

## CURTAIN PLANNING GUIDE

You've decided you want curtains but how will you operate them? Do you know your Pinch Pleats from your Wave and what space is needed? How will it be fixed? Where will they stack?

Don't panic! With over 70 years' experience manufacturing curtain tracks and curtains, Silent Gliss can guide you through important decisions that will affect the cost, appearance and performance of your curtains.

### Curtain track or pole?

Curtain tracks have a channel containing gliders which the curtains are hooked in to. Silent Gliss offer a range of reliable, smooth and quiet and discreet curtain tracks. Backed by seven decades of engineering and expertise, we offer tracks to accommodate all interiors, residential and commercial.

Traditional curtain poles use rings that run on the outside, presenting many limitations. Silent Gliss Metropole systems offer the best of both worlds - all the benefits of a track with the appearance of a decorative pole. Offered in a range of sizes and colours, you can select from a variety of decorative finials. Follow the link to learn more about [Metropole](#).



### Hands on or Hands off?

You need to consider how you want to operate your curtains.

- **Hand** operation is the lowest cost option, and you can have long tracks. Apart from the inconvenience of having to move your curtains manually. Consider using a draw rod avoids damaging the fabric.
- **Cord** operation avoids the need to touch the fabric and is more convenient, but there are length and weight limitations.
- **Motorised** curtain tracks are the most luxurious, and convenient, but more expensive. You can choose from a vast array of control options including switch, handset, app or Smart control system.

## Ceiling, wall or recess fitting

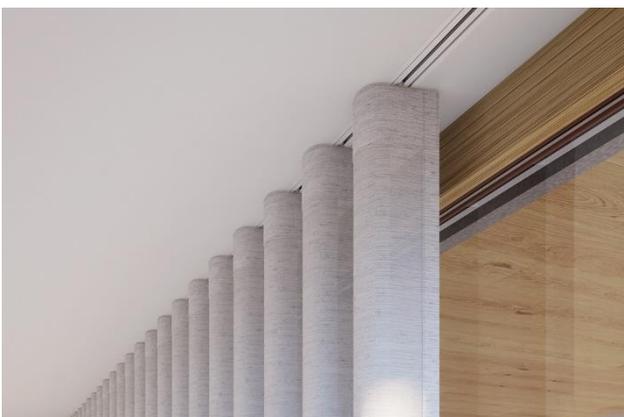
**Wall fitting** uses L-shaped brackets. Double tracks are possible, but your curtain heading choice may be limited due to the extension required.



**Ceiling fitting** allows floor-to-ceiling curtains for single or double curtains. When two curtains are required, (perhaps a sheer for daytime light diffusion, and a blackout for the evenings), consider the space available to accommodate two systems. Where space is limited, consider combining heading styles. It is also possible to surface mount the curtain track into a pre-formed ceiling recess space.



**Recess fitting** involves creating a slot in the ceiling structure. Curtains appear to hang from the ceiling itself! Learn more about [Recessing Curtain Tracks](#).



## GET YOUR HEAD AROUND HEADINGS

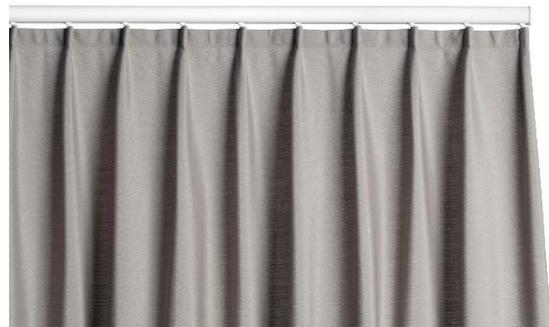
### Do you know your Pleats from your Wave?

There is a wide range of traditional pleated headings, ranging from a simple Pencil Pleat to Triple Pleat and elaborate Goblet styles. Pleated headings usually use a tape sewn to the top of curtain, which connects the curtain hooks to the gliders in the curtain track. For this type of heading, you would order a track with standard gliders.



Front and reverse side of a typical pleated curtain

Alternatively, the Silent Gliss Swiss Pleat uses gliders sewn into the curtain, that fit in the track to deliver a unique, delicate, and understated curtain aligned with more traditional curtain design. Learn more about [Swiss Pleat](#).



Silent Gliss Swiss Pleat front view



Silent Gliss Swiss Pleat reverse view

## Making Waves

The Wave Curtain Heading transforms traditional curtains into a striking, modern design statement. Enjoy undulating curves, when curtains are closed, and witness them transforming into a neat stack-back when opened. Learn more about [Wave](#).



Silent Gliss Wave front view



Silent Gliss Wave reverse view

Wave is offered with different hook and glider spacing to deliver either a soft, flatter design, or deep undulating curves.

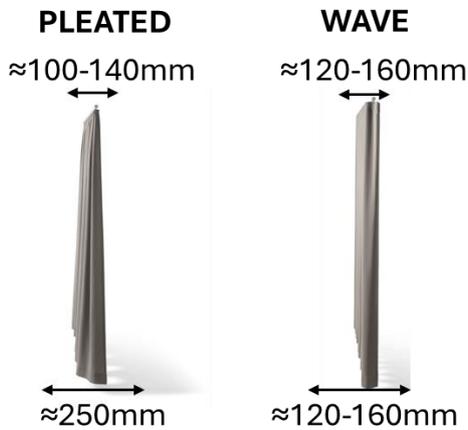
Wave requires a dedicated glider-cord contained inside the track or pole and must be specified when ordering. Curtain-makers also need to know in advance to allow for additional components.



If you already have a fabric in mind, you need to check that the weave is suitable for Wave. This simple test will give a good indication of hanging properties.

## Spaces out

The fitting space available for your curtains is critical. Curtain headings vary in the amount of space required.



At the **top**, pleated headings typically require 100-140mm. Wave requires 140-220mm per system, depending on hook spacing.

Conversely, at the **bottom**, you need to consider curtain flare. A pleated heading will be bulkier with a stack size of approx. 33% of the overall curtain width. The neat stack of Wave means it requires only approx. 23%.

## Doubling up

If you are planning two curtains, perhaps a sheer and a blackout, then you need to think about the space available. Where fitting space is limited, you could consider combining heading styles.

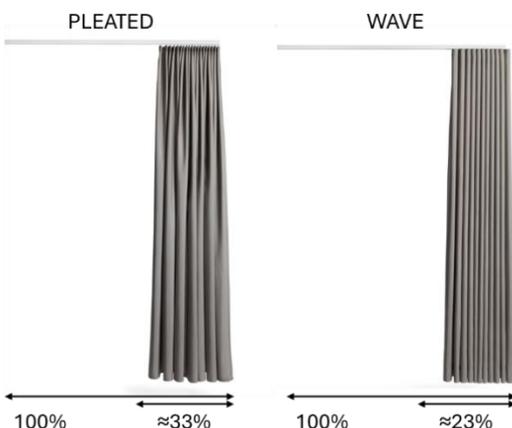


Curtain Heading Option	Approximate Space Required
2x Pleated Curtains	205-255mm
2x Wave Curtains	245-325mm
Pleated + Wave Curtain	225-305mm

The suggested distances above include a 5mm gap between the two curtains.

You could place a marker where the front of the curtain to envisage the space required.

## Stacking up



When you open your curtains, where will your curtains stack and how much room will they take up? Will you want them to sit behind a wall, or in a recess?

Pleated curtains tend to stack back into around 33% of the overall curtain width. Wave takes up less space and is usually around 23%.

For more support in planning your curtains please get in touch:  
[info@silentgliss.co.uk](mailto:info@silentgliss.co.uk)