

September, 2019

THE KMA SPEC

HOW TO SPECIFY SHADES!

Manual Shades (Part 1 of 3)



Bringing you up to date on KMA’s unique architectural product collection!

Hi there! **KMA** believes great projects start with good, solid specifications. In our effort to make specifying shades easier, we bring you the first of 3 newsletters walking you through the process.

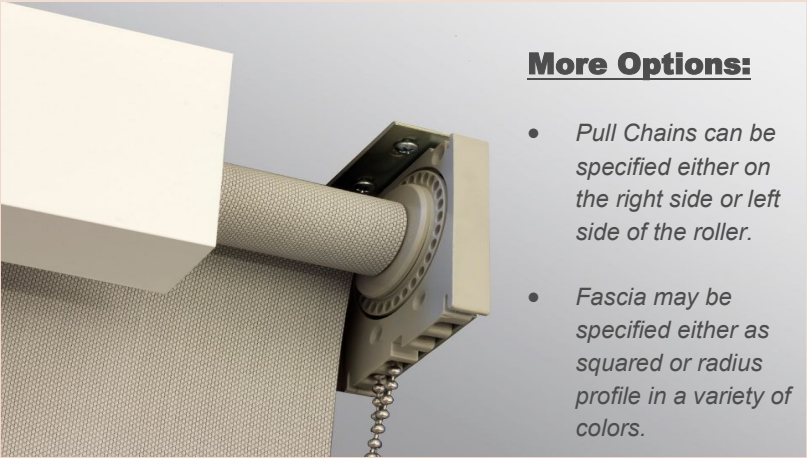
First up, manual shades from **Mecho**!

STEP 1 - Choose a bracket

- Urbanshade** - The **Urbanshade** bracket is a smaller profile bracket. It’s ideal for residential or light commercial applications, with a 10 year warranty. Urbanshade is great on windows approximately 8’x8’ or less.
- Mecho 5** - The **Mecho 5** bracket is the original and most specified Mecho bracket, with a 25 year warranty! Mecho 5 can handle windows up to roughly 10’x10’.
- Mecho 5X** - Mecho’s newest bracket option, **Mecho 5X**, is the ideal bracket for raising large sized or multi-band shades. It operates smoothly and with only 8 lbs of lift force! Plus Mecho’s 25 year warranty! Mecho 5X can easily handle up to 260” w shades!

STEP 2 - Locate your construction details

- A.)** go to **www.mechoshade.com**
- B.)** Under the “**Resources**” tab, go to “**Construction Drawings**”
- C.)** Choose: “**Mechoshade (Manual)**”
- D.)** Select either “**Single Shade**” or “**Double Shade**”
- E.)** Select “**Shades Below Ceiling**” or “**Shades Above Ceiling**”
- F.)** Select your choice of **bracket** from Step 1.
- G.)** Download your appropriate construction drawing in either PDF or CAD.



STEP 3 - Select your Shadecloth

- Mecho has a variety of shadecloth selections in both **Solar** and **Blackout** fabrics.
- Solar Shades** are made in various levels of “**opacity**”. Opacity is the percentage of light penetrating through the fabric in a range between 1-10% depending on the fabric’s weave. Solar shadecloths permit views to the outdoors while minimizing glare and heat gain into the space.
- Blackout Shades** have a 0% opacity for 100% privacy.

TIP: When choosing a color for your shadecloth, remember, **the darker the fabric, the easier it is to see through**, even in shades with the same opacity. Go dark to preserve a beautiful view, go light to minimize a poor view.





DO you speak "Shade"??

We can help by explaining some common shade terminology to increase your confidence in specifying shades.

"Multi-Banded" - a single drive bracket that raises and lowers multiple shades installed side-by-side.

"Regular Roll" - fabric unwinds on the shade tube towards the glass.

"Reverse Roll" - fabric installed on the shade tube that un-winds on the side away from the glass.

"Dual Shades" – Two shadecloths are on the same roller. Example: Thermoveil facing the inside and Euroveil facing the outside. (Note: this is a very rare and expensive application!)

"Double Shade" – Two rollers within one bracket, one for solar and one for black-out. Example: Thermoveil solar shade combined with Chelsea blackout shade. Double shades can either be off-set or horizontally placed within the bracket.

"Snap-loc spline" - Mecho has a spline embedded in the tube that locks the shadecloth in. This is for ease of replacement and security on the tube. (Other mfgs only tape the shade on the tube and do not have this feature, which adds value to your client!)

"Blackout Channel" – Side channels and fascia for control of light gaps. "Shade-Loc".

"Railroaded" -Fabric is utilized at a 90 degree from the roll. "horizontal".



Above: Our featured shade cloth of the month. "Soho".

This collection consists of thin, finely woven yarns combined with distinctive color themes that create unique, elegant solutions for any project. The 2 x 2 basket weave has a soft hand and smooth texture, supplying a minimal accent.

Soho is a great budget-friendly shade-cloth for all types of projects.



Snap-loc Spline

We look forward to helping you in your next project!

Until next time...

KMA & Associates

www.kma.bz