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Blackout curtains block sunlight from entering a room, creating a dark environment for sleeping. Available in different styles and colors, blackout curtains can be made from different materials and come in different sizes. Read through our list of recommendations below to help you find the best blackout curtains for your space.

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### **Best Overall**

### Nicetown Blackout Window Curtains »



#### PROS:

- Multiple options available
- ✓ 29 color choices
- ✓ Machine-washable

#### CONS:

- Only one hanging style option
- Some light still enters from top around the grommets

**Buy From Amazon** 

We chose the Nicetown Blackout Window Curtains as our overall best pick for several reasons. First, these blackout curtains are available in a wide assortment of sizes and color options, helping individuals find the right fit for their window size and room decor. In all, there are 34 sizes and 29 solid colors to choose from.

Niki Tashe, an interior and kitchen design specialist at Kitchen Renovation Singapore, highlighted this set as one of his top recommendations. He says that they offer "excellent light-blocking performance and a wide range of stylish designs." Tashe added, "The secret [to their light-blocking capabilities] is in their triple-weave technology and durable fabric, creating a perfect blend of functionality and aesthetics." Deirdre Mundorf, the author of this piece, has two sets of these curtains hanging in each of her daughters' bedrooms. She appreciates their overall ability to block light and create a dark sleeping environment but notes that some light is still able to filter in through the grommet holes – made by the rings inserted through the fabric – at the top of the curtains.

## **Specs**

**List Price:** Starting at \$29.95

Material: Polyester/polyester blend

**Dimensions:** 37 in. W x 63 in. L; 37 in. W x 84 in. L; 42 in. W x 45 in. L;

42 in. W x 54 in. L; 42 in. W x 63 in. L; 42 in. W x 72 in. L; 42 in. W x 80 in. L; 42 in. W x 84 in. L; 46 in. W x 54 in. L; 46 in. W x 72 in. L; 46 in. W x 90 in. L; 52 in. W x 45 in. L;

52 in. W x 54 in. L; 52 in. W x 63 in. L; 52 in. W x 72 in. L;

52 in. W x 84 in. L; 52 in. W x 90 in. L; 52 in. W x 95 in. L;

52 in. W x 108 in. L; 55 in. W x 57 in. L; 55 in. W x 68 in. L;

55 in. W x 78 in. L; 55 in. W x 86 in. L; 55 in. W x 96 in. L; 55 in. W x 102 in. L; 62 in. W x 63 in. L; 62 in. W x 72 in. L;

62 in. W x 84 in. L; 62 in. W x 95 in. L; 70 in. W x 63 in. L;

70 in. W x 72 in. L; 70 in. W x 84 in. L; 70 in. W x 95 in. L;

70 in. W x 108 in. L

Hanging Style: Grommet

**EXPAND LIST** 

Buy From Amazon »

### **Best Budget**

### Sun Zero Easton Curtains »



#### PROS:

- ✓ Inexpensive
- ✓ 19 color choices
- Can reduce energy loss by up to 25%

#### CONS:

- X Only includes one panel
- X Only one width available

**Buy From Amazon** 

If you want to keep expenses to a minimum, consider the Sun Zero Easton Curtains. While this option only comes with one panel (so you'll likely need to purchase at least two), it's the least expensive model on our list. Single panels start at just \$6.62 – prices vary based on color and size – so it's possible to get a set of two panels for just more than \$13.

In addition to blocking out sunlight to create a dark space for sleeping, these curtains are also designed to minimize energy loss by insulating the window. They can cut down on the loss of hot or cold air from a room by up to 25%. Additionally, their thicker design can also help with noise reduction. Choose from 19 different solid colors to customize the look of each room in your home.

## **Specs**

**List Price:** Starting at \$6.62

Material: Polyester

**Dimensions:** 40 in. W x 84 in. L; 40 in. W x 54 in. L; 40 in. W x 63 in. L;

40 in. W x 95 in. L; 40 in. W x 108 in. L; 40 in. W x 120 in.

L

Hanging Style: Grommet

**EXPAND LIST** ~

Buy From Amazon »

**Best for Nursery Rooms** 

# YoungsTex Blackout Curtains »



- Several size options
- ✓ Multiple colors available
- Machine-washable

#### CONS:

- Only solid colors are available (no patterns)
- Lighter colors don't block out as much light as darker options

**Buy From Amazon** 

Those setting up a nursery or a bedroom for a young child might want to take a look at the YoungsTex Blackout Curtains. With nearly 30 color options to choose from – including Baby Pink, Baby Blue, Light Sage, Aqua, and Pure White – chances are you can find the ideal color to coordinate with your nursery theme. There are also 15 different size options, helping to provide the right fit for a variety of window sizes.

