

Trailmanor Curtain Replacement

Wooden Valances

Wooden Valances — supplies

1"x6"x8' band sawn white pine—it's cheap, and has side with parallel ridges from the saw, so things won't slide as easily.

1 1/2" z-brackets

2" wood screws

#8 metal screws

Paint

Optional – 1 3/8" eye screws, two for each curtain rod (if you are going to have curtains)

1. Cut sections of board to the length you want—below is the lengths I used for my trailer (window size)

Small windows above beds on each side, and window above kitchen counter (22"Hx24"W) - **28"**

Windows above couches on each side (22"Hx 48"W) - **52"**

End windows above bed (19"Hx38"W) - 42"

2. Paint bottom side, and front edge of the valance board. Leave the ends, and the front edge clear of paint, so that you can apply wood glue before attaching the end pieces, and front piece.

If you are going to have curtains and/or curtain valances attached, screw in appropriate number of 1 3/8" eye screws on the underside of the board at this time. I screwed two into each end. First is 2 1/4" from the front edge of board, second one is 3 1/2" from front edge of board, and all are 1/2" from the ends of valance board. Use a 5/16" dowel as a curtain rod, and putting one end into an eye screw on one side, then slightly bowing the dowel, place the other end into the eye screw on the opposite side.



3. Cut end pieces for each valance. I drew out something that took the width of the board, and that I could flip and waste as little of the board as possible.

4. Using 2" wood screws, two on each end, attach end pieces to board. Apply wood glue to each end of valance board before screwing on the end pieces. I attached mine so that 1/2" of the end pieces stick up over the valance board at each end. This will help ensure nothing slides off the shelf if the trailer isn't level.

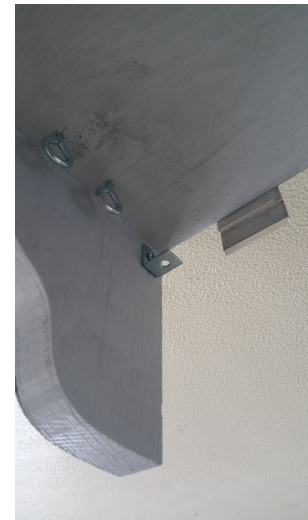


5. Paint inside and outside of end pieces, back edge of end pieces, bottom edge of end pieces, and top of valance board. Entire shelf should now be painted, except for the very front edge of the end pieces, and the front edge of the valance board. You want to leave that clear of paint so that you can apply wood glue prior to attaching the front piece of the valance.
6. Cut front piece from luan or similar thin material. I actually used some sort of 1/4" thick pressboard that was used as part of a shipping container. They were glued together as an L, with 45 degree angle cuts at the glue joint. I had to stand on them to break the glue joint, but it snapped clean. I cut them so that the flat edge was on the top edge of valance, and the 45 angle edge was facing down. I used the entire width of the boards, so the bottom edge of the front piece is an angle cut at the widest points – like the ends and middle. Had I not already spent more than I wanted on supplies for the new window treatments, I would have bought a sheet of luan, which is only about 1/8" thick.
7. Attach front using 3/4" wood screws, applying wood glue to the front edge of valance board and end pieces before screwing on the front piece. Again, I mounted mine so that it sticks up 1/2" above the valance board.





8. Paint all exposed sides/edges of front piece.
9. Attach z-brackets to back edge of valance board at appropriate distances from each end.
10. Select area on trailer wall where matching z-brackets will be attached. Sand area to roughen up, wipe clean, allow to dry. Drill pilot holes for screws. Smear epoxy on the area where z-bracket will be mounted, and screw z-bracket onto wall. Allow epoxy to dry before hanging valance.



Roman Shades

Roman shades — supplies

3/4" x 3/4" poplar—sold by the linear foot at Home Depot

3/4" L brackets

3/4" eye screws

1/2" wooden dowels

5/16" wooden dowels

54" wide cotton canvas duck fabric

3/8" wide satin ribbon, in color matching duck fabric

Cording

Cord stops

Cord ends

1. Cut 3/4" poplar to the length required to fit between the wooden valance ends, just a tad shy of that, to make room for L brackets.
2. Cut duck fabric 1" wider than you want the blinds. Hem both left & right edges with 1/2" hem. I overlocked the edges first, then did a 1/2" hem. Alternatively, you can fold over twice (1/4" each), then stitch, or make them slightly wider to fold over ¼" and ½" before sewing hem.
3. Measure down from top edge 5 1/2" and mark a line on the back side of material. I use Pentel Fixion pens, which erase once heat is applied (like by ironing the material).
4. Fold material together, top to bottom, right side of fabric facing, so that the back side of fabric is outside.



5. Place a 2" length of ribbon, with a 5/16" ring on it, on top of the fold, so that the ribbon & ring are to the top of what will become the dowel envelope, with the cut ends of ribbon to the top, ring to the bottom. One on each end, at a distance of at least 3", but not more than 6". Stitch across the blind, on your line, so that you are creating an 'envelope' on the back side of the blind in which you can slide the 5/16" dowel, and the rings are now attached into that seam.



