



## *How To Choose A Good Window Treatment Specialist*

Window treatment specialists come in all different forms. Some are interior designers/decorators who can offer a broad range of services, everything from helping you choose paint and furniture to designing window treatments and choosing fabric and trim. Others specialists concentrate on selling blinds, shutters, and shades but can also help you choose drapes or valances to go with your blinds. Still other window treatment specialists have drapery workrooms. These specialists can help you choose the right fabric, trim and design for your windows and they are the manufacturer of your final product.

No matter what type of window treatment specialist you choose to help you fill your needs consider the following tips before hiring them.

- ✂ Talk to your window specialist before they arrive about what you are thinking about doing. Let them know what colors and patterns are in the room now and any ideas you have in mind.
- ✂ Ask if they charge a consultation fee. Many window treatments specialists do charge a minimal fee to cover the time and expense of meeting with their clients.
- ✂ Make sure you have the time to devote to the window specialist when they arrive. Most appointments take one to two hours.
- ✂ Make sure you are comfortable with the window treatment specialist's ideas and business practices.
- ✂ Make sure you sign off on a completed work order which details all aspects of the job. That way there will be no questions on the final choices of fabric, trim and design.
- ✂ Ask for a written contract that both parties sign.
- ✂ Have your window specialist or their installer take your measurements. If you provide the measurements you will be responsible for any mistakes as a result of incorrect measuring. A good window specialist will know how to take exact measurements and will be liable for any mistakes.
- ✂ Make sure your specialist is familiar with different kinds of fabrics and how they will work with a specific window treatment design.
- ✂ Make sure you have an estimate up front and that it addresses all the costs of the jobs. You don't want to be surprised with any hidden prices when the job is complete.
- ✂ Make sure you are happy with your design and fabric choices. Any changes you decide to make after the work on your treatment has begun will most likely add to your final price.
- ✂ Feel free to ask for references or samples of the specialists work. A good specialist should be happy to show you their completed work or give you references.
- ✂ Make sure the specialist is listening to you and taking into account your needs and any problem areas you need to work around like heating elements or light fixtures.

Taking the time to follow the above idea will help you feel more comfortable with your window treatment specialist and leave you with window treatments you're happy with and will enjoy for a long time.

