

Colonial Shutterworks – Guide to Measuring Shutters

These instructions are provided as a service of [Colonial Shutterworks](http://ColonialShutterworks.com). Please contact us at info@colonialshutterworks.com if you have any questions.

HOW TO MEASURE

Where should the shutters be mounted?

Historically, shutters were most often mounted on the inside or within the casing. At Colonial Shutterworks we suggest an inside mount whenever possible, because the finished product looks like the window treatment was planned for, rather than an afterthought.

Another important consideration is shutter display when shutters are in the open position. If the face of the shutters are mounted closer to the sash (when closed) than the back of the casing, the shutters will not fold back against the face of the casing when one attempts to open them. See this in Figure 2. Instead, the shutters will hit the window jamb and remain protruding into the room at a right angle to the wall and window. We, at Colonial Shutterworks do not feel that this is ideal. This should only be considered when walls are very thick and shutters will lay back against a wide window jamb or possibly where shutters have a wall to fold back against, as is the case with window dormers. Ideally, shutters should fold back as flat as possible against the casing and wall. There are some situations, particularly in newer homes with 2x4 construction, in which an inside mount cannot be accommodated because there is no $\frac{3}{4}$ " flat area in which to screw the hinge (Figures 4,5,6). In these instances, Colonial Shutterworks will make custom hanging strips to contour a jamb stop and casing edge. The hanging strip is done in such a way so that it blends in with the casing. In this way, the installation appears to be an inside mount. This is shown in Figure 4. Contrast the look of this approach with that of the outside mounting options found in Figures 5 and 6. The figure 4 approach is more appealing.

Getting a truly custom fit for your window shutters starts with precise measuring!

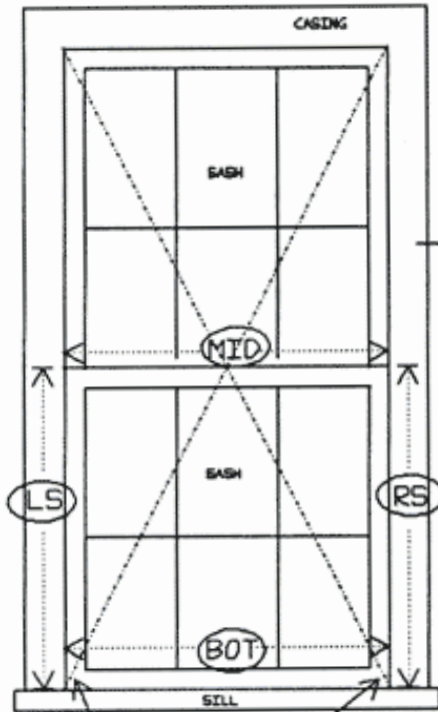
Measuring for Shutters (see diagram which follows)

Measure the window depth (D) from the face of the bottom window sash (or the back of the window stop) to the backside of the casing. If this measures a minimum of $\frac{5}{8}$ ", then an inside mount can be used. Another option to consider is to mount the shutters to the edge of the casing. This procedure can only be utilized, however, when the casing is deep enough at the inside edge to accommodate the shutter ($\frac{3}{4}$ ") and flat as opposed to contoured. Measure window opening width at the top of desired shutter location, (TOP) for full length and uppers, and (MID) for lower sash shutters only. Also measure window width at the bottom (BOT). For full-length shutters measure height at left side (L) and right side (R). If shutters are desired on the lower sash (not full length), be careful to measure from the sill to the top of the locking rail (top rail of the bottom sash) (LS) and (RS). Some people prefer to cover the sash lock a little by making the lower shutters a

