

[It's Sew Easy Series 1600 - Be a Sewing Superstar!](#)

Home Dec Standouts Show#1612-2 Tab Drapes



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These back tab, un-lined drapes are made from [Shannon Fabrics Cuddle® Suede](#), washable faux suede. Easy to sew and suitable for any style of home décor, these have a little less fullness than standard drapery panels giving them a sleek look. As an alternative, you can choose to make them in standard home décor fabric. Slip these onto a decorative rod to transform a room and easily update your décor. *Are you ready? Let's go sew!*

Materials and basic supplies for faux suede drapes:

- Featured machine is the [Brother XV8550D Dream Machine2](#) with the included MuVit™ Digital Dual Feed System. Additional machine models are available for use with this foot. As an alternative you can use a closed toe walking foot for constructing drapes made from faux suede. Shannon Fabrics generously provided the [Cuddle® Suede](#) used for this project. Yardage is determined by the formula included in these instructions.
- Microtex size 12 sewing machine needle.
- Fine sharp pins such as glass head pins
- Curtain rod measuring 1-1½-inches in diameter.
- Metal tape measure.
- Press cloth for pressing right side of faux suede.

Formula for Drapes:

Begin by hanging your drapery rod before measuring. Measure length and width as follows, rounding off numbers to make your calculations easier:

LENGTH – Measure from top of rod to bottom of window sill, floor, or your desired location for bottom hem. Add 10-inches for hem and ease and record as length measurement for each panel.

WIDTH – Measure across full width of installed rod. Multiply this measurement by 1.5, and then divide by 2 to determine width for each panel. Next, add 4-inches for side hems and record this as width measurement for each panel.

Cutting Instructions for Panels, Tabs, & Facings:

For Panels: Cut two panels using your length and width measurements. Depending on your window size, it may be necessary to piece panels for your total width.

For Top Facings: Measure width of panel after hemming each side and add 2-inches. Using this measurement, cut a 3-inch wide strip of drapery fabric for each panel.

For Back Tabs: Measure width of panel after hemming each side. To determine the required number of tabs needed for each panel, first divide the number by seven, and then add one. Cut the required number of tabs having each tab measure 4-inches wide by 3-inches long. **EXAMPLE:** My full-sized finished panels measured 78-inches wide. 78-inches divided by 7 equals 11.14. I rounded the number off to 11 and added 1 for a total of 12 tabs per panel.

Note: Drapery samples on show 1612-2 and those illustrated here were made in a small scale.

Sewing Instructions for Each Panel:

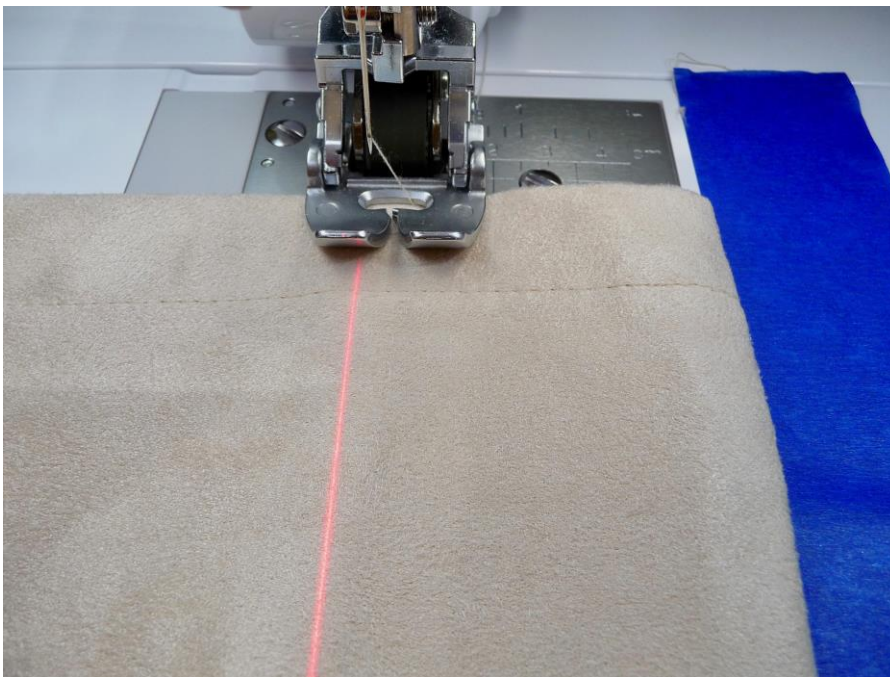
1. Hem sides using a double turned 1-inch hem.
2. Hem bottom using a double turned 4-inch hem.
3. Sew each tab into a tube by sewing a ½-inch seam along the 3-inch edge. Turn right side out and press seam toward center of tab. Designate side with the seam as the wrong side or back side of tab. **Note:** Finished tabs measure 3-inches long by 1 ½-inches wide.
4. Assemble each panel as follows:
 - With right side of panel facing up, place a tab ½-inch from each end, having raw edges even at the top. Divide remaining number of tabs along top of panel, placing them equidistant along top edge.



- Next, center facing along the top edge, with right sides together and short raw ends extending slightly at each end of the panel. **Note:** Tabs are sandwiched in between panel and facing.
- Sew facing to top edge of panel using a ½-inch seam allowance. Flip facing and tabs to wrong side and press. Clean finish long edge of facing piece with a serger or overcasting stitch.
- Turn under each short end so it's even with side hem. Press top edge carefully, ensuring that it is flat and even.



- Working from the right side, stitch approximately 2 ½-inches from top edge of drape, anchoring facing and tabs all in one step.



Close openings at each end of the top edge and at the hem using hand or machine stitches.

Your custom drapes are finished! See front and back side of drapery sample below:



Questions? Comments? I invite you to visit me at my Sewing and Embroidery website www.letsdosew.com. You'll find online lessons, videos, free downloads, and lots of sewing and embroidery information and inspiration!

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Happy Sewing!

Joanne