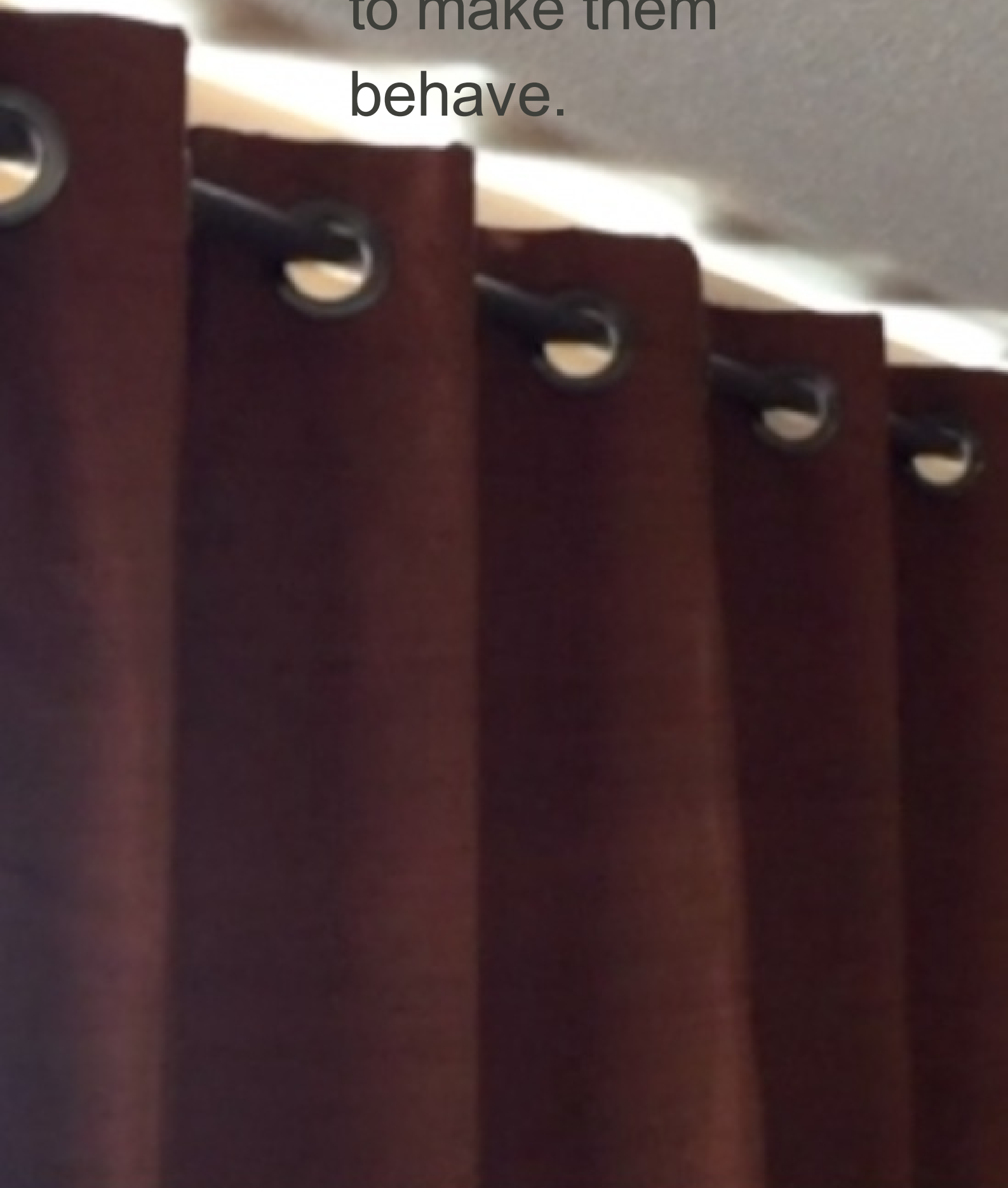


Grommet Help: How
to make them
behave.



Grommet Help



For demonstration purposes I've used a small curtain and threaded it onto the rod. You may not be able to do that with your full-length curtains, but if you understand the process, you won't have troubles.

1. Thread the curtain onto the rod. Arrange the folds and pleats as evenly as possible.
2. Lay the curtain on your worktable, window-side of the curtain visible.



3. Check the spaces between the folds and make sure they are about the same width.
4. Calculate the spaces and even them out.

Grommet Help

Divide the rod length by half the number of grommets.

For example: if the rod is 20 inches long, and you have 6 grommets, divide 20 by 3. From the center of one 'pleat' to the center of the next, along the back, will be 20 divided by 3 equals just shy of 7 inches. If you need 3 inches to create a good forward fold, then the space between the grommets along the rod will be 4 inches.

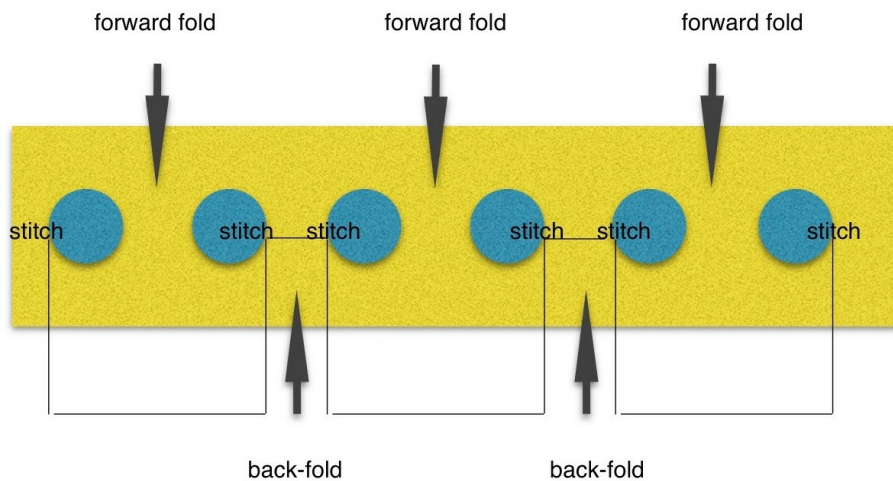


5. Thread a needle with upholstery weight thread and take a small double stitch on the window-side edge of the first grommet. Extend the thread to the next grommet, window side edge, and lock-stitch it in place. The amount of loose thread is equal to the number you calculated in the previous step as the distance between folds.

6. Take the next stitch on the window-side edge of the next grommet. This stitch should lie gently on the fold which extends toward the window. Continue with these stitches along the curtain.

Grommet Help

If you laid the curtain flat, you would see a grommet stitch pattern like this:



Here is the same technique done with chain. A gasket is inserted between the fabric and the grommet on the facing side of the panel. Use a small hook to pull the gasket through the small opening in the grommet. (Most grommets have a small opening along the outside edge which we often use for inserting a screw driver to open a snapped shut grommet.) Attach a lobster claw to each end of the chain. Snap the lobster claw around the gasket. This looks really tidy, but it can be fairly tricky to find gaskets thin enough -- but large enough -- to fit between the grommet and fabric layers. Find a hydraulic repair shop, they may be able to help with the gaskets.



Grommet Help