

## HOW TO MEASURE - INSIDE MOUNT SHUTTERS



A simple measuring guide from **The Shutter Store**

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## What's an inside mount?

Inside mount refers to the mounting of a shutter inside a window opening. Inside mount shutters can be installed at the front of the recess allowing the panels to open up 180 degrees or alternatively, the shutter can be installed tight up to the glass of the window.

## What you'll need to measure...

- A metal tape measure
- A pen and paper
- A spirit level is also a good idea to have on hand

## Now lets measure inside the recess...

- **Width:** Measure inside the opening in 3 different spots (bottom, center, top) and select the **exact smallest**; that is the dimension you input in our system.
- **Height:** Measure inside the opening in 3 different spots (left, center, right) and select the exact smallest; that is the dimension you input in our system.
- Do not round your dimensions
- We can take measurements up to a 1/16"

...and that's it!

## It's a good idea to...

Measure, note your sizes, take a break and come back after to do a double check.

*Lets take a look at the next page for visual aid on how to measure your windows*

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## Measuring your windows...

For all inside mounts, measuring is the same. Measure inside the opening, in three spots for the width and the height and give us the exact smallest dimensions to the nearest 1/16." The illustration below summarizes this principle.

## If you are ordering...

- **Café Style (Covers bottom of window opening)**

Measure the height from the bottom up to the height you want your shutters. That is the height you provide us.

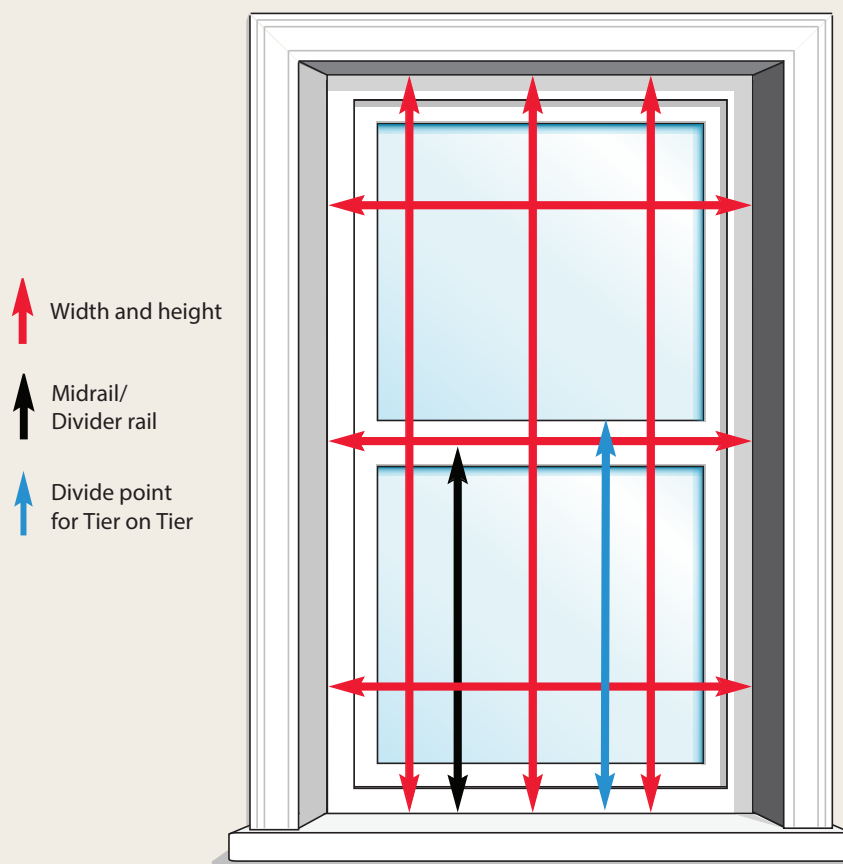
- **Tier on Tier Style (Covers entire window opening but has top and bottom panels)**

Measure the split height from the bottom of the opening up to where you want the bottom tier panels to end.

- **Midrail/Divider rail**

Measure from the bottom of the opening to where you want the center of the divider rail to be.

The center portion of the divider rail will be at or near that dimension that you provide us.



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## What is a shutter frame and why should you consider it?

A **shutter frame** acts as a buffer between the shutter panels and the window opening and it holds the panels in place. The frame is screwed inside of the window opening. Once the frame is secured into place by screws, the panels are installed into the frame.

Many windows are out of square. This means they are not a perfect square or rectangle. A frame is helpful in this situation as it creates a perfect shape within which to house the panels.

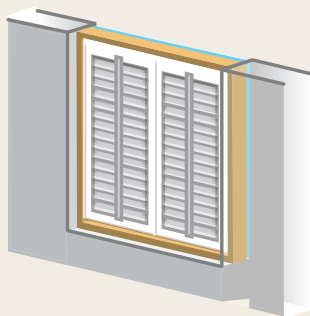
Ordering with a frame will make installation much easier.

There are different shutter frames to choose from. Whichever shutter range you order, we have a frame option to suit your window type.