These curtains are available starting at \$23.99 (for two panels), so they won't break the bank. They feature silver grommets for easy hanging with most curtain rods. While the curtains won't block out 100% of light, they can block between 80% and 95% of sunlight and ultraviolet (UV) rays from entering a room. Consider a darker color for better performance. In addition

to stopping much of the light from entering the space, they can reduce noise to help your little one sleep more soundly. When it's time to clean the curtains, you can do so easily in the washing machine.

## **Specs**

**List Price:** Starting at \$23.99

Material: Microfiber

**Dimensions:** 42 in. W x 45 in. L; 42 in. W x 54 in. L; 42 in. W x 63 in. L;

42 in. W x 72 in. L; 42 in. W x 87 in. L; 52 in. W x 63 in. L; 52 in. W x 84 in. L; 42 in. W x 40 in. L; 42 in. W x 48 in. L; 52 in. W x 45 in. L; 52 in. W x 54 in. L; 52 in. W x 72 in. L; 52 in. W x 95 in. L; 70 in. W x 63 in. L; 70 in. W x 84 in. L

Hanging Style: Grommet

**EXPAND LIST** 

Buy From Amazon »

**Best Portable** 

### Amazon Basics Portable Window Blackout Cur...



- Suitable for travel
- Installs quickly and easily
- Comes with bag for storage/transport

#### CONS:

- X Only comes in one size
- Cannot use with a curtain rod

**Buy From Amazon** 

If you travel and want to enjoy a dark environment in a hotel room or the guest bedroom of a friend or family member, consider the Amazon Basics Portable Window Blackout Curtains. Instead of hanging from a curtain rod like most other options, these blackout curtains are designed with suction cups, allowing for easy installation and removal even when no curtain rod is available. Simply clean the window glass and suction cups to ensure a good seal, and then you can have the curtains hung and ready to use within a few minutes.

While this product is only available in one size – 50 inches by 78 inches – you can customize the fit for windows with smaller dimensions with the integrated Velcro edges. Choose from five different color/pattern options

available as a one- or two-pack: Black, Beige, White, Dark Gray, and Moon and Stars. When needed, simply clean the curtains in the washing machine and hang them up to dry. Each purchase comes with a bag to keep the curtains clean for storage or transport.

## **Specs**

**List Price:** Starting at \$26.39

Material: Polyester

**Dimensions:** 50 in. W x 78 in. L

Hanging Style: Suction cups (mounted directly to window)

**EXPAND LIST** 

Buy From Amazon »

### **Best Thermal**

# Moondream Thermal Blackout Curtains »



- Metallic thread for thermal insulation
- Seven color choices
- Iron-on tape to adjust curtain length

#### CONS:

- X Only four size options
- X Dry-clean-only

**Buy From Amazon** 

The Moondream Thermal Blackout Curtains feature a two-layer design that works to insulate a room while also blocking out light. The construction integrates a metallic thread into the lining, which helps to keep cool air from penetrating the window during the winter months and hot air from seeping in during the summer months. These curtains can block between 75% and 85% of light from entering a space, providing a peaceful sleeping environment.

The curtain design features integrated 1.6-inch, rustproof grommets for easy hanging. Only four sizes are available, but iron-on tape is included with each purchase to let you customize the curtain length to match that of your window. Moondream offers these blackout curtains in seven solid colors to coordinate with a variety of spaces. When needed, the curtains should be dry-cleaned. They aren't machine-washable.

### **Specs**

List Price: Starting at \$59

Material: Polyester and aluminum

**Dimensions:** 55 in. W x 63 in. L; 55 in. W x 84 in. L; 55 in. W x 95 in. L;

55 in. W x 108 in. L

Hanging Style: Grommet

**EXPAND LIST** ~

Buy From Amazon »

### **Best for Night Workers**

# Pottery Barn Peace & Quiet Noise-Reducing Bl...



### PROS:

- Dense fibers filter sound
- Machine-washable
- Multiple hanging style options

#### CONS:

- Expensive
- Round rings and clip rings sold separately

**Buy From Pottery Barn** 

Those who work at night and want to be able to sleep during the day without disruptions should consider the Pottery Barn Peace & Quiet Noise-Reducing Blackout Curtains. These curtains (sold as individual panels so you'll need two) feature dense construction designed to block out light and darken a room. Despite their thick construction, the curtains look deceptively light and airy, allowing them to add to the visual aesthetics of a room.

