

# *Staging The Perfect Stage*

## *Curtains, Drapes & Backdrops To Choose*

There is a wide variety of materials that can be used as [stage curtains](#) and backdrops. Muslin cloth is one such option as well. But before you make this investment for your theatre group, how are you going to differentiate between different purposes and the most practical material that is going to fulfill that purpose? Following is a little overview of the various types of stage curtains and draperies that are used by the most professional theatre groups and artists. Have a look at them and you will be able to decide what setting will suit your stage the best.



## Stage Masking Draperies

These are used at the side limits of your performance area. They are ideal for you if you want to conceal the offstage areas that might be visible to your audience from different angles. You understand that managing light and sound on the stage is of critical importance. In order to create the right impact on the minds of your audience and keep them stuck to the entire scene and engaged throughout the play, the right stage masking draperies will play a pivotal role. They can help you draw the attention of your audience only and only to what is happening on the stage. If you want to completely block the atmospheric light or maybe highlight a particular area on the stage, this kind of setting is ideal for you.



## Theatre Backdrops

This is also a popular stage curtain setting that allows for the usage of [muslin](#) cloth and velvet as well. These are going to hang in the back of your stage and will give the perfect texture according to the mood of the scene you are trying to enact. They are very smooth and can often be used for the purposes of projection or various lighting

effects. If you choose [canvas material](#) for theatre backdrops, they can even be painted with custom artwork such as theatrical scenery or perhaps a depiction of the mediaeval age or something of the sort that you might be trying to convey through your play.

### **Fire Rated Theatre Curtains**

Yes, there are certain textiles and draperies that are used particularly for stages that hold a lot of lighting and sound equipment. When you know that you will have to make enough space for a number of technicians and wires, fire rated draperies and stage curtains are an essential addition to your theatre setting. They follow very stringent and specific flame-retardant standards. You should be able to find the most advanced fabrics and curtains that are highly resistant to flame, heat, radiation, sparking and fire.

### **What About Pleats And Finishes Of Your Stage Curtains?**

Depending upon the setting of your theatre and the purposes that you want your stage curtains to fulfill, you can choose from different types of pleats as well. The look and feel that you are aiming to achieve on your stage is also going to help you make this choice. Following are a few types of pleats and finishes that are available in the market:

Pinch pleats

Butterfly pleats

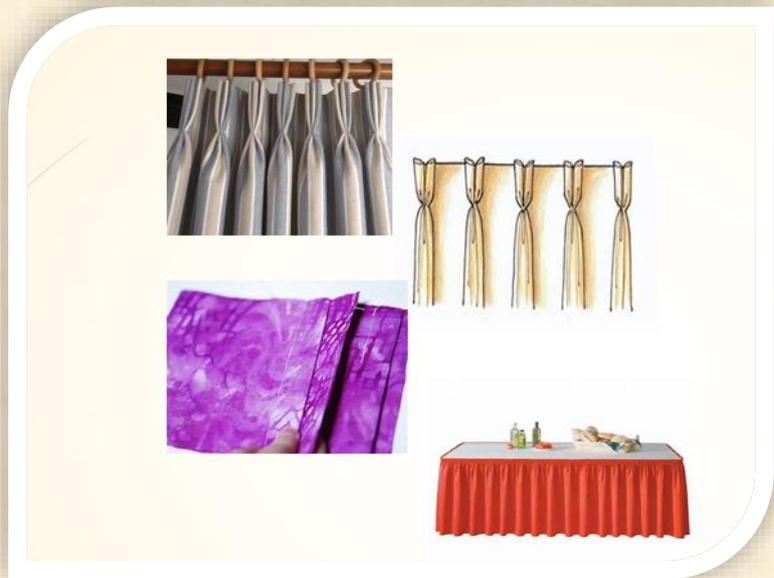
Rippled pleats

Full box pleats

Flat curtain

Tied pleats

Shirred pleats



When in doubt, feel free to discuss with your actor and technician team.

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& SUPPLY