## Frame sides...

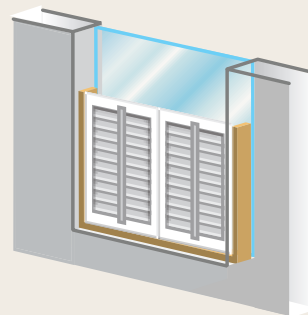
You can choose the number of frame sides you desire. This means that you can have a frame on all 4 sides (left, right, top and bottom), 3 sides or 2 sides only (left and right). As a rule of thumb, we recommend more sides versus less. A 4-sided frame makes installation easy, results in a great finished installation, and provides support to the panels.

Below are diagrams that illustrate the number of frame sides we suggest you order based on the style of shutter.



**Full height shutters**  
**Full height with divider rail**  
**Tier on tier shutters**

*Fitted within a 4 sided frame*



**Café style shutters**

*Fitted within a 3 sided frame*  
*No top frame*

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## What frames are available for Inside Mounts?

We have two types of frames to choose from. We call them **L Frames** and **Z frames**.

To ensure that we provide you with plenty of design options we offer different varieties of the L frame and Z frame. The type of L frame or Z frame you choose comes down to what the window opening can accommodate and the best style for your home décor.

## Below are some frequently asked questions...

### Should I measure differently for an L frame vs. a Z frame?

No. You still measure as instructed in pages 1-2 of this guide. All we need is the exact smallest width and height of the window opening - that's it.

### Should I round my dimensions?

Do not round. Simply provide us with the exact smallest dimensions to the nearest 1/16."

### Should I leave myself a little room in my dimensions?

No. Provide us with the exact smallest dimensions. During the confirmation call we will discuss making a slight deduction to your dimensions for easier installation.

### After order placement is my order automatically placed into production?

No. We will call you to verbally confirm all order details prior to placing your order into production. We leave nothing to chance. Our normal calling period is within 24 to 48 hours after you place your order online.

### How do I measure for panels only to be used for cabinet doors?

You will need to provide us with the finished dimensions at which you need the panel to be. Just keep in mind that you must order per opening. In other words, if you need a total of 2 panels each with a width of 21", you need to place an order for two sets of shutters and request each have a width of 21". If you have any questions on this please give us a call.

*Now that you know the basics, let's explore what frame best suits you.*

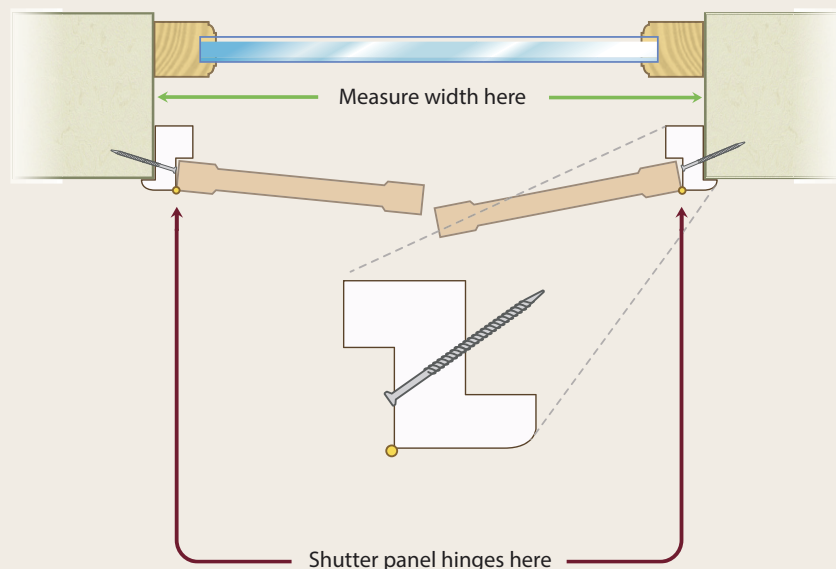
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## Z Frames

- Great for openings with no molding or trim already around the window
- Ideal if windows are out of square as the 'lip' of the frame (the decorative part outside the recess) can cover up any gap or drywall unevenness.
- Great to use if you have bullnose stucco. If you are covering bullnose corners please make us aware during confirmation call
- For this frame you must make sure you have enough recess depth to accommodate the slat size (more on this shortly)
- If you have windows that tilt inward for cleaning please contact us.

The illustration below is a birds eye view of how a Z frame sits in an opening.



The Z frame must sit at the front of the recess of the opening. Never worry about including the overhang "lip" of the frame in your dimensions. Simply measure the width and height inside the recess as per the illustration.

