



Workroom Threads

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Workroom to the Trade



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Details Make the Difference

What does "custom" mean to you when designing soft goods for your client? You have been hired to create something special, something uniquely individualized for your client that will bring beauty to the room and pleasure to the homeowner. Do you start with a design idea or do you first choose the fabrics and let them guide your design?

I would define "custom" as a marriage of design style, quality workmanship, and unexpected details. As a professional, the details a designer adds to otherwise ordinary products transform a room into an extraordinary space.

Sylvia Marvelli

Finger Pleats

As is verbally obvious, "finger pleats" are pleats formed with the fingers. The fabric is folded, ironed, and then added to a custom treatment. In most cases, the finger pleats are sewn into a seam. As shown here, the finger pleats have been sewn not only into the leading edges, but also have been added to the top of a board mounted drapery treatment. Because there is no seam at the top of the drape, a trim has been added to cover the seam allowance of the finger pleats.



Silk is an ideal fabric for creating finger



pleats. As an alternative to factory-type trims or a self-welt in the seams of a pillow, finger pleats add elegance to this treatment. In this case, the darker stripe of the silk fabric used for the finger pleats adds a subtle, but beautiful accent.

Details, Details, Details

There are many ways to create custom details for your designs. Sometimes the most beautiful details are those created with the same fabric as being used in the body of the product. This way the details don't scream "look at me, look at me", but rather provide a subtle "wow!"

In upcoming newsletters, I will show other dressmaker details and other fabrication ideas that will add the elegance and beauty that can only be created by custom workmanship for your window treatments, bedding, and pillows.

Where the ordinary becomes extraordinary

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