FREE GUIDE

How to Fit and Remove Perfect Fit Roller Blinds

A step-by-step guide to fitting Perfect Fit roller blinds on uPVC windows with no drilling, fitting the chain tidy safely and taking the blind off again.

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In this guide

Before you start	2
What is in the box	2
Tools you need	3
Checks before fitting	3
Fitting the brackets	4
Clipping the frame on	5
The chain or side control, and fitting the chain tidy	5
Testing the blind	6
Removing the blind	6
Common problems and fixes	7
References	8

Before you start

A Perfect Fit roller blind sits in a slim frame that clips onto small brackets pushed into the rubber seal around the glass. Nothing is screwed into the window, and the blind moves with the sash. This is the method we use for the blinds we make in our Rainham workshop. Keep your blind's own instructions to hand, because bracket positions and chain tidy types vary between systems.

What is in the box

Each blind is made for one pane of glass, so check the label against the pane before you open anything. A typical box holds:

1. The blind, already built into its frame with the roller fitted.
2. A set of brackets, normally one for each corner, plus extra brackets along the sides on taller or wider blinds.
3. A fitting card, which sets how far each bracket sits from the corner. Some cards have one edge for the bottom brackets and a different edge for the top ones.
4. A chain tidy, if the blind is chain operated, with adhesive pads or screws to fix it.
5. A cleaning wipe for the frame where the chain tidy will stick.

> TIP
> Open one box at a time and fit that blind before moving on. Sashes and fixed panes on the same window are often different sizes.

Tools you need

You need very little:

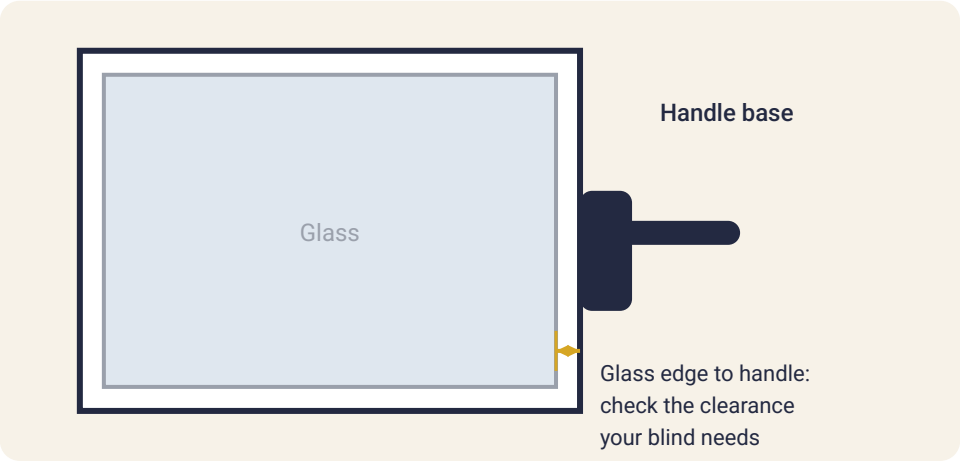
1. A little washing-up liquid, to help the brackets slide in.
2. A clean, dry cloth.
3. A step or small ladder for the top corners of tall windows and doors.
4. A small screwdriver, only if your chain tidy is a screw-fix type.

You do not need a drill or a spirit level for the window itself. The frame lines itself up with the glass once the brackets are in the right place.

Checks before fitting

A few quick checks now save a lot of frustration later.

1. Find the rubber seal. Run a finger round the edge of the glass on the room side and feel for the rubber gasket where the bead meets the glass. Without it the blind cannot be fitted.
2. Check the bead depth. Lay a bank card across the corner so it bridges the bead, and measure from the glass to the card. This decides the bracket size, and common depths are 18 mm, 20 mm and 24 mm. If it differs from the depth on your order, call us before fitting.
3. Check the space around the bead. The frame needs a flat strip of window frame all round the outside of the beading to sit on. Check your blind's own instructions for the space it needs.
4. Check the handle clearance. Measure from the edge of the glass across the frame to the nearest edge of the handle base. Each system sets its own minimum gap between the glass edge and any obstruction such as a handle, so check your blind's own instructions. Do the same check for trickle vents and restrictor catches.
5. Clean the corners. Wipe the glass right up to the seal, especially in the corners. Dust or old sealant can stop a bracket going in fully.