In addition to the curtains' ability to darken a room, they can also help make the room quieter by filtering out noise from the outside. Moreover, the dense material helps to insulate the space and increase energy efficiency. The curtains offer three different hanging options. Use the integrated rod pocket or back tabs to hang them from the curtain rod. Alternatively, you can purchase round or clip rings separately and use them to hang the curtains.

## **Specs**

**List Price:** Starting at \$109

Material: Polyester

**Dimensions:** 50 in. W x 84 in. L; 50 in. W x 96 in. L; 50 in. W x 108 in. L

Hanging Style: Rod pocket, back tabs, or ring top (round rings and clip

rings sold separately)

**EXPAND LIST** 

Buy From Pottery Barn »

**Best for Design Options** 

### **Deconovo Blackout Curtains »**



- Several pattern and color options
- Available in a range of sizes
- Insulates against noise and heat

#### CONS:

- Only one hanging style option
- ★ Hand-washing is recommended

**Buy From Amazon** 

While many other blackout curtains only come in solid curtains, Deconovo offers a wide selection of different designs to help you add style and flair to any room in your home. In all, there are 21 different options, each featuring a silver or gold foil pattern over a solid color. There are a few pattern choices, including floral, geometric, and an abstract constellation design. The curtains are also sold in 14 different size options to provide a good fit for different windows.

These blackout curtains from Deconovo feature inset grommets for easy hanging over a curtain rod. In addition to their ability to block out light, they can also help with reducing noise from outside and balancing the

temperature in a room. When the curtains need to be cleaned, the manufacturer recommends hand-washing them rather than putting them in a washing machine.

## **Specs**

**List Price:** Starting at \$24.99

Material: Polyester

**Dimensions:** 42 in. W x 84 in. L; 42 in. W x 45 in. L; 42 in. W x 54 in. L;

42 in. W x 63 in. L; 42 in. W x 72 in. L; 42 in. W x 95 in. L; 42 in. W x 108 in. L; 52 in. W x 45 in. L; 52 in. W x 54 in. L; 52 in. W x 63 in. L; 52 in. W x 72 in. L; 52 in. W x 84 in. L;

52 in. W x 95 in. L; 52 in. W x 108 in. L

Hanging Style: Grommet

**EXPAND LIST** ~

Buy From Amazon »

### The Bottom Line

Blackout curtains can darken a room, creating an ideal environment for a restful night's sleep. The Nicetown Blackout Window Curtains are our best overall recommendation. These curtains are available in such a wide assortment of sizes and colors that nearly everyone should be able to find a suitable option for their space. They're machine-washable for easy cleaning and can also help with noise reduction and temperature regulation in a room. However, everyone has unique needs and preferences when it comes to blackout curtains. If the Nicetown Blackout Window Curtains don't feel like quite the right fit for you, one of the other options on our list might be the right choice for your needs.

## Things To Consider When Buying Blackout Curtains

**Material:** Niki Tashe, interior and kitchen specialist at Kitchen Renovation Singapore, says, "When on the lookout for blackout curtains, focus on fabric thickness and texture to ensure optimal light-blocking capabilities." Polyester is one of the most popular materials for blackout curtains. Tightly woven polyester linings are effective at blocking out sunlight and UV rays. However, these fabrics may make the curtains feel stiffer or heavier than you're used to.

Many blackout curtains are made exclusively of polyester or polyester blends, but some may have just a polyester blackout lining with another material making up the front layer of the drapes. For example, you can find some with a linen, cotton, or velvet front panel. Other blackout curtains may be made of microfiber instead of polyester. Some thermal-lined blackout curtains designed to prevent the loss of warm or cool air have flannel layers. However, models with such a design aren't likely to block as much light from a space as those with a tightly woven polyester backing.

**Size:** When shopping for blackout curtains, it's important to choose ones that are appropriately sized for your window. Dawn Frattarelli, a certified interior decorator with Interiors by Dawn, says, "Measure your windows accurately to determine the size of curtains you need."

As you shop, you'll notice that some products are only available in three or four size options, while others offer a much more extensive list of sizes. The specific size of your window can help guide you toward purchasing a pair that will offer a good fit. Frattarelli offers the reminder that "Ideally, the curtains should be wider and longer than the window to ensure full coverage and maximum light blocking." Aim to have the curtains extend 8 to 10 inches beyond each end of the window to block the most light as possible. If in doubt, err on the side of choosing curtains that are longer or wider than you need. You could have them altered for a better fit, but you won't be able to make something that's too small work. Some products may also allow for some adjustability with Velcro tabs or iron-on tape, but these will require more work on your part to ensure an ideal fit.

