



# DÉCOR AND DESIGN by Michele Haynes

## ARE YOU AN AFICIONADO OF CURTAINS OR BLINDS?

I am often asked which is the most popular and suits the Barbican apartments.

Personally I love blinds for their functionality and curtains for their cosiness; so you can probably already guess which window treatments I have and in which rooms.....



### Blinds - v - Curtains

Wooden, aluminium, painted and roller blinds, electronic or hand pulled; and curtains, natural linens, silks, (bespoke patterns via digital printing), there are just too many options to be able cover in this article, so this month, I will focus on blinds in the main and curtains another time.

I think that blinds generally suit city properties. They work particularly well in lounge and study areas, as they are great for filtering out some of the light (for example – when you are working on your laptop, yet still want to look up and enjoy the views).

They are also ideal for small modern spaces as they don't take up much room on either side of the window frame and unlike curtains, blinds don't encroach on the floor.

- Blinds come in various slat widths, thicknesses, colours and finishes.
- Bottom up blinds (a reverse on the traditional blind) are great for windows that are at street level. In this instance people can't see in, and you can still

enjoy the light by pulling down the top half of the blind.

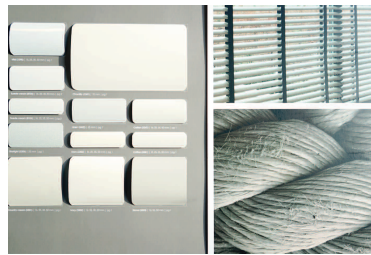
- Hand pulled or electronic there are types to suit all budgets. Variations in colour for all the blind types.
- Painted blinds look more contemporary
- Natural wooden blinds are slightly more traditional.

The range of blinds in terms of colours and finishes has come a long way and I make up and install all of the above options, but here is a little information you may find useful.

The blinds below come in different widths, thicknesses, colours and finishes.

### Aluminium

Many of my clients who like contemporary homes prefer these metallic blinds as much as I do. Most of us here in the Barbican crave more space and I think these aluminium blinds do the trick saving you space, yet act as a lovely counterpoint to the teak frames. They are also lighter than the wooden ones and can come in a range of strips as shown in the image below.



These particular blinds come in a myriad of colours ranging from hot and spicy reds to heathery purples, silvers, golds and finally down to soft sandy creams. There are different finishes such as hammered, frosted, matt or polished. Which can definitely add a subtle yet contemporary twist to your window treatments.



Blue Linens by Designers Guild

Range of Tape colours - Photographs by Haynes Interiors

### Tapes

Once you have chosen your blinds, then add a little interest into your room scheme by choosing a contrasting tape on your natural wood or painted wooden blinds. These run vertically (down) the blinds.

### Electrical Options

Don't forget to enquire about the electrical options as these are now very affordable.

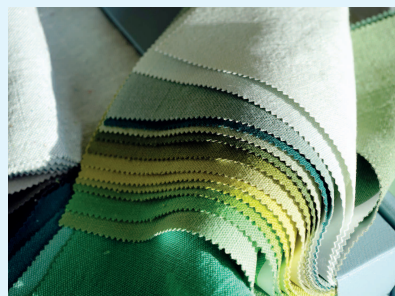
### Metal profiles and headings

are available in a few different coloured metals, to keep that streamlined contemporary sleek look.

Aluminium slats

**If you would like to have some curtains or blinds made up then contact Haynes Interiors and quote: BARBWINDOWS before the end of August to obtain a 5% discount (on the making up element).**

Haynes Interiors offers a **FREE** initial site visit to Barbican Residents, to discuss your requirements. We can provide blind and curtain samples, or assist you to find the right fabrics. Then make-up and install them for you. We offer friendly advice, so if you have any questions, **please contact Michele Haynes on 07984 884408 or email: m.haynes@haynesinteriors.co.uk or via the website on www.haynesinteriors.co.uk.**



Michele Haynes



Wooden painted finishes

### More of a traditionalist?

Then consider **natural wooden blinds**. A **mid ground**, which not so many people are aware of are these gorgeous **wooden painted blinds**, which come in a limited range of colours, but these greys, greens, taupe's and sand colours would also work incredibly well.

For the bedroom I would usually suggest curtains. Consider fitting a double pole with a soft coloured sheer on the back rail and a heavier more solid coloured silk, linen or patterned fabric on the front rail, so that during the day you still have some privacy as the sheer softly filters the sunlight, then use a heavier curtain fabric, inter lined on the front, to block out the light for a good night's sleep. Curtains just add that extra element of softness and make a room more tranquil and cosy.

### Here is what a recent resident had to say about our service:

*Haynes Interiors provided an excellent Blind Service for my Barbican (City) Apartment. Michele Haynes was incredibly quick and efficient; she measured up, provided various blind options i.e. colours and materials such as metallic and wood for me to choose from, and once I had decided upon a set of silver venetian blinds, had these made up. I had an accident and was hospitalised when the blinds were delivered. Michele took over completely and had them fitted perfectly while I was away, liaising effectively with my family to get and return keys. It was a pleasure to deal with someone so pleasant, professional and reliable. I would highly recommend her services.*  
**Mary Hickman December 2016**

### Where to go, what to see in London this summer?

**W**ould you like to squeeze more art into your daily life? London has an enormous variety of contemporary art on offer. To help you navigate the busy scene, we've picked two

major exhibitions currently on view that are worth your time. Download the ArtRabbit app for more: <http://artrabb.it/2hCnwo3>

### Into the Unknown - A Journey Through Science Fiction at the Barbican

Into the Unknown brings together artists, designers, filmmakers, SFX specialists, musicians and writers all testing the boundaries of reality through some of the most experimental works of all time. Curated by Swiss historian and writer Patrick Gyger, this festival-style exhibition explores the classic narratives of Science Fiction and presents them from a new, global perspective.



Prototype for a Nonfunctional Satellite (Design 4; Build 4), 2013, Mixed media, Installation view, Courtesy of Trevor Paglen Studio

### Perfume: A Sensory Journey Through Contemporary Scent at Somerset House

Perfume features a multi-sensory exhibition featuring ten extraordinary perfumes and their pioneering creators, who have radically changed our perceptions of fragrance over the last 20 years.



(c) Kim Keever, Courtesy Waterhouse & Dodd