Measure from the glass edge to the nearest edge of the handle base

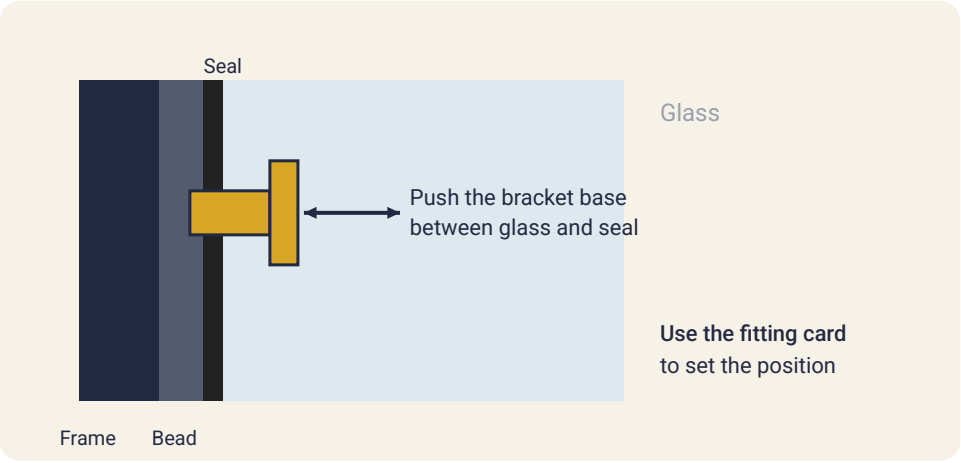
SAFETY

If a seal feels soft, split or loose, do not force a bracket into it. A perished seal will not hold the blind securely and needs a window repairer first.

Fitting the brackets

Take your time here, because the bracket positions decide whether the frame lines up.

1. Start at a bottom corner. Hold the fitting card flat against the glass and tuck it into the corner, using the edge marked for bottom brackets if your card has two.
2. Put a small dab of washing-up liquid on the base of the bracket.
3. Line the bracket up with the edge of the card and push its base in between the glass and the rubber seal until it sits firmly. Give it a gentle wiggle. It should not move.
4. Repeat at the other bottom corner.
5. Fit the two top corners the same way, using the top edge of the card.
6. Fit any extra side brackets, spaced evenly along the long sides.
7. Wipe away any spare washing-up liquid from the glass and seal before you fit the frame.



The bracket base slides between the glass and the rubber seal, set by the fitting card

> TIP
>
> On a very tight seal, ease the bracket in with a slight rocking motion rather than pushing it straight in hard.

Clipping the frame on

1. Hold the blind with the fabric fully rolled up and the chain, if there is one, on the side you want it.
2. Line up the holes or slots in the frame with the brackets.
3. Press the frame firmly onto the brackets one side at a time until each one clicks.
4. Run your hand round the frame. It should sit flat on all four sides with no rocking.

If a corner will not click in, take the frame off, push that bracket home and try again. Never force the frame, because a twisted frame makes the fabric roll unevenly.

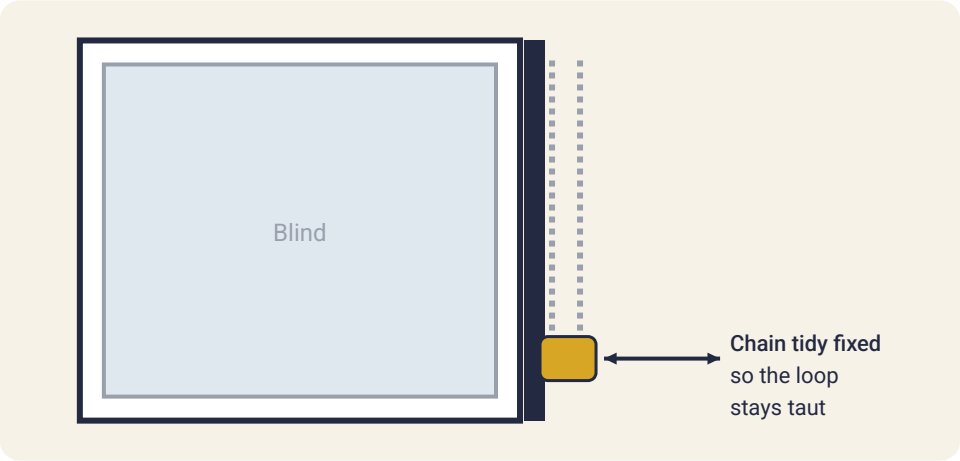
The chain or side control, and fitting the chain tidy

If your blind has a looped chain, the chain must be held taut by its chain tidy before anyone uses the blind. This is a child safety device, not an extra.

1. Clean the part of the frame where the tidy will go with the wipe provided, and let it dry completely.
2. If your tidy is a stick-on type, fix the adhesive pads to its underside.
3. Make sure the chain runs through the corner cover of the frame.
4. Pull the chain taut with the tidy attached, then press the tidy firmly onto the frame.
5. If your tidy is a screw-fix type, fix it to an adjacent surface so the chain stays permanently taut [1].

On some systems a longer chain loop must use the screw-fix tidy rather than the stick-on one. Loop

lengths and tidy types vary by product, so check your blind's own instructions and always fit the type supplied.



The chain tidy holds the loop taut against the frame

SAFETY

Looped blind cords and chains can be dangerous for young children [1]. Keep any chain out of reach of babies and young children [3], and keep cots, beds, high chairs and play pens away from blinds [1].

