

FABRIC-COVERED SHUTTERS

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“YOU SUPPLY THE FABRIC AND WE WILL MEASURE, CREATE AND FIT YOUR BEAUTIFULL NEW SHUTTERS”

Although we may still be proved wrong, we believe we are the only company providing a dedicated service manufacturing fabric covered shutters. It's a surprisingly simple idea that's tricky to manufacture and fit perfectly. The fabric covered shutter's design has been honed over the last four years and adapted for different fitting scenarios using widely varying fabrics. You supply the fabric and unique, beautiful shutters are made to fit your windows: it's as simple as that.



Design solution: Fabric covered shutters were designed originally to solve a problem window when we were working alongside Dudley Poplak, who has designed for members of the Royal family. Since then it has been mostly used to resolve the constantly recurring problem of what to do with a dormer window. There are three ways of decorating a dormer window - curtains, louvered shutters (plantation shutters) and roman blinds. Each has problems to a varying degree. Curtains always look cluttered and block out the light, whilst blinds and louvered shutters are chic but minimalist. Katie Rapp (www.katierapp.co.uk) has been an interior designer for classic and contemporary homes since 1994 and has battled at length with this very problem. Her solution is the fabric covered shutter.

Scenarios: The shutters have been progressively developed for virtually all scenarios and can offer solutions that other fabric window dressing cannot, although bay windows are probably the one exception



Construction: Each shutter panel is constructed using ultra-light fibreboard to withstand warping. All the fittings are glued and screwed for extra strength to stand the test of time. Originals have been in-situ for over 6 years. On some of the photos within these pages you will notice that the hinges are visible on the open edges; this is no longer the case and all hinges are hidden. On very large windows we have adopted a very smooth runner system to guide and support the shutter panels. For example, we are currently working on a five-metre run of 10 panels.



Displaying fabrics in a new way: The upholstery method has been honed and updated three times and is a closely monitored unique process. The result is a fabulously neat and precise finish. The assembly is carried out in such a way that no braid is needed along the edges to cover any unsightly staples. Also, the upholstery is generally carried out with no form of wadding or interlining which gives our trademark clean, chic and sharp finish. Bespoke variations are always welcome, including padding, buttoning and studding. The wonderful thing about these fabric covered shutters is that our shutters display fabric flat, like a piece of artwork, resulting in added visual value of an expensive fabric. The positioning of the fabric on the window, like curtains, gives colour when opened or closed. The shutters have excellent blackout characteristics (compared to blackout curtains or blinds) and of course can be used on almost any type of window. If you have a tape measure to hand and few minutes to spare, you can get an instant idea of how much fabric covered shutters are going to cost with our online calculator at the bottom of this page. This service exchanges no information with us.

Thermal qualities: Whilst currently unqualified by independent testing, there is no doubt that our shutters form a significant thermal barrier to the chilliest of windows - a point that will be supported by many of our customers. We hope to have this claim verified so that we can gain an official accreditation supporting their energy saving characteristics.



Blackout qualities: Our shutters are not sold to block light from a bedroom. However, depending on the fitting scenario they do the job very well. We always assume that you want shutters for their aesthetic qualities so if you want your bedroom to be dark, please make this point at an early stage.

Costs: These shutters are made to fit your individual window and are unique to your project. The cost of the shutters is comparable with real handmade curtains. A lot of time goes into their creation, from our initial visit, the time spent placing the fabric and upholstering the panels and lastly the second visit when we fit your shutters. As the panel size is not proportional to the time required to produce them, there is an economy of scale. Therefore, medium to larger windows are definitely more cost effective. You can use our calculator at the bottom of this page to work out the cost of shutters for your window. Or you can get a feel for the cost by going to the "Pdf download" section of this website and downloading an example quotation.

Measure/Fit: There was a time when we offered our shutters on a mail order service, but the pitfalls of this approach became immediately apparent as customers made measuring errors.

For a couple of customers this proved very expensive, so we made a decision that we only measure and fit the shutters ourselves. We have tried to minimise this cost to you. Two visits (measure then fit) are charged at £100 plus £30 per window (as part of the same order). For example, the measure and fit element of producing shutters for one window would cost £130.00, for two windows it would cost £160.00.



Fabrics: It's your choice. You supply or we can help (see our Design Service). If we can supply your choice, you get a discount equivalent to 15% of the fabric cost. If we cannot get that fabric it you will need to make arrangements to supply it.

Lead Time: Lead times are currently 6 wks for regular shutters. Specials can take longer.

Drawbacks and known issues:

1. If you are considering shutters for your bedrooms and sleep with your windows open you need to be aware that shutters when closed can restrict airflow or even prevent the window opening. There is no current fix for this.
2. In a bi-fold situation the shutters can be blown open by gusts from an open window...this can be resolved with the addition of magnets on the closing sides to hold the panels in their open state.

How to proceed:

1. Measure the area you want the shutters to cover
2. If you are able to do so, check the price with the online calculator
3. Ideally via email, send us your measurements, relevant information and some photos of the window (specifically the frame and any intrusions)
4. Tell us your choice of fabric and arrange for a sample to be sent to us.
5. We will send you a formal proposal
6. You pay 50% deposit to secure your order
7. We will then visit to measure
8. We will check our calculations and then confirm the fabric quantities
9. You send us the fabric
10. The shutters are manufactured
11. We will notify you when the shutters are complete and arrange a fitting date.
12. The shutters are fitted and the invoice balance will be settled.

Final Balance: The invoice will be given to you on the day of fitting. As we do not offer any credit it is important that you make provision to settle the on presentation of the invoice.

Cancellation: It is your right to cancel the order...however costs will have to be deducted. These costs will vary but will not be significant until approximately week 4 of the order.

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