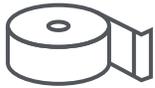# GE Smart Shades Measuring Guide

Overview

Welcome! GE Smart Shades bring convenience and style to your home with automated window shades that you control with a remote or smart assistant. This guide helps you understand what makes them special and how to choose the right shades for your windows.

What You'll Need

- Steel tape measure (Cloth can stretch)
- Pencil & paper to record measurements
- Helper (Optional, for easy measuring)

Standard Shade Sizes

GE Smart Shades come in six convenient widths designed to fit most standard windows. All sizes feature 76 inches of fabric that you adjust to your exact window height using the remote.

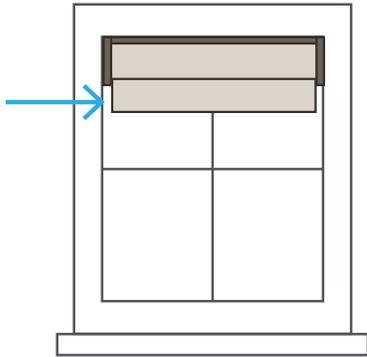| Width	Common Window Types	Room Type
24"	Small, narrow windows	Bathrooms, closets, laundry rooms
30"	Standard single windows	Bedrooms, offices, kitchens
32"	Standard single windows	Bedrooms, living areas
34"	Medium single windows	Living rooms, dining rooms
36"	Wider single windows	Living rooms, primary bedrooms
38"	Wide windows	Picture windows, patio doors

NOTE: All standard shades include 76" of fabric height. The remote lets you adjust the travel distance to fit the specific window.

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Installation Options

The first decision to make when measuring shades is where to mount the shade: inside the window frame or above it on the wall. Both options work beautifully, and the right choice depends on the window and goals.

Inside the Window Frame

The shade installs within your window frame, creating a clean, built-in look with a small gap between shade and frame.

Above or on the Window Frame

Mounting the shade above the window on the wall or window frame provides maximum light blocking and coverage.

Advantages:
- Sleek, minimalist appearance that works well in modern and contemporary homes
- Displays window trim
- Allows space for curtains, or drapes
- Traditional look

Best For:
- Showcasing windows with beautiful trim
- Modern, minimalist aesthetics
- Rooms with a streamlined look
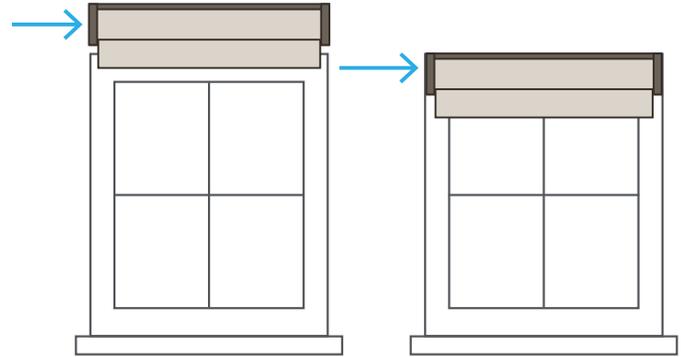- Square windows with adequate depth

Requirements:

The window must meet these requirements:
- **Minimum 3" depth** - From inside frame to glass
- **Square Window** - Sides are parallel and equal
- **Solid Mounting Surface** - Inside frame can support hardware
- **Minimal Obstructions** - Window locks/handles don't stick out much

   NOTE: Small light gaps (about 1 inch on each side) are normal with inside mounting. For bedrooms needing complete darkness, consider Above or on the Window Frame

Advantages:
- Superior light blocking
- Particularly suited for bedrooms and rooms needing total darkness
- Best for blackout fabric
- Works with non-square windows
- Covers the entire window frame

Best For:
- Bedrooms needing complete darkness
- Media rooms and home theaters
- Windows that aren't perfectly square
- Windows with insufficient depth
- When you want to cover the entire frame

Requirements
- Solid wall surface - Above window for mounting
- Adequate wall space - At least 2-3 inches above window frame
- Clear of obstructions - No light fixtures or vents in the way

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Measuring for Inside the Window Frame

Mounting inside the window creates a clean, built-in look. Accurate measurements are essential for proper fit. Follow this step-by-step guide to measure confidently.