*Towards the end of this guide, you will find frame templates. As you will notice, all Z frames have their lip filled in. This is to help you identify the part of the frame that will rest on the surrounding walls.*

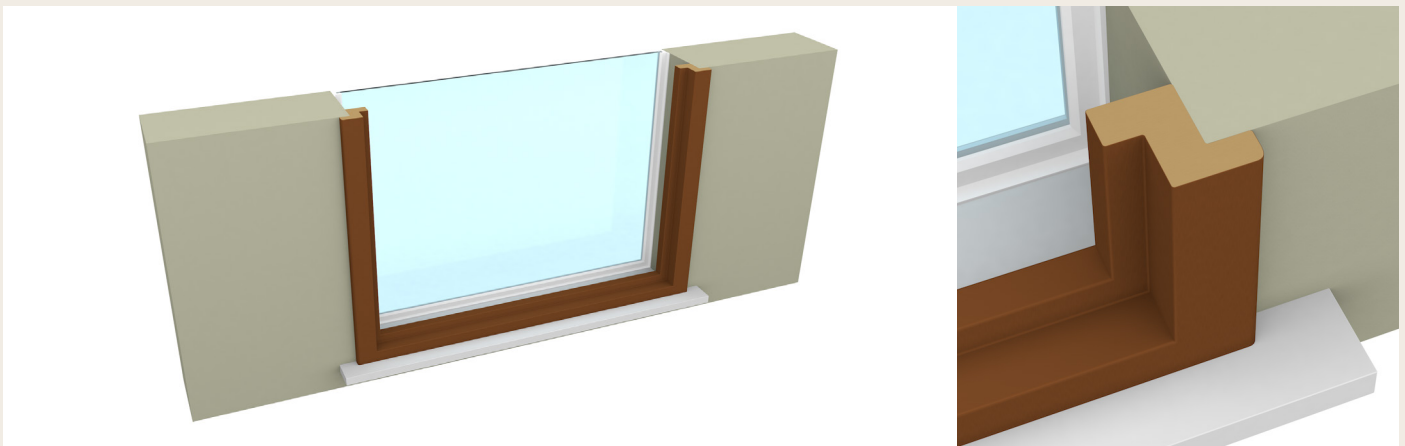
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## Sill cut for Z frames...

If you are ordering a bottom frame and have a protruding window sill, you must request what is called a sill cut. A sill cut is the removal of the overhang lip on one or more frame sides. This option is available for all ranges and it is important for you to request during your confirmation call.

Below is a diagram showing a 3-sided Z frame installed with the overhang lip removed from the bottom frame. The left and right frame sides retain the overhang lip.



View from afar

Close up view

*Lets now take a look at L Frames...*

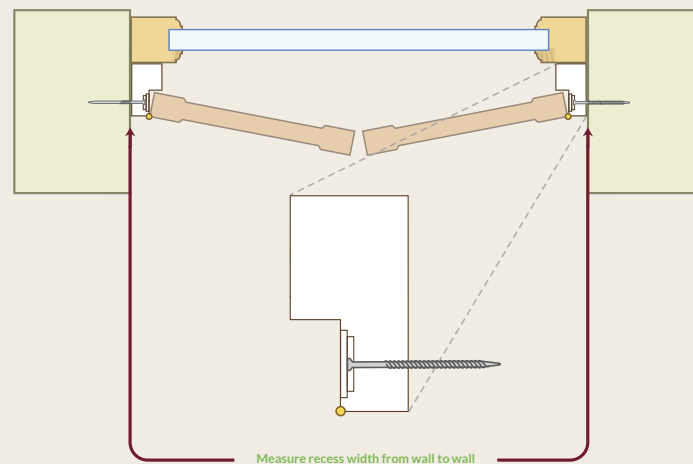
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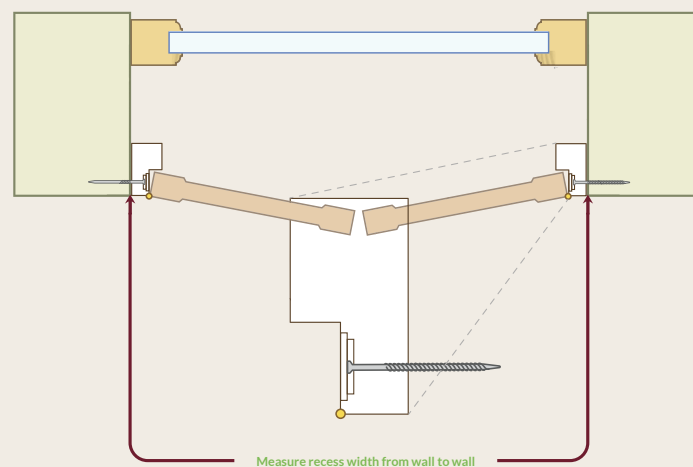
## L Frames

- Great to use for windows with existing molding/trim
- Can be installed into an opening in two ways
  - Option #1  
Tight to the window / glass
  - Option #2  
Front of recess
- This frame can help create more depth to accommodate the slat size you have chosen (more on this shortly)
- If you have windows that tilt inward for cleaning please contact us.

Option 1



Option 2



*Let's move on together to the next page and discuss the importance of recess depth*

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## What is recess depth?

It is the amount of space, from the window itself to the front of opening.

## How do I measure for the recess depth?

This is measured from the edge of your wall back against the first obstruction. An obstruction can include the window framing, a crank handle or other items such as an alarm sensor.

## Why is this important?

The shutter slat needs space to tilt (open and close) and avoid hitting anything. Each slat size has a specific recess depth requirement. Anything less can result in the slats not being fully operational as a result of them hitting an obstruction.

## Recess depth requirements...

Below are the most popular slat sizes and the amount of recess depth required...

