

Making Detachable Thermal Linings

Adding a separate lining to your curtains makes them much more effective at insulating your windows as a layer of air is trapped between the two layers of fabric.

Make the linings as long as the front curtains, plus about 8cm for a hem. Each lining should be about three quarters the width of the curtain track (this is assuming you have two curtains, otherwise one curtain lining should be one and a half times the length of the track). However, the width doesn't have to be exact and often you just make the width the same as one drop, or one and a half drops, or two drops of lining fabric, whatever comes closest to the desired width.

If you need more than one drop of fabric for each side, stitch drops together at the sides. Neaten the outside edges if required and do the hem.

The total width along the tops of the curtains is how much tape you will need, plus 4 cms extra.

The tape gets sewn along the top of the lining curtains, turned over and neatened at the ends. Then gather in the tapes slightly, so the width of the lining curtains suits the front curtains.

Take the hooks out of the front curtains.

Lay the front curtains out on the floor wrong side up. Place the linings over the front curtains right side up.

Replace the hooks, by catching up a slit in the lining tape and a loop in the main curtain tape on the same hook (see photo below)

Once all the hooks are in place, lift up the curtain and lining together (it may be quite heavy) and hook back up onto the track.



If making these linings yourself is not an option, commercial curtain companies can give you a quote for making them. The price is usually much cheaper than for regular curtains as the fabric costs are less.

Contact advice@sustaintrust.org.nz or 0508 SUSTAIN for any more assistance.