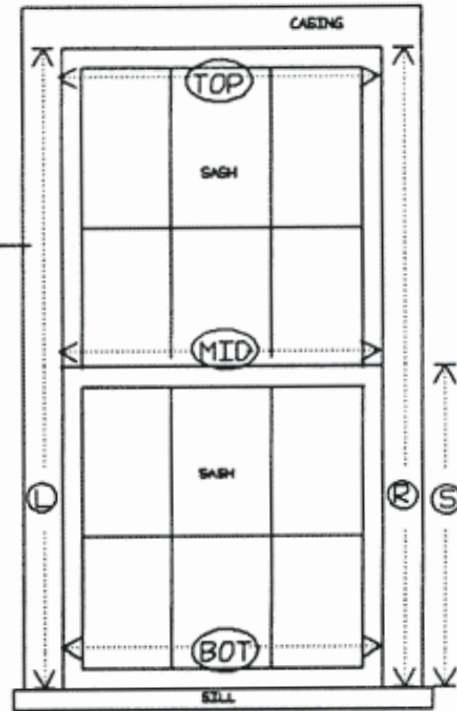
little taller (perhaps $\frac{3}{4}$ " or 1"). This is common. Simply note this on your measurements. If you are measuring for upper and lower shutters, remember to note the height from the sill to the top of the lower sash (S). The last and potentially most important measurement verifies that the window is square, which is vital to the working of interior shutters. As you may know from a high school geometry class, all rectangles have identical diagonal dimensions. Take the measurement from the bottom/left corner at the sill to the right/top window header location. Similarly, take the measurement from the bottom/right corner at the sill to the top/left location. Care should be taken to measure the two in a similar fashion. Record the difference between the two measurements as (DL).

