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Technical Notes and Considerations

Bagging or "V"ing Blinds

What is "bagging" or "V"ing ?

It is where the roller blind top tube deflects or sags due to gravity at the centre point spanning between two brackets. This then creates a wrinkle in the fabric which looks like a "V".

Blinds that are made over 2.0 meters wide will have some form of bagging present on the fabric skin that sits on the top tube. Depending on the light that is reflected onto the blind depends on how prominent the bagging is. For example, a sunscreen type fabric that is down during the day with full sunlight shining behind it, from the inside of the room looking outside you will not notice any bagging. The same roller blind at nighttime with down lights reflecting light down the front of the blind will amplify the bagging from the shadow lines of the wrinkle.

Our manufacturing specifications introduce a reinforced heavy-duty top tube at the 2.0 meter wide mark and this is to help overcome this problem. We also advise to split wide blinds using a single link bracket to help reduce the overall blind width wherever possible.

Bagging is not considered a manufacturing fault or a fabric flaw, however if your blinds are giving this appearance feel free to contact our office for advice.

Fabric Puckering at the Base Rail

What is Puckering at the base rail?

It is the wrinkle shape of the fabric that appears at the point where the fabric and the base rail meet. The standard method of attaching an aluminium base rail to a flat piece of fabric involves attaching a 10 or 15mm plastic spline that has a strong adhesive strip stuck to it, this is pressed onto the edge of the fabric skin. Staples are set at 250 - 300mm intervals and stapled through the spline and fabric, then the fabric is folded 180 degrees and slid into a slot in the aluminium profile so that it sits snug and cannot fall off or be pulled off with force.

Although puckering is not always present on blinds there is no way of knowing from one batch of fabric to another if blind skins will pucker or not. Fabric Manufacturers have no way of knowing either but what people throughout the industry know world-wide is that puckering is a problem and it is probably here to stay. Rollease Acmeda have spent significant amounts testing and developing adhesives and alternative methods of attachment to overcome this problem but have come to the conclusion there is no full and final fix.

What we have found is that fabric will move around with temperature fluctuations and that the daytime heat from the sun tends to relax the fabric and can see the puckering reduce or disappear to only reappear at night.

Vanda can supply a sewn bottom pocket in place of an aluminium base rail and this can omit the issue altogether. Puckering is not regarded as a manufacturing or fabric fault, however if your blinds are giving this appearance feel free to contact our office for advice.

Linking Blinds

What is a "No Link" intermediate system? -

This is where two blinds sit side by side in a window with a single support bracket between them supporting both blinds. This system allows a control for each blind at opposite sides.

What is a "Link" intermediate system?

This is where up to three blinds sit side by side in a window with a single support bracket between them supporting both blinds. This system allows for one control to drive up to three blinds maximum. Control can be either side.

Linking blinds is one of the cleverest innovations about roller blinds and are very useful for reducing the number of hanging chains and enabling wide spans of blinds.

The linking mechanism between each blind gives a slight amount of independent movement and this can present a slight difference in the horizontal line of the base rails. Usually two blinds of the same size with one link bracket line up perfectly or may have 1 mm difference. Two blinds that are of different widths but same drop with one link bracket may have a difference of 2 - 3 mm line up of the base rails. Three linked blinds the same size with two link brackets will most likely not line up horizontally, with up to 5 mm difference.

We do not recommend linking blinds that are of different widths by up to 20% or more. We recommend linking two blinds for consistency but can link three blinds if absolutely necessary.

Recommended Industry Guideline for Faults

This Guideline is one that is accepted by the industry and should be seen as a “reasonable” test for looking at a perceived fault.

The acceptable guideline for imperfections, marks, dots etc. on completed product is:

- If an imperfection is visible with the naked eye in natural daylight at a distance of 1.2 metres, it is not acceptable.
- If an imperfection is not visible with the naked eye in natural daylight at a distance of 1.2 metres it is acceptable.
- Minor colour variations may occur between any colour swatch supplied and the order received, as the colour swatch is a guide only, this includes paint, stain and lacquers.