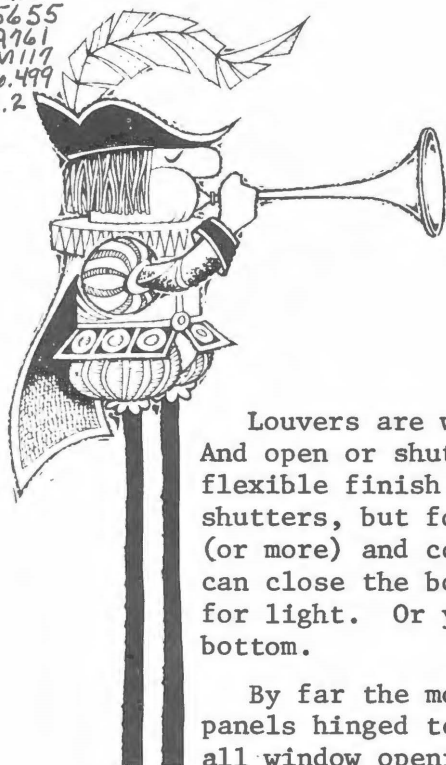


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Cue Sheet

WOOD SHUTTERS

Louvers are winners! Open, they admit light. Closed, they protect privacy. And open or shut, wood shutters with moveable louvers lend a neat space-saving, flexible finish to windows. You can cover an entire window with one pair of shutters, but for the greatest flexibility, divide your window height by two (or more) and cover each section with a separate set of shutters. That way you can close the bottom shutters for privacy while you leave the upper ones open for light. Or you can close the top shutters while you let in light at the bottom.

By far the most popular choice is prehung shutters--two moveable, louvered panels hinged together and mounted on a hanging strip. These fit nearly 97% of all window openings. Usually, two prehung, two-panel assemblies are packaged together, and all necessary hardware is included. Prehung interior shutters are available to fit windows ranging in width from 25" to 53" and in height from 13" to 51". Shutter panels also are sold individually. The single panels must be hinged together by the user, and normally are recommended for odd-sized windows.

To install interior wood shutters yourself, begin by measuring the height and width of your windows (fig. 1). *Measure each window separately because windows are not always identical, especially in older homes, which have settled.* Probably the interior shutters you purchase will be slightly larger than your window. This is nothing to worry about because shutters are made to be trimmed. Simply cut them down with a saw to the exact dimensions of your particular window (fig. 2) and plane or sand the rough edges. Even though each shutter may have been cut to a slightly different size, they have a way of looking exactly alike. To avoid confusion after each shutter has been cut to fit, code it according to the window on which it will be installed--i.e., upper right, lower left, etc.



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Publication No. MK-499

WINDOW TREATMENT

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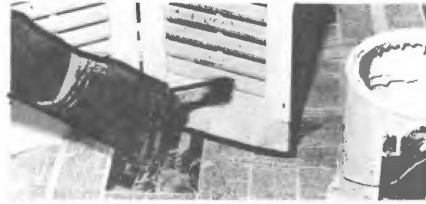
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Interior wood shutters come unfinished. You may finish them by waxing or staining to retain the natural look of the ponderosa pine from which they're crafted. Or you can paint them (fig. 3). If you choose to paint, prime your shutters before painting, and *be sure to work the louvers often while the paint is drying.* (There's no use having moveable louvers if you paint the louvers shut!)



3

After it has been trimmed and finished, place the shutter in its desired position with the hanging strip flush against the wall. Allow 1/8" clearance at the top, bottom and between shutters to permit easy operation. Drill through the hanging strip and into the wall behind it (fig. 4). In most cases only two holes are required. As a last step, affix your hardware (fig. 5) by simply screwing it into the soft wood.

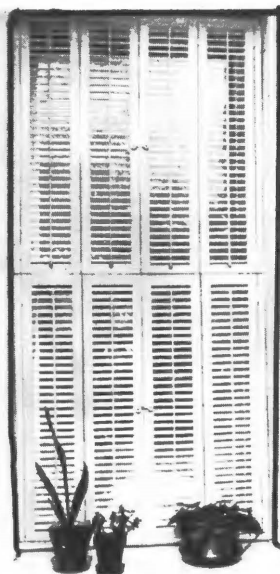


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Congratulations! Your window is now complete--neatly shuttered and uncluttered.



References: Fix It Yourself Manual
Readers Digest
Handyman's Book
Better Homes and Gardens
1001 Decorating Ideas

Recommended by Katherine Habel
Extension Specialist, Home Furnishings

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