Cut the leading edge at 10" wide x 107" long. One cut for each panel.
 - a. 3" (finished width) + 6" (double hem fold) + 1" (seam allowance) = 10"
 - b. 89" + 8" (top hem) + 8" (bottom hem) + 2" (tabling safety) = 107"
5. Cut the main body fabric at 70" long x 1 width. One cut for each panel.
 - a. 68" (finished length) + 2" (seam allowance) = 70"
6. Cut the interlining at 93" long x 1 width. One cut for each panel.
 - a. 87 1/2" (finished length) + a few inches for getting a straight hem = 93"
7. Cut the lining at 96" long x 1 width. One cut for each panel.
 - a. 88" (finished length) + 6" (bottom hem) + 2" (tabling safety) = 96"
8. If you are planning on welt cord between the colors, you will need to cut and make the welt
 - a. You will need about 6 bias cuts of 72"



Constructing the Panel: Adding the Bottom Band

1. Prep the bottom band hem by turning up 8" then folding it in for a double 4" hem.
2. Iron to set a bottom crease.
3. On the table, lay the main body fabric face up and the bottom hemmed band face down. (Right sides together with raw edges aligned)
4. Mark a seam line 17" up from the finished hem on the bottom band piece.
5. Sew the two pieces together on the marked stitch line from step #4.



Constructing the Panel: Adding the Top Band and Leading Edge

1. Measure the finished length of the main body fabric and mark a seam line.
2. On the table, lay the main body fabric face up and the top banding face down at the marked seam. (Right sides together with raw edges aligned)
3. Sew the two pieces together on the marked stitch line.
4. On the table, lay the main body fabric face up and the leading edge banding face down. (Right sides together with raw edges aligned)
5. Sew the two pieces together.
6. Unfold the hem and insert a strip of interlining 3 ¾" x 1 Width into the hem, laying it on the first 4" down from the finished length.



- a. Do not fold the interlining strip into the side hems.
7. Refold and finish the bottom hem in your preferred method.

Constructing the Panel: Adding the Interlining and Lining

1. Find a straight grain line on the interlining and serge the hem.



- a. Pull a horizontal thread until it clears the entire width. This will leave a shredded look at the bottom of the interlining.
- b. Serge across the width one row higher than the fringe, trimming off the fringe.
2. Measure for finished length of the interlining; trim if needed.
3. On the lining, fold in and press a double 3" hem.
4. Close the hem in your preferred method.
5. Table the face material right side down.

6. Fold in the side hems, using 3" of material to end with a double 1 ½" side hem.
7. Iron the hems for a crease. Open the side hems back up for the next steps.
8. Lay in the interlining, bringing it up 1 ½" from the face bottom hem.
 - a. If the interlining is wider than the face fabric, trim so that the interlining stops at the finished width.
 - b. You may choose to roll the interlining into the side hems.
 - c. Trim away any excess length by trimming away at the top.
9. Lay in the lining, bringing it up 1" from the face bottom hem.
 - a. If the lining is wider than the face fabric, trim away any excess so that the lining is the finished width of the panel.
 - b. Trim away any excess length by trimming away at the top.



10. Refold the side hems. Pin



11. Close the side hems in your preferred method.
 - a. Add a weight in each corner.
12. Measure the hemmed panel for finished length.
13. Iron the header at the finished panel length.
14. Fold over the top hem, inserting buckram into the header. Pin to secure.

Constructing the Panel: Completing the Pleats

1. Lay the hemmed panel face up on the table with the top at the end of your table.
2. Mark the pleats and spaces.
 - a. Place a pin at the return measurement and at the 3" leading edge measurement.
 - b. Measure the space in between the two pins. This is the available fabric for pleats and spaces.
 - i. The finished rod width is 23" so you'll need to measure areas for the return, 4 spaces plus the leading edge. Since you have 4 spaces you will have 5 pleats. This panel measures out for 4 spaces of 4" each and 5 pleats of 5 ½" each.
 - c. Starting after the leading edge, measure over 5 ½" and place another pin (this is the first pleat). Measure over 4" and place a pin (this is a space). Continue across the panel measuring and marking all pleats and spaces.
 - d. At the machine, fold the fabric wrong sides together using the fabric between the pleat pins only. Sew in the pleats running the seam line from the bottom of the header to the top.



- e. Back at the table, flatten the pleats into a box pleat, centering the pleat seam in the back of the pleat.



Constructing the Panel: Adding the Decorative Nails

1. Measure for decorative nail placement. Mark with a pin.
2. Push the shank of the decorative nail into the flattened pleat, removing the placement pin.
 - a. Try to push the nail straight through the pleat so that the shank comes out the back aligned with the pleat seam.

3. Secure the decorative nail by picking up an Upholstery Nail Lock with the magnetic end of the Upholstery Nail Lock Tool.
4. Push the loaded tool straight down over the shank, pushing the lock tight to the fabric.
5. Complete locking all of the nails into place.
6. Clip off the shank using a pair of wire nippers.



7. Since the nails used for this project have a flat back, using the Plastic Washers was not necessary. If you choose to use a nail that has a concave back, you will need to place a plastic washer over the shank prior to locking it in place.
8. Add drapery pins at the back of each pleat and you are ready to hang your color-blocked silk panels.