

Batten and Seam Specifications

Battens vs. Seams: MechoShade Systems, Inc. is one of the only, if not the only, shade manufacturer to use a batten joint vs. a seam joint. This type of construction costs more, but is highly effective in ensuring that certain types of shade bands hang and track straight. See below for an illustration of the Batten vs. Seam joint.

Woven shadecloth: All woven shadecloth, regardless if their core yarns are polyester or fiberglass, will stretch under their hanging weight due to “Woven Fabric Mechanical Extensibility”, or “The Hour Glass Effect”. In order to assure the proper tracking and rolling of the shadeband, and avoid the “Hour Glass Effect”, battens are included by MechoShade Systems as a standard detail when the width-to-height (W:H) ratio exceeds 1:4. Railroaded, multi-width shade bands will receive a 1-1/2 in. (38mm) batten joint. Battens may be specified for shade bands which otherwise do not need them to align, with shades that do require battens at additional cost. Battens will be positioned on the shade band, per the chart below, or at customer specified positions. This is subject to approval by MechoShade Systems, Inc., and may be at additional cost.

Standard batten placement for Non-railroaded (standard) shades:

- Batten placement for non-railroaded shades shall be the minimum required to meet the 1:4 ratio of width to height.
- Battens shall be equally spaced within the shadeband opening height. For example one batten at the mid point, or two battens at 1/3 points, or three battens at 1/4 points.
- Batten placement for blackout shades with side channels shall not exceed 4ft. (122cm) o.c. and must be specified.

Standard Batten Placement for Railroaded (RR) MechoShades*				
Roll Widths	63" (160cm) RR*	72" (183cm) RR*	96" (244cm) RR*	126" (366cm) RR*
Requires 1 width Railroaded* no seam				
Requires 1-1/2 widths Railroaded*, +1 seam				
Requires 2 widths Railroaded*, +1 seam				
Requires 2-1/2 widths Railroaded*, +2 seam				
Requires 3 widths Railroaded*, +2 seams				

* All shades are measured from the bottom of the shade up to the center of the Batten joint. Railroad (RR) Shadecloth is turned width to height. All heights shown above are Opening Heights only and are based on a 1-1/2" diameter tube. Opening Heights do not include wrap. Cut panel sizes, including wrap, hem-pocket and additional fabric for sealing battens and seams, are added to the opening height dimension

Width-to-height (W:H) ratio guidelines and edge-clearance specifications (fabric used normally or railroaded)

- **Shadebands up to 1:3 W:H ratio**, require the standard edge-clearance deduction except for 30in. (76cm) wide shadebands.
- **1:3 to 1:4 W:H ratios**, increase the hardware edge-clearance 1/16in. (1.6mm) each side to 1/8in. (3.2mm) additional deduction.
- **1:4 to 1:5 W:H ratios**, increase the hardware edge-clearance 1/8in. (3.2mm) each side to 1/4in. (6.4mm) additional deduction. Battens or optional guide cables are required.
- **1:5 to 1:6 W:H ratios**, increase the hardware edge-clearance 1/in. (6.4mm) each side to 1/2in. (12.8mm) additional deduction. Battens or optional guide cables are required.
- **Over 1:6 W:H ratios**, increase the hardware edge-clearance 5/16in. (8mm) each side to 5/8in. (16mm) additional deduction. Battens and guide cables are required.
- **Railroaded multi-width shades** with horizontal joints shall have seam joints.
- **Environmental conditions may require** additional use of guide cables and/or battens and increased edge clearance.

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