

## THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT BLACKOUT SHADES AND DRAPERIES

The term "Blackout" generally refers to the fabric used for the product. "Blackout Shades" are made with fabric that has a solid opaque layer, which prevents light from passing through the cloth or fabric. "Blackout Draperies" are made with a blackout lining, which prevents light from bleeding through the weave of the cloth. Whether you are ordering blackout shades or blackout draperies, the term does not imply absolute or complete blackout of the installed product.

The fact is, light will glow around any opening, crack, crevice, split or junction which is not completely sealed off. Complete sealing is NOT included in a standard order for "blackout" treatments.

When a greater degree of light blocking is desired, additional features may be added for a surcharge which will increase the room darkening effectiveness.

For example, Cassette Headboxes may be added to the top of a shade to block light which would glow around the roller. Side Channel strips may be added on the sides, which will enclose the fabric within the channels.

Both these features increase the light-blocking capabilities of the treatment, yet even these are not guaranteed to eliminate 100% of light. Frequently, the condition of the sheet rock, squareness of windows, wall texture and other features may require other parts or extensive work to create the desired blackout environment. Please ask our Sales Department for more information.

Regarding "Blackout Draperies", the tracks which the draperies ride on are mounted out from the wall a few inches, so light will glow around the top of the drapery. This can be greatly reduced by addition of a cornice which is mounted to the wall above the window opening, extends out over the top and comes back down several inches over the top of the draperies. Even here, it is still possible for light to bounce its way through and create some glow in this area. Where the two panels meet in a center split drapery, even though the panels will overlap, there may still be some light glow in this area. Light will glow around the sides and bottom of the drapery.

We hope that this information was helpful, and that you fully enjoy the room darkening effects of our "blackout" draperies and shades.

Thank you for doing business with Automated Shade, your source for ShadeCrafters fine quality window coverings!

**www.AutomatedShade.com**  
**Houston Metro 281-252-5141**  
**By Appointment Only.**