

Window Shutters



Building shutters to fit the windows in your home requires only a few simple changes to the design presented in the article in issue No. 151.

SIZE THE SHUTTERS. The first task is to size the shutters to fit your window. As you can see in the photo at right, I built a pair of shutters to cover the lower half of a double-hung window. This arrangement provides privacy. A second pair above would allow you to completely block out bright sunlight.

To determine the width of each shutter, take half the width of the window frame and subtract the width of the hanging strip and hinge used to attach the shutter.

SHUTTING OUT THE LIGHT. To effectively block out the sunlight, these

shutters are designed to close fully in only one direction (detail 'a'). When the control bar is up, the top and bottom louvers fit snugly into rabbets cut into opposite sides of the upper and lower rails. The upward angle of the louvers won't allow the sunlight to pass through.

MINOR CHANGES. Although the overall anatomy and joinery of these window shutters is very similar to those in the article (Building Louvered Shutters), there are a few differences. The first has been mentioned. The rabbet in the upper rail is on the inside of the shutter.

Second, since the shutters need to be self supporting, the frame parts are a bit thicker and wider. The 1"-thick stiles have a bead on both sides of the inside edge that stands proud of the 3/4"-thick rails. Finally, the louvers are wider (2 1/4") to match the stouter frame.

