

How Many Curtain Pole Rings Will I Need for my Curtains?

"There are never enough curtain rings on curtain poles!" is one of the most common complaints heard about buying new curtain poles. Why is that?

Curtain poles are set up for curtains which have a pinch pleat heading. This type of pleat has fewer hooks and requires fewer rings.

Pinch Pleat heading on Curtain Pole



The number of rings supplied per pole is about one per 10cm length of curtain pole. E.g. a 180cm pole will have 18 rings, a 240cm curtain pole will have 24 rings. A 150cm pole would not have an odd number of rings – instead the total number would be 16.

Commonly there will be insufficient rings for a pencil pleat heading.

Gathered Pencil Pleat heading on a curtain pole



Pencil Pleats are formed by a 3" deep tape sewn onto the back of the curtain at the top



To form the pleat, when the curtain is flat the cords need to be drawn up to create the pencil pleats.

Each curtain should have the cords pulled through to gather up to about half the width of overall width of the pole plus about 5cm (2") i.e. 240cm pole – gather each curtain up to 120cm plus 5cm (2") equals 125cm.

One of the standards used by curtain fitters to fit this type of curtain is to put hooks in the pockets of the tape at about 4 per 30cm (4 per 12"). For the curtain headed up to 125cm this means about 16 hooks (there are four 30's in 125cm – therefore $4 \times 4 = 16$ hooks)

Two curtains would therefore require in the region of a total of 32 rings. As a 240cm pole would normally be supplied with 24 rings a further 8 rings would be required.

If you calculate how many rings you will need on this basis you should never be short of rings when you buy your new curtain pole again! If you have a curtain **track** rather than a curtain **pole**, the guideline for the amount of gliders/hooks required is still 4 per 30cm.