THE ELEMENT GUIDE TO

PIPE & DRAPE PLANNING CHART

MEASURE. CALCULATE. CREATE THE PERFECT LOOK.

1. MEASURE WIDTH

Measure the total linear distance you need to cover.

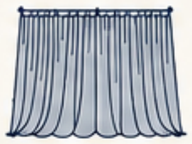
2. CHOOSE FULLNESS (For 10′ Width)

LOW (1x) Taut Look

10′ of fabric (1 panel)

Limited budget

STANDARD (1.5x – 2x) Pleated Look



15′ – 20′ of fabric (1.5 – 2 panels)

Most popular

HIGH (2x+) Very Full Look

20′+ of fabric (2+ panels)

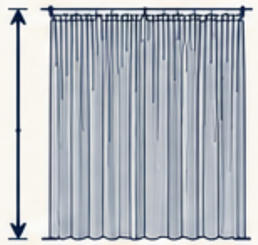
Luxurious & thick

3. CALCULATE PANELS (Panel Width = 5′)

Divide total fabric needed by 5′ panel width.

Example (2x Fullness): 10′ wide area ÷ 5′ panel = 2 panels

4. DETERMINE HEIGHT



Measure floor to ceiling.

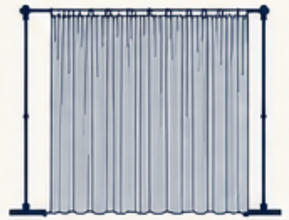
Standard Backdrops 10′ – 16′ High

5. ORDER HARDWARE

- UPRIGHTS
- CROSSBARS (TELESCOPIC)
- BASES
- DRAPE PANELS

Complete your setup with all components.

6. INSTALL & ADJUST



Hang panels and adjust for even pleats and puddle.

7. ENJOY THE LOOK

A beautiful backdrop creates the perfect impression.

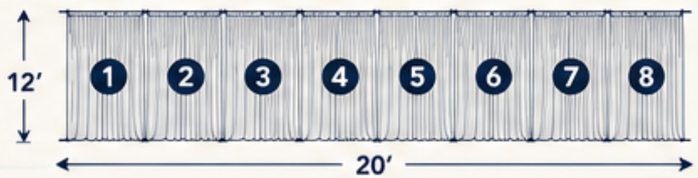
FULLNESS REFERENCE GUIDE (FOR 10′ WIDTH)

FULLNESS LEVEL	FABRIC NEEDED (FOR 10′ WIDTH)	PANELS (5′ EACH)	LOOK & FEEL	BEST FOR
LOW (1x)	10′ of fabric	1 panel	Taut, minimal draping	Limited budget, backdrops, basic coverage
STANDARD (1.5x)	15′ of fabric	1.5 panels	Lightly gathered, clean look	Most events, weddings, formal occasions
STANDARD (2x)	20′ of fabric	2 panels	Well gathered, Balanced fullness	Premium look, most common choice
HIGH (2x+)	20′+ of fabric	2+ panels	Very full, luxurious & thick	High-end events, blackouts, drama

EXAMPLE CALCULATION (20-FOOT BACKDROP)

WIDTH TO COVER	20 Feet
CHOSEN FULLNESS	Standard (2x)
FABRIC NEEDED	20′ × 2 = 40 Feet
PANEL WIDTH	5 Feet
PANELS REQUIRED	40′ ÷ 5′ = 8 Panels

RESULT:
USE 8 PANELS FOR A 12′ HIGH, 20′ WIDE AREA.



LENGTH TIP: For a 10′-16′ high backdrop, use 12′-18′ drapes to allow for puddling.

IMPORTANT TIPS

LENGTH	For a 10′–16′ high backdrop, use 12′–18′ drapes to allow for puddling.
OPACITY	Use heavier fabrics like velour for blackouts or double-layer sheer for a premium look.
SPACING	A 100ft run of drape can be broken into 10-foot sections for easier planning, requiring 4 – 6 panels per section.
FABRIC CHOICE	Consider texture, weight, and color to match your event design.
PLAN AHEAD	Measure accurately and order early to ensure availability and perfect fit.

ELEMENT
EVENT SOLUTIONS

Thoughtful planning. Elevated experiences.

WE BRING IT ALL TOGETHER.