Before You Begin

1. **Check Window Depth** Measure from the inside edge of your window frame to the glass.

   ⚠️ **IMPORTANT:** You need at least 3 inches of depth. Less than 3"? See Measuring Above Window instead
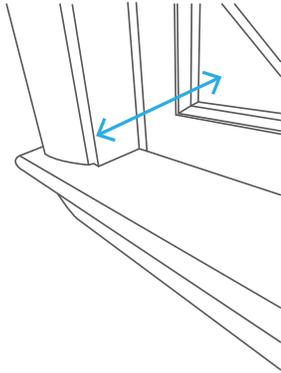
2. **Check Window Squareness** Measure diagonally from top-left corner to bottom-right corner, then measure from top-right to bottom-left. If either measurement differs by more than 1/4 inch, your window isn't square. Above-window mounting works better for non-square windows
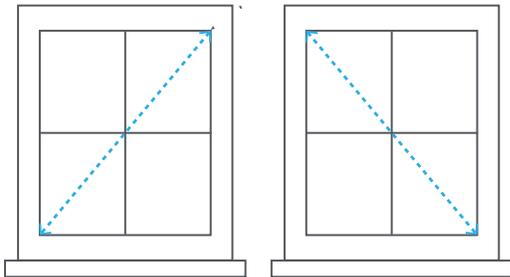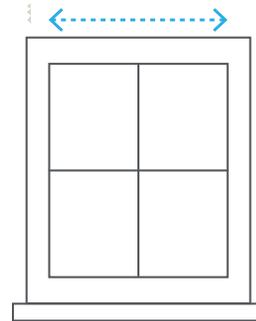

3. **Check Obstructions -** Look for window cranks, locks, or handles that stick out from the window.. Windows with small locks (under 1/2") are OK for inside mounting. Windows with large cranks or handles (over 1/2") should consider above-window mounting
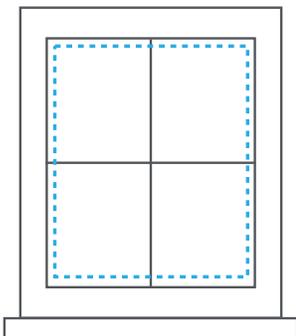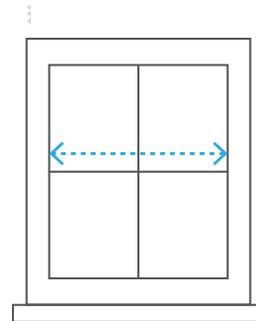

Step 1: Measure Window Width

Take the following width measurements:

1. Measure across the top of the window opening

2. Measure the width of the middle of the window opening


3. Measure along the bottom of the window opening
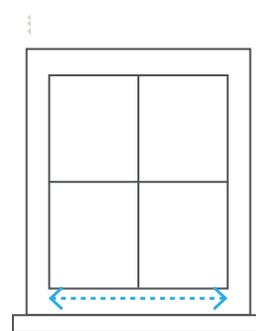
⚠️ **IMPORTANT!:** Write down the **smallest** of these three measurements. This ensures the shade fits through the entire opening.

💡 **HELPFUL TIPS!:**
- Measure to the nearest 1/8 inch
- Hold tape flat against the frame
- Don't pull the tape too tight
- Double-check each measurement

Step 2: Select Shade Size

Note the smallest width measurement and find the closest standard size (24", 30", 32", 34", 36", 38") **equal to or smaller than** your measurement.
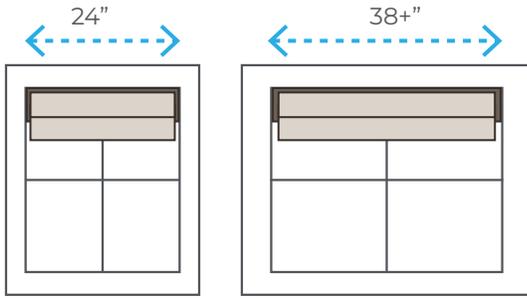

Shade Selection Examples

Your Window Measures	Available Sizes	Recommended Size
24 1/2 inches	24" or 30"	24"
31 3/4 inches	30" or 32"	30"
32 1/2 inches	32" or 34"	32"
35 7/8 inches	34" or 36"	34"
37 1/4 inches	36" or 38"	36"
38 inches or less	38"	38"

