

Custom Built Wood Window Cornices

A quick, easy and inexpensive step in remodeling a room is adding a wood window cornice. The use of a window cornice can dramatically change and update the look of a room and give it an interior designer distinction; window cornices beautifully crown the top of the windows and hide window blind and curtain hardware.

The first consideration in adding a cornice is what wood species should it be built from and does the finish need to be painted or stained. While there are no set rules, usually, if the blinds are white then the cornice is also painted white and if the blinds are stained wood, the cornice is stained to match. Every room has a focal point, so make yours a wood window cornice!

Now let's talk about cornice sizing. If you have blinds that are mounted inside the window frame then adding two inches to the total width of the window casing to arrive at the inside opening width of the cornice will give you proper clearance. If your windows use curtains or outside mounted blinds, this requires two measurement considerations: how long is the curtain rod and how far does the curtain rod extend outward from the wall? Most customers will add four to six inches to the length of the curtain rod to calculate the inside opening width and two inches to the depth of the curtain rod to calculate the cornice inside opening depth of a custom built cornice by MantelCraft. There are no hard and fast rules here.

MantelCraft has at least eight cornice designs, from traditional and colonial to contemporary styles, each available in paint grade or stainable hardwoods. Another thing to look at is the fact that a cornice is almost the same thing, structurally, as a mantel shelf (without a closed bottom.) If you don't see a cornice style that will work, review the mantel shelves at MantelCraft and if ask if we can build one with an open bottom for use as a cornice! If we are able to, we will do it for you!

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4145 Parkway Drive Florence, Alabama 35630 (800) 820-7177