

How to install a Double Return Rod / French Rod

Disclaimer:

Hardware should always be installed by a competent professional with a good understanding of interior wall types and mounting fasteners. Please do not attempt to install any hardware unless you know how to safely operate the necessary tools, and have a good understanding of what you are doing. The following instructions are basic guidelines for qualified installers, and should be read through completely before starting your job.

Basic tools include:

Safety glasses, ladder, laser level, measuring tape, pencil, battery powered screw gun or drill/driver with 4" to 6" screw holder extension tip (do not overlook the importance of this item, it is required installation equipment), hammer, 1/8 drill bit.

How to install / hang a double return rod:

1. To avoid marking up the wall, tape some paper up on the wall where the curtain rod mounts will go, You can pull these protective paper sheets out just before you tighten down the mount screws.
2. Hold one double curtain rod mount up and make sure it is high enough so that the curtains will cover the top of the window. Higher than the top of the window by a few inches may look better, and block out more light. Using a pencil, mark the location of the bottom screw hole on the paper and set the curtain rod mount down. Pre-drill a hole into the wall just deep enough to make it easy to drive the screw straight into the wall.
3. Assemble the rod, slide on the rings, and both mounting brackets, and make sure they are straight before installing the self drilling screws to secure them to the rod.
4. Attach the Sheer Rod Fastener to each end of the sheer rod. The "hook" will clip onto the bottom of the front rod's return and secure with a self tapping screw on the bottom of the sheer rod and the bottom of the Front return rod.
5. With an assistant at one end, hold the rod up and put one screw into one mount and secure it to the wall without tightening it.
6. Level the rod and install the rest of the screws starting with one at each end. If your screws do not tighten securely, you may not have hit a stud or adequate backing and you will need wall anchors (see below).
7. Hook your curtains into the ring eyelets. Stand back, pat yourself on the back, and admire the quality and beauty of your wrought iron curtain rods made especially for you by Paso Robles Ironworks.

Double Return Rods without a center mounting bracket:

These are specific instructions for our "Double Return Rods" with no center bracket. Please read the basic installation instructions first, and skip to the correct section if your rods are

longer and include a center bracket. We will use “right” and “left” to avoid confusion but you may install either side first.

1. Attach the left mounting bracket to the wall using two # 8 x 2" screws, (refer to the anchor section of these instructions if anchors are necessary in your walls.)
2. Slide the right mounting bracket into the right end of the rod and secure with a # 6 x 1/2" self drilling set screw.
3. Slide the left end of the rod onto the mounting bracket that is already mounted on the wall, level the rod and mark its position on the wall at the right end.
4. Hold the rod in position and attach the right mounting bracket to the wall using two # 8 x 2" screws.
5. Secure the rod onto the left mounting bracket with a # 6 x 1/2" self drilling set screw.

Double Return rods with a center mount:

We will use “right” and “left” to avoid confusion but you may install either side first.

1. If the center connector sleeve is not already installed in one section of your return rod, install that first. Slide it halfway into the straight end of the rod and secure it with a # 6 x 1/2" self drilling set screw.
2. Attach the left mounting bracket to the wall using two # 8 x 2" screws, (refer to the anchor section of these instructions if anchors are necessary in your walls.)
3. Slide one half of the rod onto the left mounting bracket, hold the center mount and the rod together as they will be when they are installed on the wall. Level the rod and mark the position of the center mount on the wall. Then attach the center mount to the wall using two # 8 x 2" screws). Now is a good time to put the rings on the rod, 1/2 of them will go to the right of the center mount after you have the right side installed.
4. Secure the rod onto the left end mount using a # 6 x 1/2" self drilling set screw. Now you should have one half of the rod securely mounted to the wall.
5. Slide the right mounting bracket onto the rod and secure it with a # 6 x 1/2" self drilling set screw. Attach the right half of the rod to the left half of the rod at the center, and secure the rod to the center connector sleeve with a # 6 x 1/2" self drilling set screw.
6. Slide 1/2 of the rings to the right of the center mount. Set the rod back down into the center mount and level the right end of the rod, mark the position of the right mounting bracket on the wall. Attach the right mounting bracket to the wall using two # 8 x 2" screws.

How to install an extra long double return rod:

If you are installing an extra long double curtain rod with a center connector and center mount, mark the center of the window, and install exactly as above, one side at a time. This means, temporarily install both finials on one of the curtain rod sections, and mount that first half as if it were a separate curtain rod. Use the main rod for this rather than the sheer rod, when the main rod and all the mounts are up, you can install the sheer rod. Then using the same half section with finials installed, proceed to step 3 and install the third mount.

Now you are ready to put the entire curtain rod together and with a helper set the rod into place.

Note: Whenever you join a rod at a corner, angle, or any straight section, it is very important to insert screws into both sides of the connector so the rod can't slide apart and fall out. Some rods will be predrilled. Use the self drilling screws provided and screw them through the rod and into the connector with your drill or screw gun so the rod can not be pulled apart. All screw heads should be facing the floor. We don't predrill the connector sleeves as lining the holes up upon installation would be very difficult. The self drilling screws will penetrate the connector sleeve using slow speed or your drill driver, and some pressure, this is done best on the floor over a drop cloth or cardboard.

How to join curtain rods together using internal connector:

Slide the connector halfway into one side of the curtain rod (you might need to tap it in with a wooden block). Drive a self drilling set screw through the pilot hole and into the connector to lock it in place. All screw heads should be facing the floor. Repeat for the other half of the curtain rod to lock the rod together as one piece. We don't predrill the connector sleeves as lining the holes up upon installation would be very difficult. The self drilling screws will penetrate the connector sleeve using slow speed or your drill driver, and some pressure, this is done best on the floor over a drop cloth or cardboard.

Tips: Plan ahead so any set screws you install can be turned to the backside of the rod where they will not show. Don't worry if the rod does not have pilot holes everywhere you need them, the self drilling screws will go through the rod and connector, or finial.

The following are basic directions provided with most winged anchors:

1. Determine the thickness of your drywall (usually 1/2" or 5/8"). You can remove a switch plate to measure the edge of your drywall or use a bent wire in one of the holes you have created for the mounting brackets. We recommend Toggler brand or comparable "nylon winged anchors" because they will work with the decorative screws we provide, and will not fall into the wall like moly bolts if you should take out the screws to repaint the wall. They are available at most hardware stores.
2. Drill the screw hole out to 3/8", fold the anchor wings in and tap the anchor into the hole with a hammer until it is flush with the wall surface. Insert the provided tool into the anchor and push until the wings "pop" out behind the back surface of the drywall.
3. If no tool has been provided with the anchors, a 6d nail may do the trick, try it on an anchor before you put it in the wall. Reinstall your wrought iron mounting brackets. Do not over tighten the screws. If you over tighten the screws, you may be able to get slightly larger screws (#10 or 12) to work without replacing the anchors.