⚠ **IMPORTANT!: NEVER** order a size larger than your measurement! The shade **will not fit**. Always round down to the next smaller size.
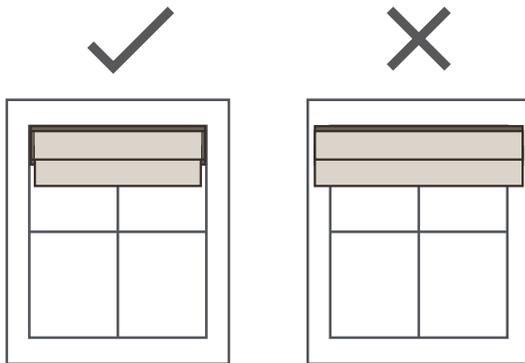
Step 3: Measure Window Height

Good news! All standard GE Smart Shades include 76 inches of fabric to accomodate most windows.
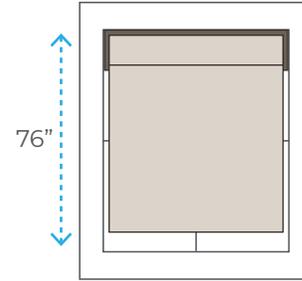
After installation, you'll use the remote control to set the exact travel distance for your window. The shade works for windows:

- As short as 24 inches
- Up to 76 inches tall
- Everything in between

NOTE: If the window is taller than 76 inches, you'll need a custom-sized shade.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Q:** My window is exactly 32 inches. Do I order 32"?
- **A:** If your window is EXACTLY 32", order 30" to allow proper clearance.

- **Q:** What if my window falls between two sizes?
- **A:** Always order the smaller size. For example, if you measure 33", order 32".

- **Q:** Why do I need to take three width measurements?
- **A:** Windows aren't always perfectly uniform. Taking three measurements ensures you find the narrowest point.

Step 4: Write It Down

Record the following information into the Fillable Worksheet section of this article, or somewhere it can easily be recorded such as the Ordering Worksheet. Below is an example worksheet.

| Example:	
Room / Location:	Living Room, South Wall
Width measurements:	34 1/8", 34", 34 1/8"
Smallest width:	34"
Order size:	32" (next size down)

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Measuring Above or On the Window Frame

Mounting above the window, be it on the trim or a surface above, provides maximum light blocking and works with any window type. This guide shows you how to measure for the best coverage and select the right shade size.
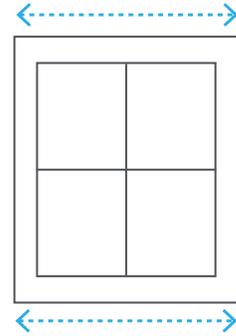
Before You Begin

The area above the window must be a clean, flat surface free of obstructions and capable of supporting the shade mount
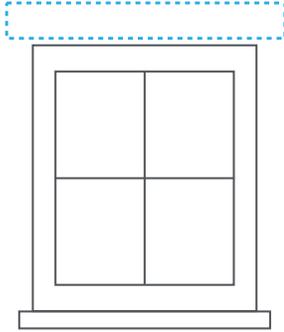
Step 1: Measure Window Frame Width

Use a tape measure to find the width of the window frame (the visible wood or trim around your window). Use the maximum width.

Understanding Your Options

When mounting above the window, you have flexibility in coverage. Choose between the two styles of coverage listed below::

1. **Standard Coverage:** Close to, but narrower than the window frame width:

   - Covers the window with minimal extra coverage
   - Works well for translucent fabric
   - Good for most rooms
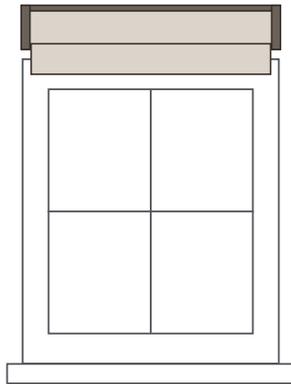
HELPFUL TIPS!:

