

Change your view in a campervan

HOW TO GUIDE

Install Your Blackout Curtains

TOOLS REQUIRED:

- 12V Drill / Battery Driver
- 2mm Drill Bit
- 3mm Drill Bit
- PH1 (Phillips) Driver Head
- Optional Stanley Knife and Centre punch + Hammer

COMPONENTS REQUIRED:

- 1 x Curtain Set per Window;
(Each of our Curtain Sets include upper and lower shaped rails, tiebacks, end fixings and screws)



As well as giving your van a stylish finish, having blackout curtains in your van is invaluable when enjoying a camping trip away. They serve several functions;

- 1) Maintain privacy on those busy campsites with lots of prying eyes.
- 2) Keeping your van dark, they stop you waking up with the dawn sunrise (this can be at 4.00am on midsummer nights)
- 3) Maintain heat in the van. The layer of air trapped between the curtain and glass can act as an insulator to help keep you warmer on those cooler spring evenings.
- 4) In the same way the curtains insulate your van they can also reduce condensation build up on your windows in the early morning.

INSTRUCTIONS

Fitting your own curtains can be a rewarding finish to your campervan project. One of the last items to be added to a campervan installation, the satisfaction of completing the build can be enjoyed and you can look forward to soon enjoying your endeavours when you head out for your first overnight trip.

Fitting a full set of curtains will take a bit of time, allow approx. 30-45 minutes to fit each curtain set.

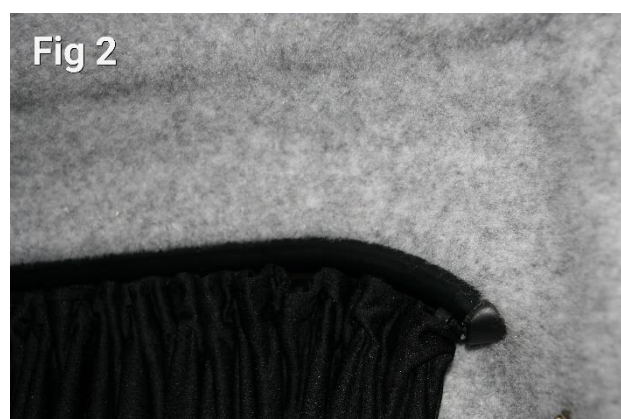
First to be fitted are the curtain rail tracks. The tracks are labelled (T = Top, and B = Bottom) These are pre-drilled, secure both in place within the reveal of the window. The track doesn't have symmetrical sides, the larger curved side edge of the track faces towards the centre of the van when fitted.

N.B. When drilling pilot holes in the window surround of the van, care is needed to not damage the carpet lining of the van. Some makes of lining carpet are susceptible to their fibres gathering around the drill bit, this will quickly roll the carpet around the bit and cause damage to the carpet as it stretches. To avoid this drill slowly and with care, if gathering continues to cause a problem, then the carpet lining will need to be carefully slit under the screw and moved away from the drill bit by a few mm's. Alternatively use a centre punch and with care screw directly into the metal with a battery driver.

- I. To start, only secure the rail using the inner drilled holes, the holes close to the ends of the rails are left for the time being. ①



- II. Thread both curtains in place on the upper rail. Take care to make sure the curtain is orientated correctly – the side poppers should be on the outside edge of the window.
- III. Once both curtains are threaded onto the upper track, push the end caps in place. ② (These are handed and so will only fit neatly in their correct side.)
- IV. There is a hole in the centre of the end cap, drill through this hole and through the rail with a 3mm drill bit to create a clearance hole. Be careful as you drill through the rail that you don't wrap the carpet lining material up in the drill bit.
- V. A 2mm drill bit is then used to drill the metal underneath the rail. As mentioned previously, drill slowly to avoid the lining carpet gathering on the drill bit.



- VI. Once the upper end caps are in place the lower curtain sliders can be threaded onto the lower rail. Once both sides are threaded on the end cap process is repeated as above. ③



- VII. The side popper location is carefully marked to correspond with the poppers on the curtains. The side poppers are now screwed onto the side wall of the window reveal (the same care needs to be taken when piloting the hole in the centre of the side poppers). ④ ⑤

The side poppers help to minimise light bleed through the window edges when the curtains are closed and also produce a neat tensioned finish to the curtains.



- VIII. The last items to be added are the tie backs, this again produces a neat finish to the curtains and also allows maximum light to enter the van when the curtains open. ⑥

When fixing the rear tailgate or barn door curtain set, the tolerances and positions are slightly tighter.

- IX. The tailgate version (available with or without the wiper housing shape bended to the lower rail) has the upper rail fitted within the small reveal across the top of the window ⑦ - (screwed upwards as per the other curtain sets). However, the lower rail is fitted below the window reveal across the front of the door, and is screwed in sideways, moulding around the wiper blade housing if present ⑧



- X. The barn door set of curtains have a set of rails for each of the windows and has side poppers to both curtain edges to avoid any gaps in the curtains when closed. The barn door set upper and lower rails again fit within the window reveal. ⑨ However, the upper reveal is very narrow, and care must be taken when fitting it to ensure its correct positioning, especially on the outside edge of the doors. ⑩
- XI. The manufacturing limitations of bending the rail and its width mean that the tighter radiused corners may have a small gap under the rail. For aesthetic purposes we often infill this with a bead of black silicone once the rail is in place. Alternatively, if preferred the rail can be cut back slightly to suit.



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