

## DRAPERIES ARE BACK

While blinds and shades are popular, draperies are making a big comeback, according to designer Iván Meade of Meade Design Group.

“People are going back to interesting fabrics and textiles with beautiful colour or patterns,” he says, adding that fabrics have evolved so an artificial fabric like polyester can have a high-end look.

Meade says polyester has the advantage of not fading with sun exposure and is a far cry from the polyester of the 70s. Instead, he says, the artificial fabric can look like silk, chenille or linen.

But to get the ultimate luxury look, Meade says it’s best to ensure your drapery has three layers: a thin layer to protect the fabric, a felt layer to add more weight to the drapery and absorb sound and the actual decorative drapery.

He also recommends having the draperies done by a professional to get that perfect look seen in interior design magazines where the folds “line up like soldiers.”

“Having a well-constructed window treatment done by a professional makes a world of difference,” he says. “They will always maintain their shape and you’ll notice this, compared to just going to Ikea and having whatever.”

Brannen adds that draperies provide a softening element to a room, giving it a “cozy finished look” and, like carpets, they also add acoustical value to the room.

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Textura II fabric drapes by Iván Meade with inverted pleats and Pirouette Alustra Shades from Hunter Douglas create various opportunities for light control and privacy while maintaining a soft yet clean aesthetic.