- Measure the outside edge to outside edge of the frame
- Measure to the nearest 1/8 inch
- If multiple windows are next to each other, measure each separately
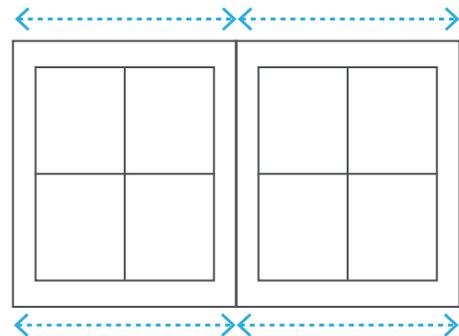
2. **Extended Coverage:** Wider than the window frame:

   - Recommended for Blackout fabric as it reduces light gaps significantly
   - Covers window frame completely plus 2-3" on each side
   - Maximum light blocking
   - Best for bedrooms and media rooms

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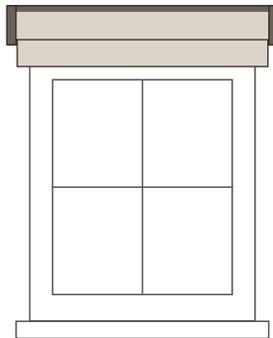
Step 2: Choose Coverage

Choose between standard coverage or extended coverage approach.

Standard Coverage

Select the shade size closest to your window frame width.
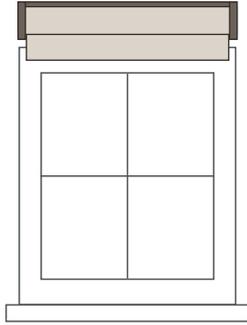
Shade Selection Examples

Window Frame Width	Standard Sizes Available	Recommended Size
20-24 inches	24" or 30"	30"
26-30 inches	30" or 32"	32"
30-32 inches	32" or 34"	34"
32-34 inches	34" or 36"	36"
34-36 inches	36" or 38"	38"
36+ inches	38" or custom	38" or custom size

Extended Coverage (Blackout)

Add 4-6 inches to your window frame width, then select the closest size.
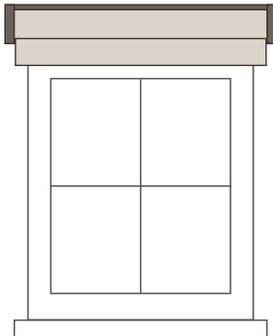
💡 **HELPFUL TIP!:** For bedrooms and media rooms with blackout fabric, we strongly recommend extended coverage for the darkest environment

Shade Selection Examples

| Window Frame Width	Add 6 Inches	Total Coverage	Recommended Size
24"	+ 6"	= 30"	30"
28"	+ 6"	= 34"	34"
30"	+ 6"	= 36"	36"
32"	+ 6"	= 38"	38"

Step 3: Check Wall Space

1. Make sure there is adequate space above the window, at minimum 2-3 inches above the window frame, for mounting the hardware.
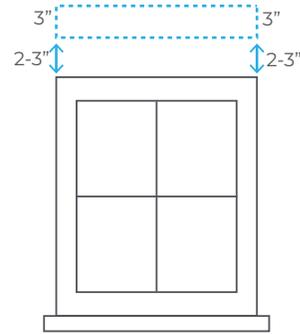
2. Check for obstructions like light fixtures, vents, crown molding, or curtain rods.
3. Confirm the wall surface is flat. The shade needs a solid, flat surface to mount

⚠️ **IMPORTANT!:** If there is decorative trim that sticks out more than 1/2 inch, Mount shade to trim to allow fabric to travel freely.

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Step 4: Consider Window Height

All standard shades include 76 inches of fabric. Decide how low you want the shade to extend:

- **To Window Sill** - Most common

- **Below Window Sill** - Blocks more light
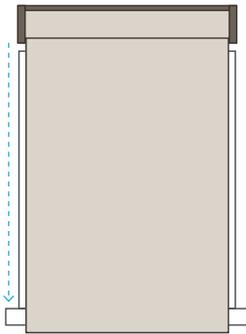
- **Just Covering the Glass** - Saves fabric
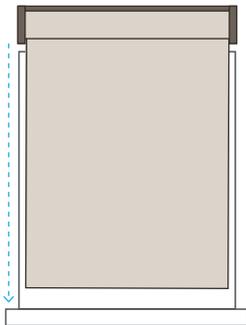
HELPFUL TIP!: The remote control allows adjustment of the shade's travel distance after installation, so you have complete control over how far down it goes.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Q:** Should I always add 6 inches for blackout fabric?
  A: The 6-inch addition (3" per side) provides excellent light blocking. However, you can add anywhere from 4-8 inches total depending on your wall space and preference.
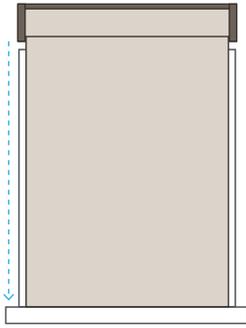
- **Q:** Do I need to worry about the exact height?
  A: No. All shades include 76 inches of fabric, and you use the remote to set exactly where the shade stops. You don't need to specify a height when ordering.