6. Unfold the blind, and mark your next line 4" down from the seam you just created. Repeat the steps to sew another envelope for your 2nd dowel. Repeat the length of your blind, until you are ready to mark for the last dowel

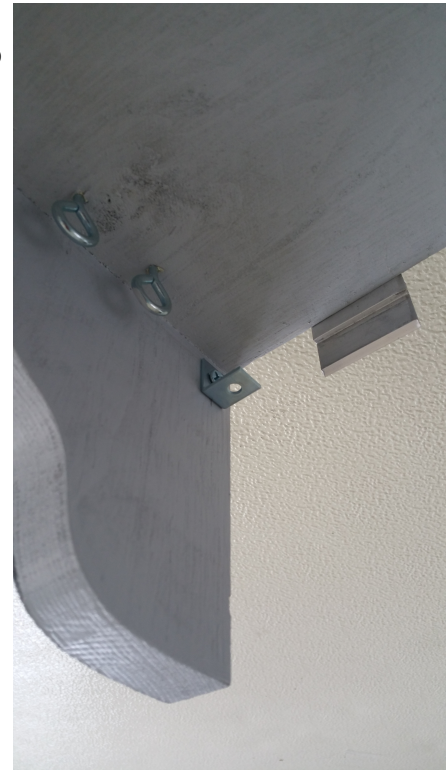
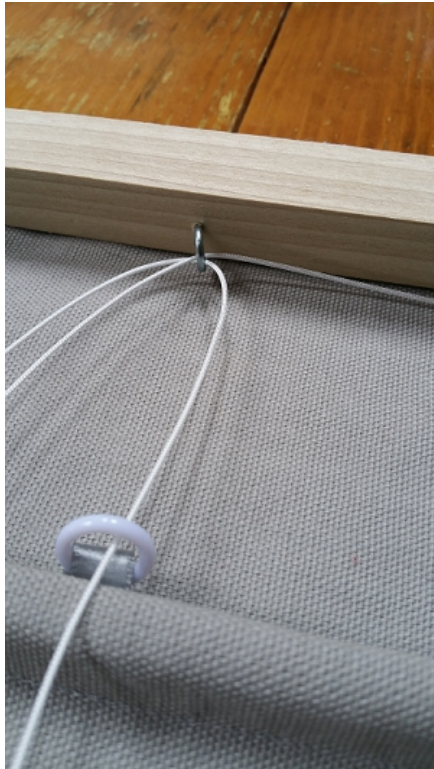
7. The last dowel should be a 1/2" dowel. You need a large dowel at the bottom, to add weight so that the blind closes, and hangs, straight. The last envelope is created by hemming the blind, and stitching the ribbon into the seam.



8. Staple your top edge of the blind, along the top edge of the 3/4" poplar, so that blind will hang down the front edge of the 3/4" poplar.



9. Mount 3/4" L bracket on the inside of each end piece on the wooden valance. Position it so that the 3/4" poplar will sit on top of the L bracket, even with the back edge of the valance.
10. Screw 3/4" eye screws into the bottom edge of the poplar, directly above the rings that are sewn into the blind.



11. Tie cord onto the bottom ring of blind, thread it through the rings going up the blind, and into the screw eye mounted on the bottom of the poplar. Bring the left side cord across and thread it through the right side screw eye mounted on the bottom of the poplar, so that both cords are now together.



12. Mount the poplar onto the L brackets you mounted to the inside of the wooden valance ends



13. Screw two more 3/4" eye screws into the inside of the valance side piece on the same side you have both cords. Thread the two cords through these two eye screws, which will guide the cords to the front of the valance. Finally, thread the cords through a cord lock, and finish off the ends with a cord pull.

14. The front eye screw will act as a stop for the cord stop, when the blind is in the raised position.



Curtains & Valance

Whatever you choose for curtains, and/or valances is much more personal preference, and directions aren't required for this portion. However, I will tell you what I did, so you know what is represented in the photos of the finished window treatments.

I made curtains from 44" wide cotton gauze. I crocheted a pom-pom trim along the bottom edges, hoping to add a bit of weight to the gauze curtains so they would hang well. I may add beads, because the crocheted pom-pom edge really doesn't add enough weight.

I crocheted a valance to hang in front of the gauze curtains. I used Red Heart classic crochet thread, size 10, 100% mercerized cotton, for all crochet.

I used 5/16" dowels for the curtain and crocheted valance rods. I spray painted them with Krylon paint, two coats, so that the curtains would slide easily on them. These then slip into the 1 3/8" eye screws that were mounted on the underside of the wooden valances. I cut the dowels the same length as the wooden valance top boards, and sanded the ends a bit. I put one end of the dowel into one of the eye screws, then bowed the dowel slightly so I could put the other end in the opposite eye screw. This makes it quick and easy to remove/install the curtains, without having to fuss to get a spring rod positioned correctly every time the wooden valances are replaced when opening the trailer.