

Workroom Tips & Tricks

1. An alternative to gridding your canvas tabletop is to mark lines along each side of the table. This provides an easy reference for **turning hems and squaring your fabric**. For turning hems, mark the 0 line at the head of the table, then the 2" line, the 4" line and the 8" line. If your table is long enough for a person to work on small jobs at each end mark the hemlines at both ends. For squaring your fabric without table edging, mark a line up the length of the table 1" in from the edge. Use a framing square on the 0 line to start. The squaring line should be marked on each side of the table.
2. To **save time** when cutting drapery lining to length, go ahead and press the bottom hem while the cut is on the table. You will not have to put it back on the table later. If you have more than one width it will not interfere because you will sew the hem after seaming the widths. Ensure the fabric is face down when doing this. Inspection is still possible because with most lining flaws will be visible on the back as well as the front due to its thin nature.
3. After sewing shirring tape onto fabric, make a knot on one end and sew the knot down. To make the task of pulling shirring tape cording easier, work an area of about two feet at a time. Pull cording then turn fabric over and fix pleats. Turn fabric back over and work next two feet, pulling cording then fixing pleats on face side. Repeat for entire length.
4. **Be willing to experiment!** Use any spare time to try new ideas that you think may work for a treatment. Many treatments created were once ideas previously thought impossible. For example: creating pole swags using the swing door top treatment kit (#MP20). One idea can lead to other treatments being used in creative ways.
5. For a high end look, add small welt or micro welt to the lower edge of valances. We recommend using 1.4 or 1.8 mm lift cord, or our 3/32" sausage bead weight. The sausage weight allows valances to hang beautifully and cascades fold perfectly every time.
6. When using Fringe Adhesive or Hot Glue, protect your **work surface** with our Silicone Release Paper, FW31/10.
7. Before using rolls of cardboard tack strip, run a bead of hot glue or fringe adhesive from the center to the outside of the coil in a giant "X". This will prevent the tack strip from spilling off the roll. When you're ready to use it, just pull off what you need and the rest stays put.
8. For **perfect pattern matching** when joining widths of fabric, use Iron-On Bonding Tape to join fabric before stitching.
9. When cutting bias strips for welt cord, use the Clear View Ruler, a rotary cutter and cutting mat. The ruler has lengthwise markings from 1/4" to 3" for fast, easy cuts. After cutting bias strips, write the width and corresponding seam allowance size on the side of the welt cord roll for easy future reference.
10. Before delivering finished treatments to clients, sew in your personalized, custom label with your company information. The label will be easy **future reference** for your client. If the client moves and leaves the treatments, the new owner will know who to call for custom window treatments.