Slat Size	Recess Depth Needed
2 ½"	1 7/8"
3 ½"	2 3/8"
4 ½"	3"

If you are set on a specific slat size and you do not have enough recess depth, not to worry! We have a solution to help.

You will just need to order an L frame. L frames come in different sizes and can create the depth needed to accommodate your chosen slat size.

Always keep in mind that our representatives will be happy to help guide you on this choice too. Just email us a photo of your window and we will tell you the best frame for your desired design.

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## Frame Templates

The following pages provide you with frame options broken down by range. Please be sure to look at the frames offered for the specific range you have selected. If in doubt, do not hesitate to give us a call. We are here for you.

It is recommended the frame templates be printed off (to scale) and placed on the window you are ordering for, to help you measure accurately.

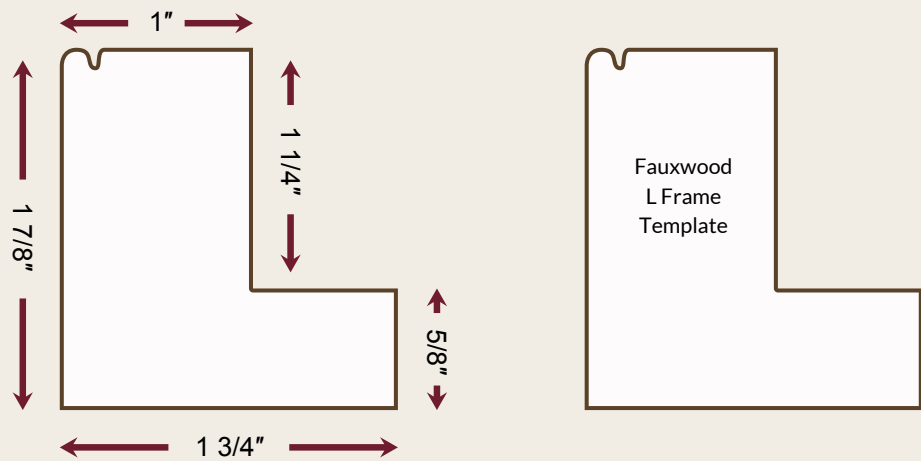
The templates can also help you visualize how your shutters will be installed but are not mandatory for measuring purposes.

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Affordable Fauxwood Frame Options

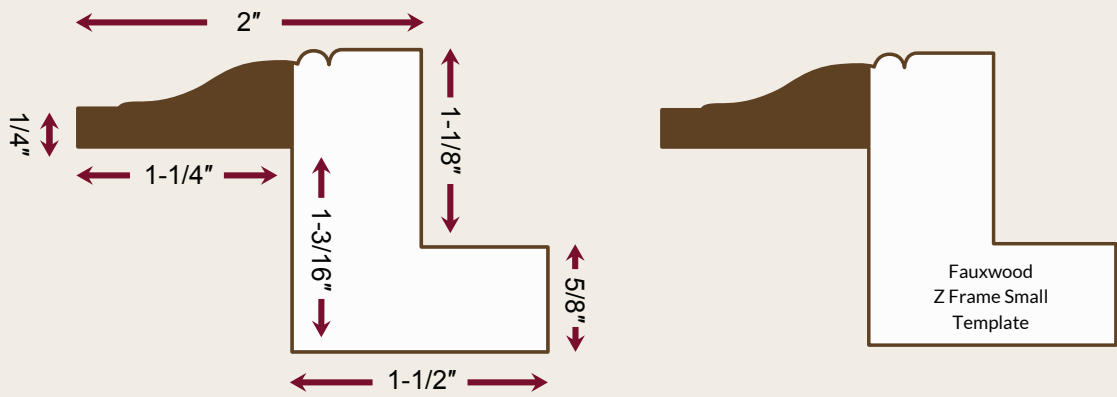
L Frame



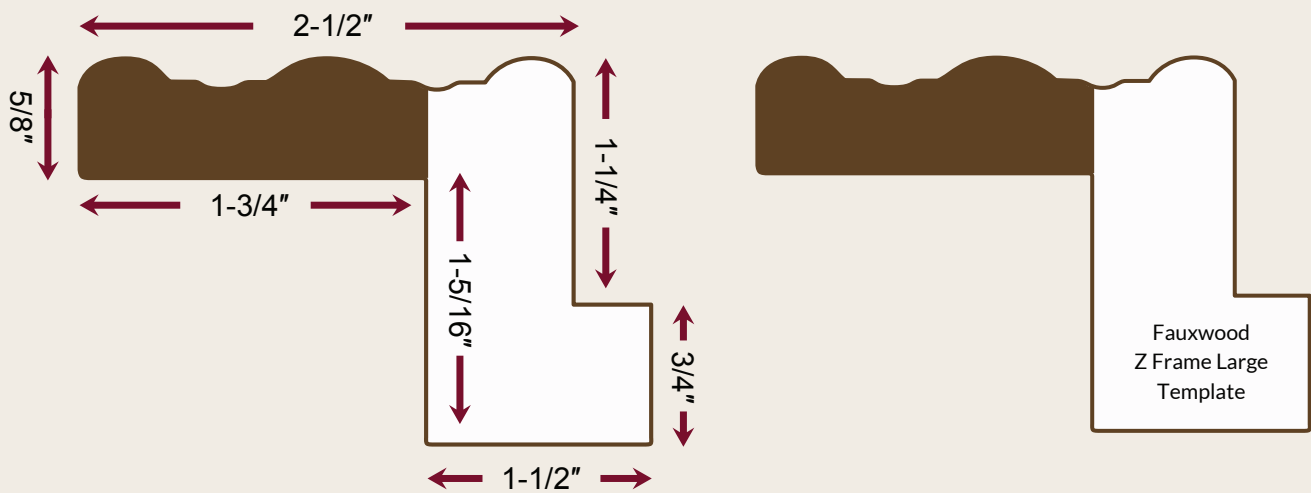
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Affordable Fauxwood Frame Options

