

Making a Shower Curtain

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If you're pulling together a stylish bathroom décor, a fabric shower curtain is almost essential and the project is so easy, even a beginner can do it.

Standard shower curtains are 72" square with twelve grommets or buttonholes across the top to correspond to the hook placement in the accompanying vinyl liner. Measure your tub or shower to be sure this size works for you and adjust as needed to fit.

Measure Up

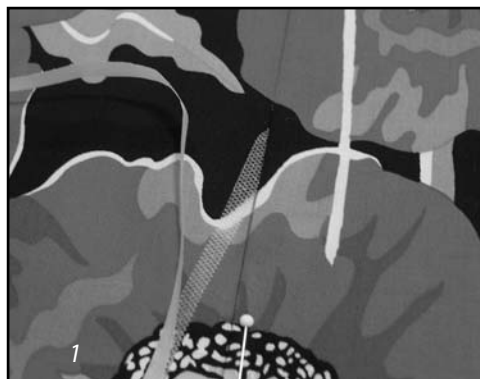
In most prints or solid colors, a shower curtain will take 5 yards of 45"- or 54"-wide fabric pieced together to make the needed width. If the print has a large repeat, more fabric will be needed to match the design, so check the repeat distance before purchasing yardage.

If you're using an extra-wide fabric (some come up to 110" wide), you'll need enough to cut a rectangle 88" long and 80" wide.

Tip: If you're changing from the standard curtain size, use the needed width + 8" for the cut fabric rectangle width, and the needed length + 16" for the rectangle height.

Cutting Up

From 45"- or 54"-wide fabrics, cut two lengths 88" long, allowing for print matching if needed. Press under the selvage on one panel and match to the print pattern on the second length. Using a narrow fusible web strip, press the folded edge in place matching the pattern (1).



This technique creates a virtually undetectable seam. Or, if you prefer, split the second width and add one half to each side of the full-width fabric panel.

No-sew Option

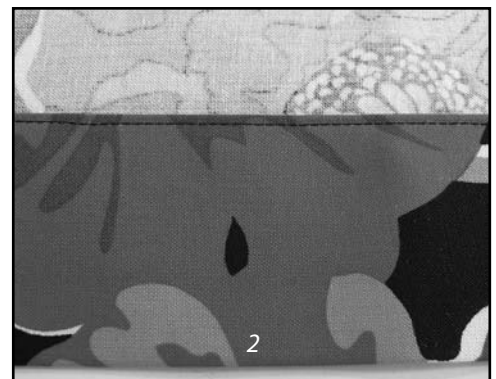
If you don't have a machine handy, a shower curtain can be made entirely by using fusible web. Instead of stitching the hems and seam, simply fuse them in place, following the manufacturer's instructions on the webbing package. Snap-in grommets finish the top...and you're done!

Stitching Up

Take the joined fabrics to the machine and stitch the fused seam in place along the crease line. Trim any excess seam width and cut the pieced panel 80" wide.

Hems

Fold and press double 2" side hems along both long edges. Stitch close to the inside fold (2).



To form the lower hem, press up 4" and then 4" again; stitch close to the upper fold. The wide hem weight helps the shower curtain hang nicely.

For the upper hem fuse a 4" strip of interfacing to the wrong side, matching the upper edges and piecing the width as needed. Fold a double 4" hem and stitch close to the lower fold. Note: On decorator-weight fabrics, the interfacing may not be needed to support the weight of grommets.

Finishing

The upper portion of the shower curtain can be finished with buttonholes, or large or small grommets. Whichever treatment you choose should begin about 3" from each end and be spaced roughly 6" apart.

Tip: To determine the spacing for grommets or buttonholes, overlay the vinyl liner you plan to use with the fabric curtain and mark the same opening spacing so the two layers will align.

Buttonholes

Make 1" long buttonholes across the top curtain edge at least 1" in from the upper fold. Cut open and hang the curtain together with the liner using shower hooks.

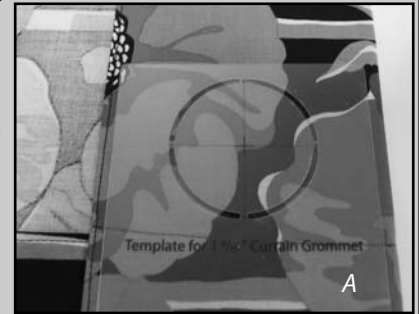
Grommets

Large or small grommets can be used to finish the shower curtain, depending on the desired hanging method. Small grommets allow the curtain to be hung on the same rod and with the same hooks as a vinyl liner. Large grommets become a decorative treatment and necessitate a separate rod for hanging. If you select this option, be sure the grommets are large enough to allow the rod to slide through them easily so the curtain can move along the length.

To apply the grommets follow the manufacturer's instructions. 🛠

BIG Grommets

To apply large grommets, determine the spacing needed for an even number of grommets and use the provided template to chalk-mark the size openings on the upper hem wrong side (A). The opening should be centered within the hem depth.



Cut the hole through all layers, then place the raised section of the snap-together grommet ring on the fabric right side (B) and the pronged half on the wrong side; snap together to finish (C).



Repeat for each grommet needed.

Thread the curtain onto the rod, weaving in and out of adjacent grommets.