Step 4: Write It Down

Record the following information into the Fillable Worksheet section of this article, or somewhere it can easily be recorded such as the Ordering Worksheet. Below is an example worksheet.

EXAMPLE WORKSHEET:

Room / Location:	Living Room, South Wall
Width measurements:	34 1/8", 34", 34 1/8"
Smallest width:	34"
Order size:	32" (next size up)

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Measuring Checklist

Before finalizing your order, visualize the installation:

1. **Mark Shade Location** - Use painter's tape to mark where the shade will go on the wall.. ☐
2. **Check Width** - Make sure it covers how much you want .... ☐

   🔧 **HELPFUL TIP!**: use the same size shade for each window on the same wall to create a uniform, polished look.

3. **Verify Wall Space** - Ensure you have room on both sides.. ☐
4. **Look From Outside** - Will this size look balanced from the street?.. ☐

Measuring Checklist

Use the checklist below to track and confirm all stages of measuring are complete!

Inside The Frame

1. Check Window Depth, Squareness, & Obstructions.. ☐
2. Measure Window Frame Width (Top, Middle, Bottom) .... ☐
3. Selected Appropriate Shade Size .... ☐
4. Measure Window Height... ☐

Above or On Window Frame

1. Check for Obstructions above Window.. ☐
2. Measure Window Frame Width .... ☐
3. Choose Standard or Extended Coverage .... ☐
4. Verified Adequate Wall Space Above Window .... ☐
5. Consider Window Height .... ☐

Need Help?

Our customer support team is here to help if you have any questions about measuring, selecting sizes, or ordering your shades.

- Visit: shadessupport.gelighting.com
- Call: **1-844-302-2943**

Example Inside Window Frame Ordering Worksheet

Inside the Window Frame Shade 1

Room / Location:

Width measurements:

Top:

Middle:

Bottom:

Smallest width:

Order size:

NOTES::

Inside the Window Frame Shade 4

Room / Location:

Width measurements:

Top:

Middle:

Bottom:

Smallest width:

Order size:

NOTES::

Inside the Window Frame Shade 2

Room / Location:

Width measurements:

Top:

Middle:

Bottom:

Smallest width:

Order size:

NOTES::

Inside the Window Frame Shade 5

Room / Location:

Width measurements:

Top:

Middle:

Bottom:

Smallest width:

Order size:

NOTES::

Inside the Window Frame Shade 3

Room / Location:

Width measurements:

Top:

Middle:

Bottom:

Smallest width:

Order size:

NOTES::

Inside the Window Frame Shade 6

Room / Location:

Width measurements:

Top:

Middle:

Bottom:

Smallest width:

Order size:

NOTES::

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Example Above or On Window Frame Ordering Worksheet

Above or On Window Frame Shade 1

Room / Location:

Width measurements:
    Top:

    Middle:

    Bottom:

Largest Width:

Order Size:

NOTES:

Above or On Window Frame Shade 4

Room / Location:

Width measurements:
    Top:

    Middle:

    Bottom:

Largest Width:

Order Size:

NOTES:

Above or On Window Frame Shade 2

Room / Location:

Width measurements:
    Top:

    Middle:

    Bottom:

Largest Width:

Order Size:

NOTES:

Above or On Window Frame Shade 5

Room / Location:

Width measurements:
    Top:

    Middle:

    Bottom:

Largest Width:

Order Size:

NOTES:

Above or On Window Frame Shade 3

Room / Location:

Width measurements:
    Top:

    Middle:

    Bottom:

Largest Width:

Order Size:

NOTES:

Above or On Window Frame Shade 6

Room / Location:

Width measurements:
    Top:

    Middle:

    Bottom:

Largest Width:

Order Size:

NOTES:

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