Z Frame Small



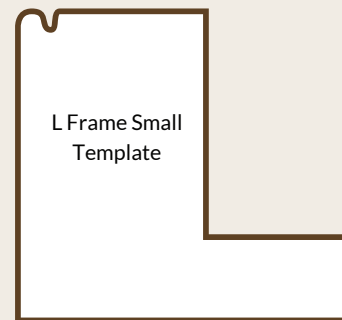
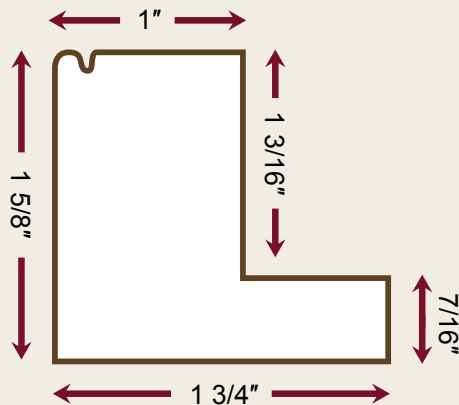
Z Frame Large



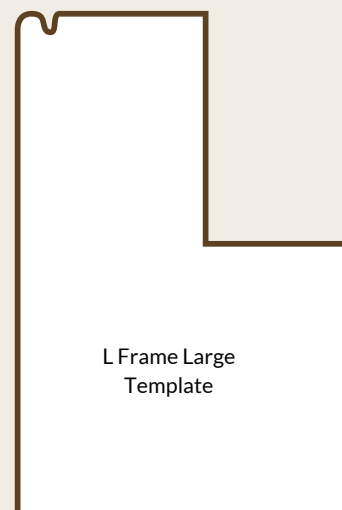
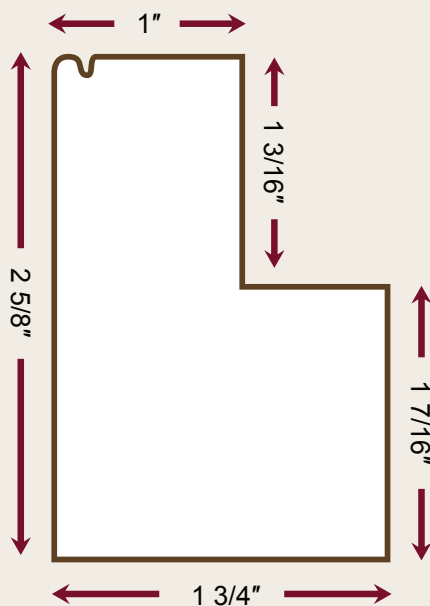
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## Classic Poplar / Premium Elm / Designer Range Frame Options

