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# Window Material

## Which Window Material Should I Buy?

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We are often asked which window material offered in our catalog is best; however, there is no definitive answer to that question.

**20 GAUGE PLASTIPANE** is the least expensive and offers the most options in size since it comes on a large roll and long lengths can be ordered. It is also easier to roll up because it is more flexible and not as thick as the heavier weights. However, 20 gauge is not as optically clear as the heavier 30 and 40 gauge weights.

**30 AND 40 GAUGE CLEAR VINYL** is often called “pressed polished sheet goods”. The extra weight makes them stiffer, but also harder to roll up. These weight are produced in various sheet sizes and generally last longer.

All three weights can be sewn on a home sewing machine using V-69 or V-92 UV resistant sailmaker’s thread. Use acrylic basting tape to hold the window in place on the canvas while sewing. Do not cut away the canvas (or remove the old window) until the new pane is sewn in place. Hide the raw edges of the canvas or window by sewing binding tape around the edges.

**12 GAUGE PLASTIPANE** is reserved for applications where minimizing weight is of the utmost importance. It is typically used for large outdoor tent curtains. Sailrite stocks the 12 gauge because it is a great choice as a patterning material for dingy chaps. Traditional patterning materials are not heavy enough to drape over inflatables without blowing off or shifting while patterning.

Note: Sailrite does not stock 30 and 40 gauge plastipane as a rolled good because for a number of years, these rolled goods were too flawed to sell. If quality improves, they will be added to our inventory.

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