**Hanging Style:** Tashe of Kitchen Renovation Singapore shares, "The hanging style is crucial; opt for floor-length curtains with proper seals to prevent any light leakage at the edges." There are a few different hanging styles that you may see when shopping for blackout curtains:

- **Rod Pocket:** An opening is sewn across the entire top of these curtains to encase the curtain rod. If choosing curtains with this style, be sure to verify that your curtain rod will fit in the opening.
- **Grommets:** Rings are inset along the top of these curtains. The curtain rod slides through the rings. Depending on the placement of the curtain rod, these options may allow some light to filter into the space.
- **Fabric Loops:** Loops are sewn across the top of each curtain panel to hold the curtain rod. Depending on how large the loops are and how the curtain rod is placed, it may also be possible for some light to come in through the openings.
- **Back Tabs:** These curtains have hidden tabs along their back. The rod slides through these loops. Since the loops are concealed by the front of the curtain, they can portray a more tailored appearance.
- Rings or Clips: Some products have rings or clips connected to the top of the
  fabric. These rings can slide over the rod. However, because the curtain will be
  hanging a bit below the rings, it may be more likely that light will be able to get into
  the space.

Some curtains offer multiple hanging options. They may have an integrated rod and pocket design but also allow for rings or clips to be added if desired.

**Design:** Frattarelli shares that it's important to "consider the overall aesthetic of your room and choose curtains that complement your decor." Many manufacturers offer blackout curtains in a range of colors, and some also offer different patterns. Beyond the color of the curtain, you can also consider how different materials for the front panel – such as polyester, velvet, or linen – will enhance the overall look of your space. The hanging style and curtain length can also play an important role in determining the impact each pair of curtains will have on the look and feel of your space.

**Care:** As you're comparing different blackout curtains, take note of the manufacturer's recommendations for cleaning them. Frattarelli points out, "Some

blackout curtains may require special cleaning methods or may not be suitable for machine-washing." Consider which cleaning methods align with the amount of time (and money) you have to dedicate to your curtains. Hand-washing curtains or bringing them to the dry cleaner can be time-consuming and/or expensive, so you'll want to keep that in mind before buying a set that isn't machine-washable. Frattarelli recommends choosing "curtains that are easy to maintain and clean, especially if you have pets or children."

**Special Features:** As you're shopping, you'll also want to consider whether or not you're looking for any additional features in the blackout curtains you purchase. Two common features include thermal insulation and noise reduction. Blackout curtains that are also designed to insulate a room typically feature a thicker three-layer design that will work to prevent loss of heat during the winter and cool air during the summer.

Some blackout curtains are also designed to help block noise from outside entering the space. Just as three-layer curtains are more likely to offer better insulation, they're also more likely to do a better job absorbing noise to provide a quieter environment. If you live near a busy street, then noise reduction may be something you want to prioritize in your search.

### How We Chose the Best Blackout Curtains

To help us select the best blackout curtains, we reached out to Dawn Frattarelli, a certified interior decorator with Interiors by Dawn, and Niki Tashe, an interior and design specialist at Kitchen Renovation Singapore. Our selection process also included consulting feedback from professional reviewers and evaluating product ratings from customers. We further narrowed down the list of product recommendations by choosing options to fit different budgets, designs, and light-blocking needs and preferences.

#### WHY SHOULD YOU TRUST US?

Our contributors and editors have years of experience researching, testing, and reviewing products. Deirdre Mundorf, the author of this piece, has been writing in the

home goods niche for five years. You can find her work featured on sites such as Bob Vila, USA Today, and House Digest.

### **FAQ**

How do blackout curtains work?	+
How much sunlight do blackout curtains block?	+
Can blackout curtains help reduce noise?	+

### **About Our Team**



**Deirdre Mundorf** 

Contributor



Mundorf is a freelance writer who specializes in home goods, family, and pet content. She has more than three years of experience as a professional writer and her work has been featured in Bob Vila, Discover Magazine, and House Digest. Prior to her freelancing career, Mundorf was an elementary school teacher for more than a decade.

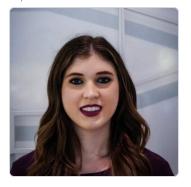
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## Marlo Jappen Porto

**Former Editor** 



Marlo Jappen Porto is a former editor for U.S. News 360 Reviews, focusing on home goods. Prior to joining the team,



she was a researcher at NBCUniversal, where she gathered compelling and relevant archival content for live broadcasts. In addition, she has spent years working as an editor and community journalist.

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