

INSULATED CAB SEPARATOR CURTAINS



The reason for a curtain between the cab and the living space of our Unity is to help regulate the temperature in the living space. When it's really hot outside, the glass of the cab lets in a lot of heat. A curtain helps restrain it from the living space. Same thing when it's cold; the curtain keeps the cold air from the non-insulated cab from encroaching into our heated living space.

I observed how some had used some variation of hooks and rods to hang their curtain, but wanted a cleaner look. I learned this method from another LTV owner and made my own variations.

This method entails a plastic track that fits nicely between the wood of the upper cabinets and the vinyl of the wall underneath. The track needs to slide between the wood and the vinyl, so you should test to be sure you'll be able to insert it all the way across before you purchase your materials. Take a credit card and slip it up behind the wood. Check all the way across. Sometimes it goes in easy all the way. Some rigs have had more glue applied in that area and it won't go in all the way across. We had about a foot on the right side that was too tight, but we were able to pry it apart just

enough for the track to fit. No screws are required to hold it in. It's held solely by the pressure of a tight fit.

MATERIALS LIST

1 [set ready made insulated room darkening curtains 52W x 63L](#)

1 RECMAR 3108 Plastic Curtain Track - 8 Feet

3 Yards 3089 Sew in Tailslide Tape - Sold by the Yard (white or black)

1 Pack of 10 RECMAR 3030 Curtain Track Steel End Stop

Thread to match your curtain color

Ribbon trim (optional)

Iron-on Fusing tape to attach ribbon (optional)

I bought all my RECMAR materials at [curtain-tracks.com](#), but you may find you can save a little on shipping by looking for your supplies at [Amazon](#). I don't recommend the individual sew in tailslides that Amazon sells; the tape is much easier to work with. If you can find a friend who needs the same items and order together to split the shipping, Curtain Tracks is your best option. I definitely recommend Amazon for your curtains. I bought the white track because the vinyl under the wood is white on my van. As you can see below, it hardly shows.



STEP BY STEP

Cut the Track

Measure side to side of where the curtain track will fit omitting about 1/4" on either side to allow for the steel end stops to fit in once it's installed. Cut the track to that measurement. Insert the track into the slot between the wood and the vinyl.

Cut to fit

If you want your curtains to have full pleats, you won't need to cut the width down, but I preferred a flat, smooth look, so I cut mine to 37 inches for the left side piece and 36 inches for the right side piece, cutting from the outer sides. I then ironed in a 1 inch hem on the cut sides sewed the hem by rolling under 1/2 inch, twice. I didn't hem the bottoms of my curtains until I was able to hang them and get a measurement.

Attach Tailslide Tape

I wanted the top of my curtains to overlap, so I sewed the tailslide tape on the right so that the first tab was very close to the edge. On the left side, I pulled it back about 1 1/2 inches. My sewing machine was able to sew right through the little plastic slides.





I sewed the tailslide tape on about 1 inch from the top so that the top of the curtain would just cover the top of the track when installed. I just used one row of stitching.



Trim

I didn't originally plan for any trim, but I didn't like the look of the top stitching on the outside, so I headed up to Joanne's fabrics and looked for a trim that would work to cover up the stitching. I found a red Native American themed ribbon and attached it



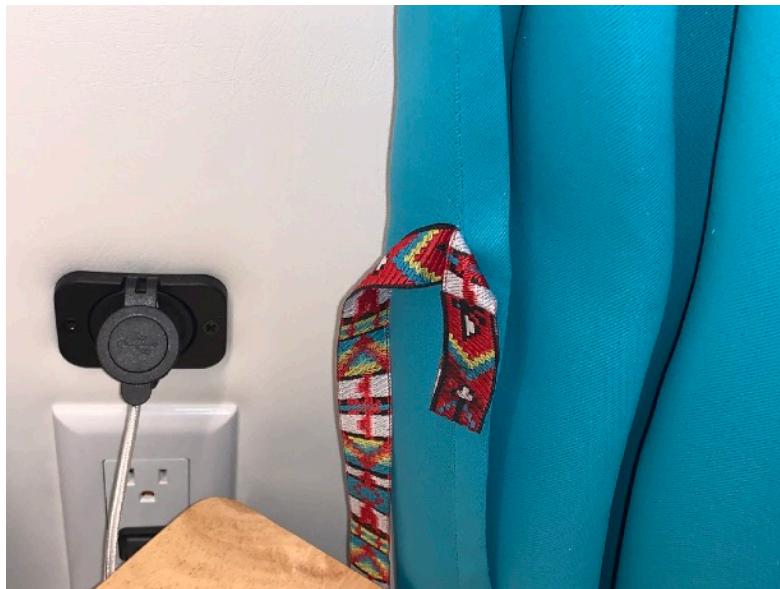


with iron-on fusing tape. You'll need to measure your curtains to determine how much ribbon you'll need. Add another yard if you want to make tie backs out of the same ribbon.

Wrap the trim under on the ends

Hemming and Tie Backs

Once the curtains are made, hang them and measure up from the floor to the length you want and mark with a pin. I made mine about 1 inch from the floor.



Also determine where you want to sew on your tie-backs and mark those with a pin.

Take them down and cut 1 inch below hem your hem pins. Iron in a 1 inch hem and then roll under 1/2 inch twice and topstitch the hem.

Finish the ends of your ribbon tie-backs by turning under one inch and fusing with the iron-on fusing tape. Apply a tab of velcro to each end, being careful to apply to the correct side so the ties make a

loop and if your pattern has a top and bottom design make sure it's orientated correctly. Sew your ties onto the back side of the curtains so they don't show when the curtain is open. I just stitched over the existing hem stitching. Give your curtains a good pressing with a steam iron and you're ready to hang.

Hanging

Install the curtains into the track from the sides. Before inserting the last tailslide on either side, insert one steel end-stop about 1 1/2 inch in. Tighten the screw/bolt so it won't slide. Then install the last tailslide and install one more end-stop about 1/4 inch from the end of the track. Repeat for each side. Your curtains are now complete!