SAFETY

When a professional installs a blind, they must fit the safety devices and show you how to use them [2]. If you fit a blind yourself, read the instructions and fit every safety device supplied [2].

A spring operated blind has no chain at all, which is why many families choose one for a child's bedroom.

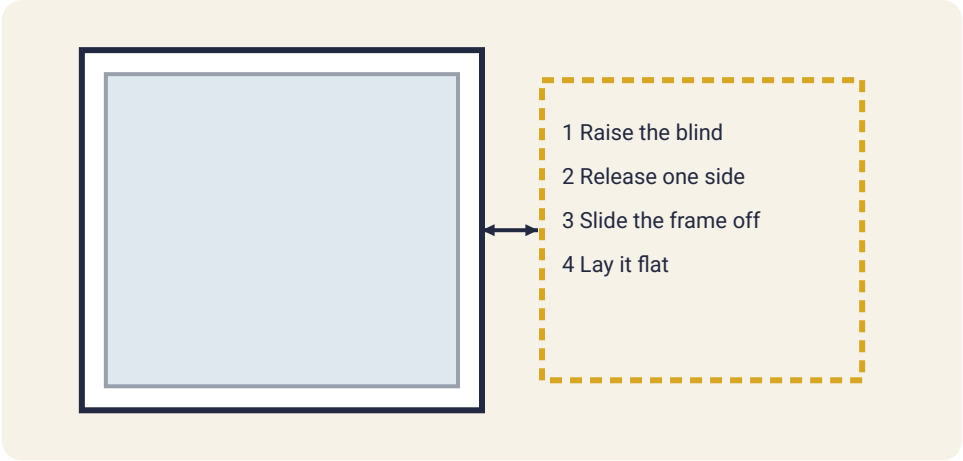
Testing the blind

1. Run the blind all the way down and back up a few times. It should roll straight and sit square at the top.
2. On a chain blind, pull the chain gently. The blind should hold at any height. If the chain feels slack, the tidy is set too high or is not fixed firmly.
3. On a spring blind, pull the bar to the full drop and let it rise. It should return steadily to the top.
4. Open the window fully. On a tilt and turn window, try both positions. The blind should move with the sash and not catch on the handle, the reveal or the next sash.

Removing the blind

1. Raise the blind fully to the top first.

2. On some systems, you press a release button on each bracket and slide that side of the frame out, one side at a time. On others, the frame comes off with a firm, even pull. Check your blind's own instructions.
3. Lay the blind flat on a clean surface so the fabric does not pick up dirt.
4. To take the brackets out, ease each one gently back out of the seal. Do not lever it, or you may tear the rubber.



Raise the blind, release one side, then slide the frame off

TIP

Label each blind with its room and pane as you take it down. It makes refitting quick.

Common problems and fixes

The blind will not sit flat. One bracket is usually not pushed fully into the seal or is off its card position. Take the frame off, check each bracket and refit. If it still rocks, look for a handle, vent, restrictor or old sticker near the glass edge.

The frame rubs or hits the handle. The handle is inside the clearance zone. A handle spacer, which lifts the handle off the frame, or a slimline handle usually solves it. Measure the clearance and call us before changing anything.

The chain is slack. The chain tidy has worked loose or was fixed too high. Clean the frame, refix the tidy with the chain pulled taut, and check that you have the right tidy type for your chain length.

The fabric rolls off to one side. Check the frame is clipped in on every bracket, because a twisted frame pulls the fabric off line.

The blind is the wrong size for the glass. It has probably gone on the wrong pane. Check the label against your measurements.

The blind drops or will not go back up. A spring blind has usually lost tension, which can often be fixed by rolling the fabric up by hand off its brackets and refitting it. Our guide How to Retension a Perfect Fit Roller

Blind has the full method. A chain blind that slips with the chain taut probably has a worn clutch.

SAFETY

Never pull the spring unit out of the roller tube while it is under tension. A wound spring can unwind suddenly.

NEED A HAND?

Book a free measuring visit

We measure at your home for free, make your blinds in our Rainham workshop and fit them across East London and Essex. Your written quote is emailed or phoned through after the visit.

Book online: homedecisions.co.uk

Call 01708 505379

HomeDecisions Blinds & Curtains, C3, Star Business Centre, Fair View Industrial Estate, Marsh Wy, Rainham RM13 8UP. Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

References

1. Child safety: blind cords. Office for Product Safety and Standards (GOV.UK). https://www.gov.uk/guidance/child-safety-blind-cords

2. New Blinds. Make it Safe (British Blind and Shutter Association). https://www.makeitsafe.org.uk/householders-landlords/new-blinds/

3. BBSA supports Child Safety Week to raise awareness of window blind safety. British Blind and Shutter Association. https://bbsa.org.uk/?p=13768