L Frame Small



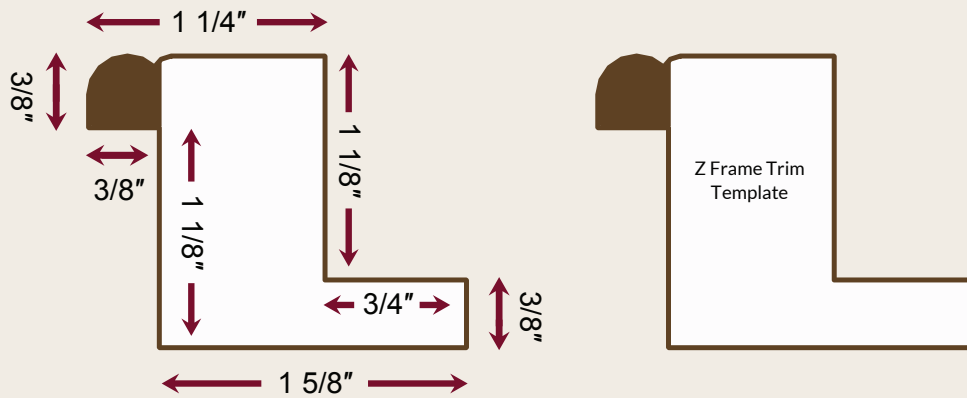
L Frame Large



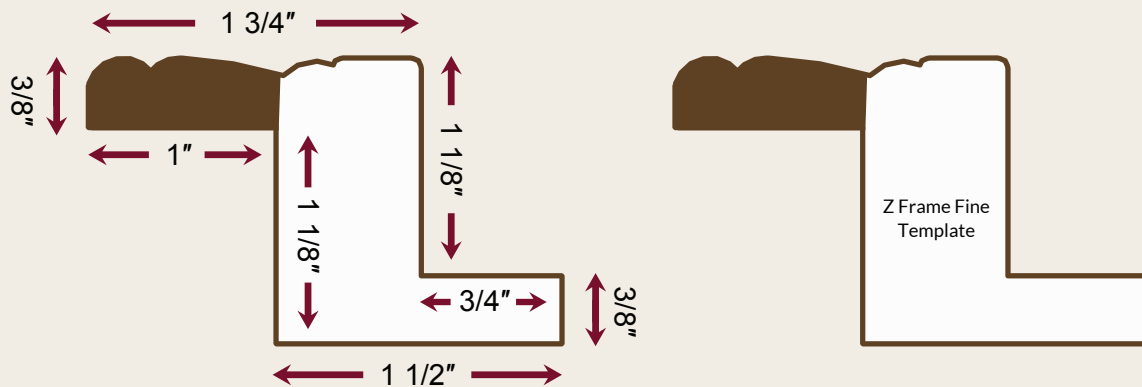
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## Classic Poplar / Premium Elm / Designer Range Frame Options

Z Frame Trim

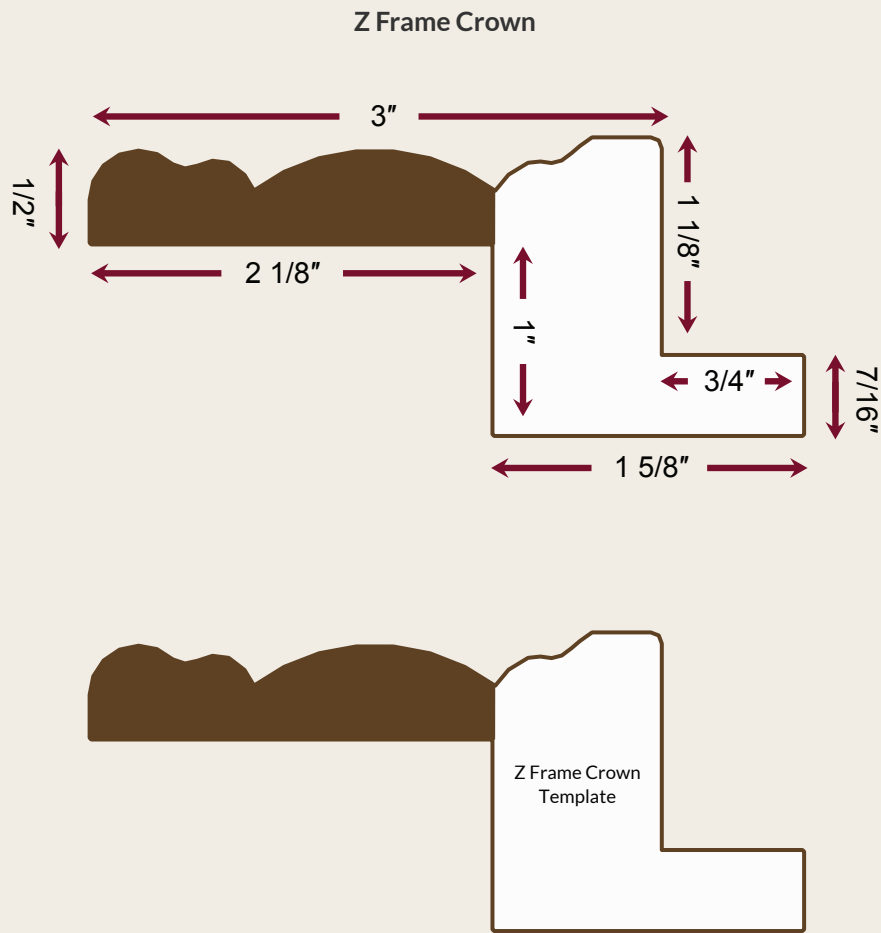


Z Frame Fine



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Classic Poplar / Premium Elm / Designer Range Frame Options