MEASURING FOR SHUTTERS

ON LOWER HALF

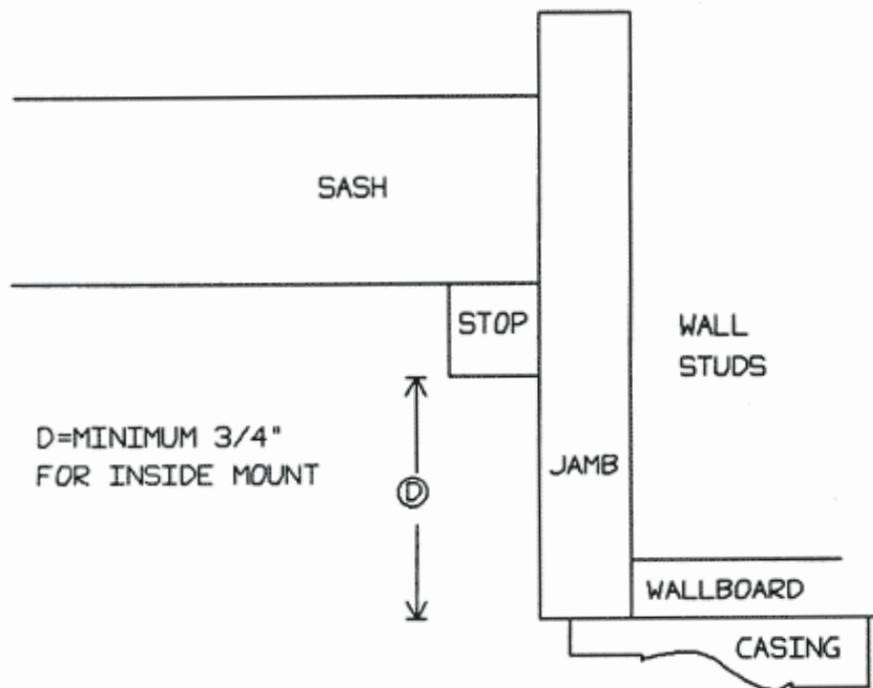


ON UPPER AND LOWER HALF
OR FULL LENGTH



DIFFERENCE = DL

ELEVATION



CROSS-SECTION

MOUNTING OPTIONS

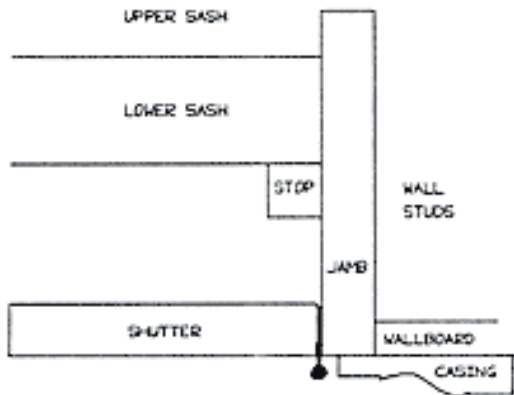


FIGURE 1- INSIDE MOUNT; SHUTTER FOLDS BACK AGAINST CASING

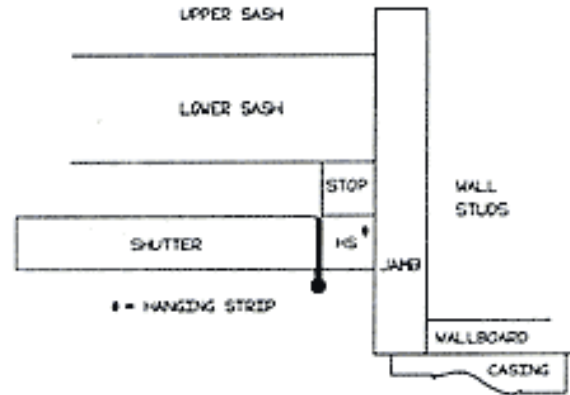


FIGURE 2- INSIDE MOUNT; SHUTTER WILL NOT FOLD BACK AGAINST CASING

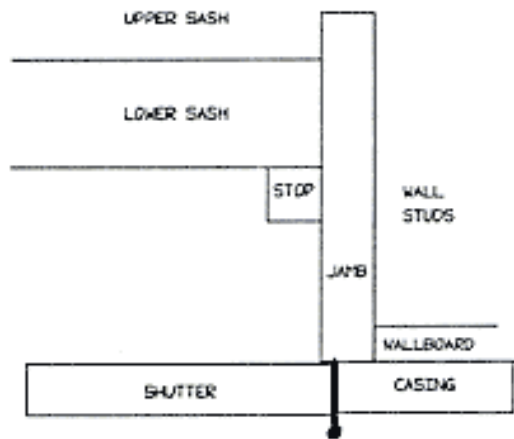


FIGURE 3- INSIDE MOUNT; SHUTTERS MOUNTED TO SQUARE-EDGE CASING; WILL FOLD BACK FLAT

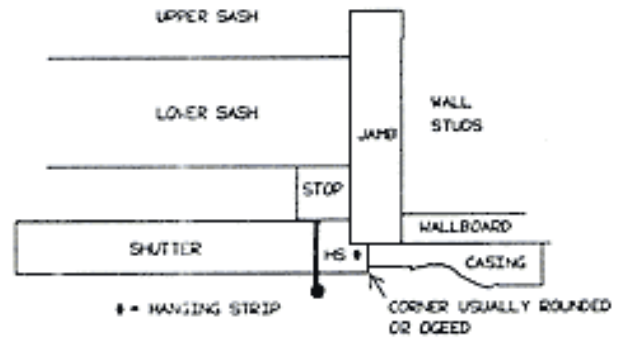


FIGURE 4- HANGING STRIP MOUNT; MORE ATTRACTIVE THAN AN OUTSIDE MOUNT

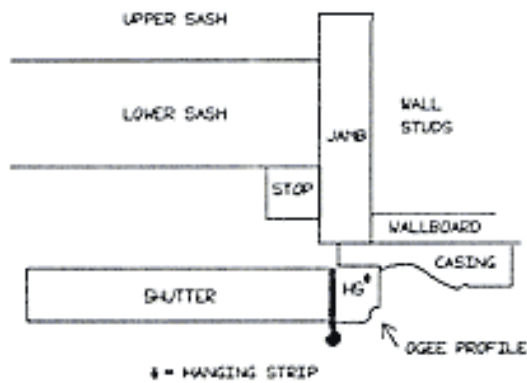


FIGURE 5- OUTSIDE MOUNT ON FACE OF CASING USING HANGING STRIP

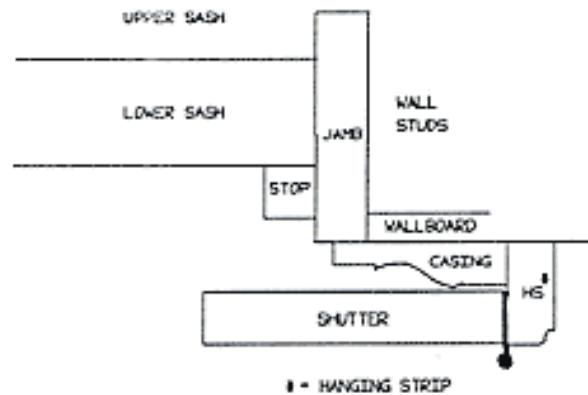


FIGURE 6- OUTSIDE MOUNT ON SIDE OF CASING USING HANGING STRIP



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RAISED PANEL INTERIOR SHUTTERS

FIELD MEASUREMENTS WORKSHEET

Window # ___ : _____

TOP _____

MID _____

BOT _____

L _____

R _____

S _____

DL _____

Window # ___ : _____

TOP _____

MID _____

BOT _____

L _____

R _____

S _____

DL _____

Window # ___ : _____

TOP _____

MID _____

BOT _____

L _____

R _____

S _____

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Window # ___ : _____

TOP _____

MID _____

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R _____

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DL _____