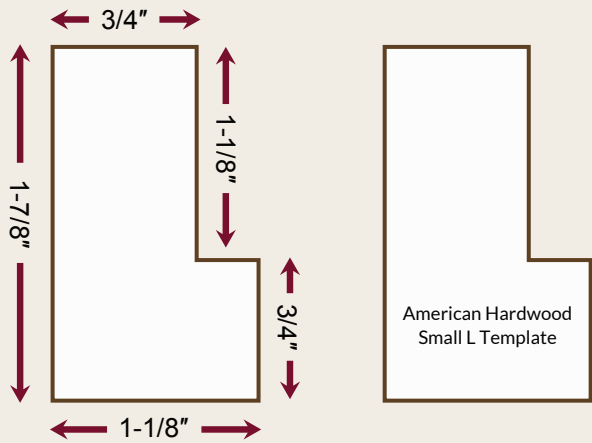


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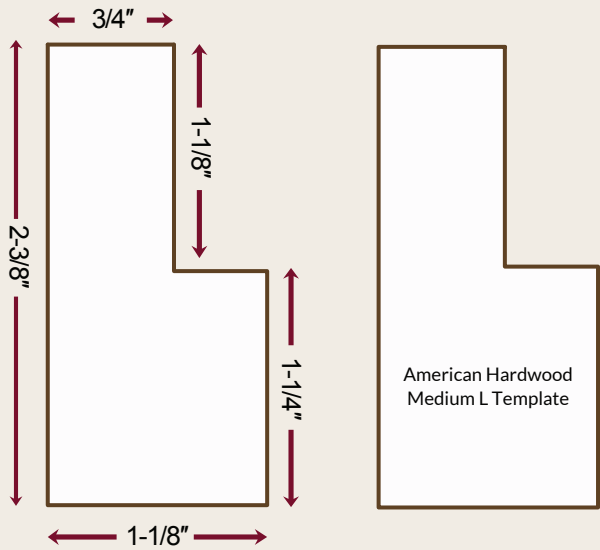


American Hardwood and Express American Hardwood Frame Options

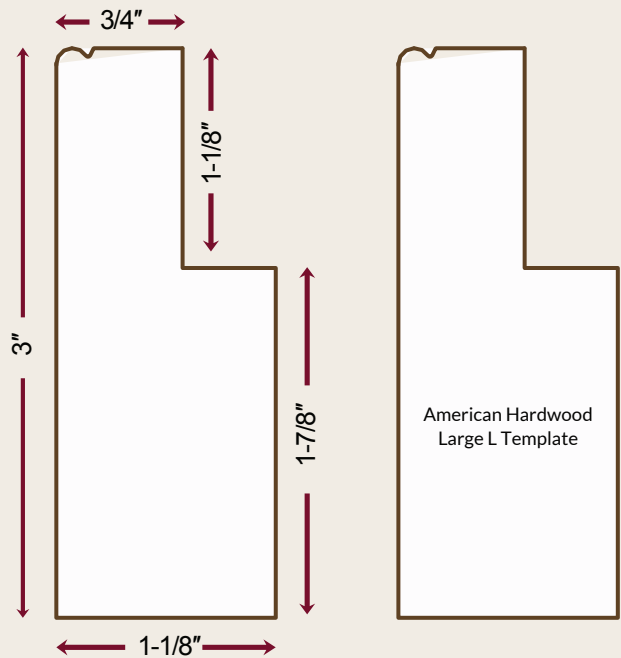
Small L Frame



Medium L Frame



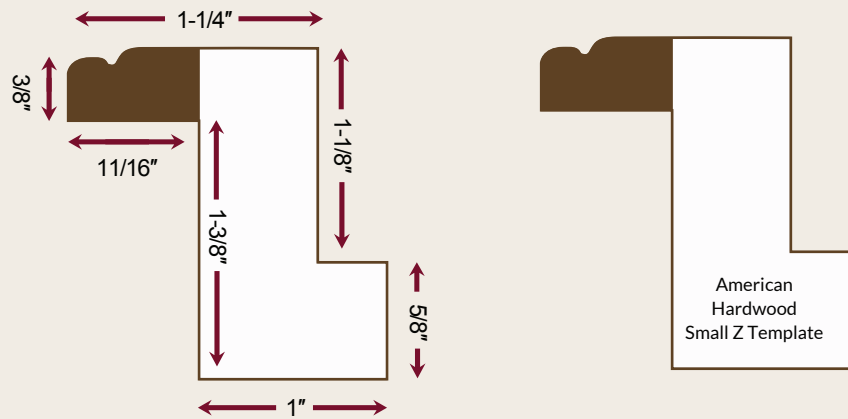
Large L Frame



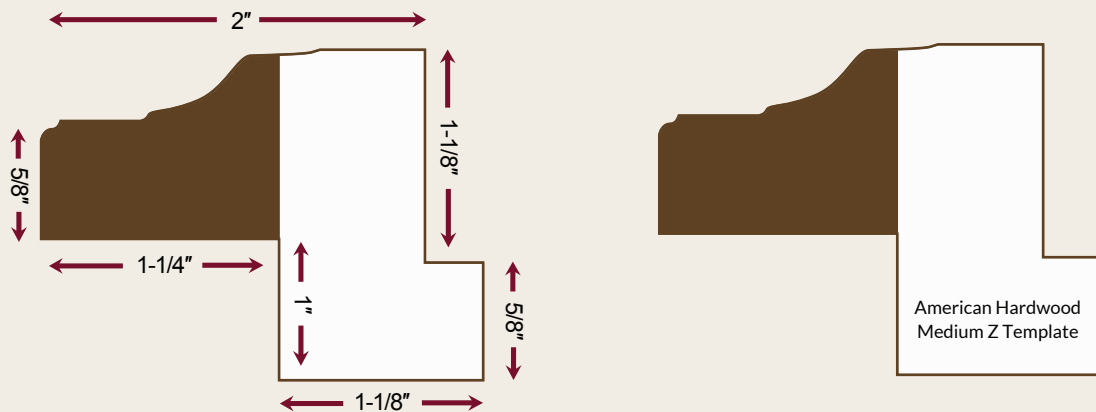
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## American Hardwood and Express American Hardwood Frame Options

### Small Z Frame



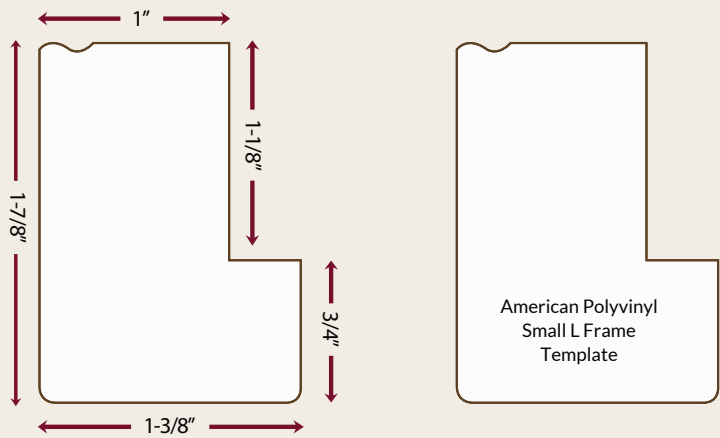
### Medium Z Frame



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American Polyvinyl and Express American Polyvinyl Frame Options

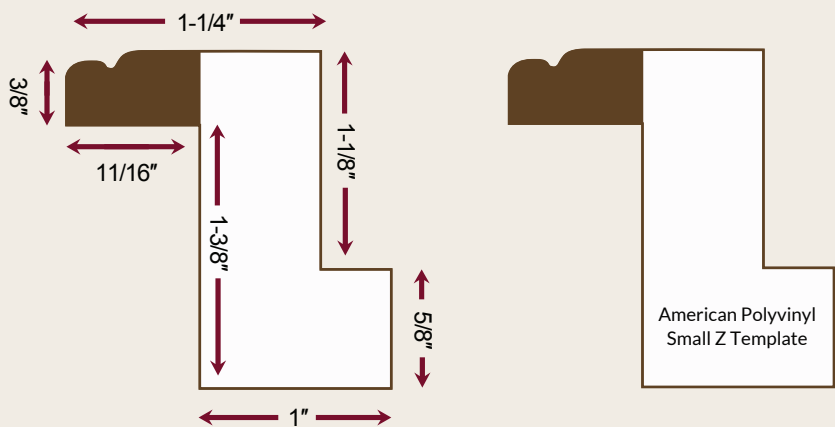
Small L Frame



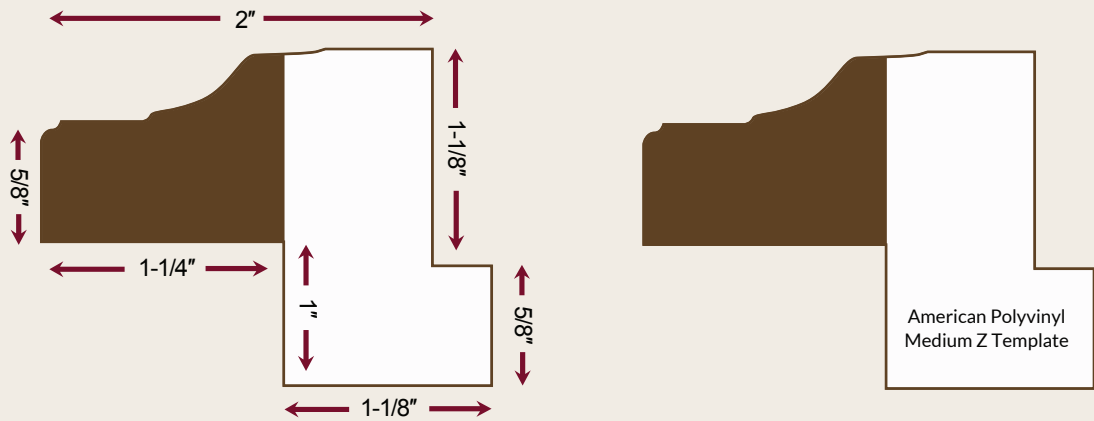
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American Polyvinyl and Express American Polyvinyl Frame Options

Small Z Frame



Medium Z Frame

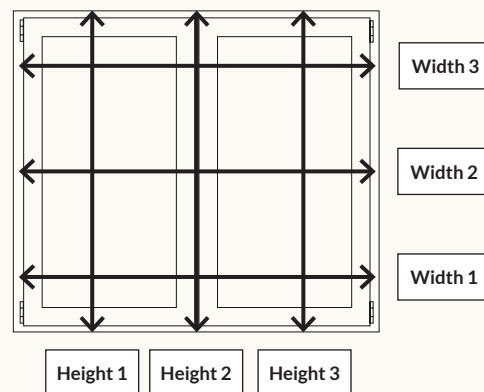


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## How to measure your windows

1. Measure three widths and three heights as shown in the example diagram
2. Give the Biggest size for outside mount
3. Give smallest size for inside mount

Example of where to measure your windows



Draw your windows and sizes here



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