**Stage Drapery Quick Reference**

**Curtain Types**
1. **Main Valance**
2. **Main Traveler**
3. **Border**
4. **Leg**
5. **Midstage Traveler**
6. **Scrim**
7. **Rear Traveler**
8. **Cyclorama**

**GLOSSARY**

**Drape / Curtain** – used for stage masking or stage decoration. OTHER NAMES: Soft Goods

**Wings** – space on either side of stage which is concealed from the audience.

**Masking** – hiding; term used to describe the main function of stage drapery.

**Rigging** – (v) hanging drapery and other items from overhead; (n) equipment used for rigging.

**Traveler** – drapery which hang from a track which opens and closes. OTHER NAMES: Bi-Part, Main Curtain, Grand Drape, Main Rag, Act Curtain.

**Border** – drapery panel hung at the top of the stage used to mask ceiling and overhead rigging. OTHER NAMES: Teaser, Valance, Horizontal Masking

**Leg** – drapery panel hung on the side of a stage used to mask anything that is off stage (“in the wings”). OTHER NAMES: Tormentor, Side Panel, Vertical Masking, Tab, Wing Curtains.

**Cyclorama** - a large flat curtain that either masks the back portion of the stage or is curved in order to help create the illusion of sky. OTHER NAMES: Cyc, Sky Drop, Back Drop.

**Scrim** - a specialty curtain in which the fabric used is woven with small holes in it (almost like a net). When the curtain is lit from the front it is opaque but when lit from behind the fabric becomes transparent. OTHER NAMES: Sharkstooth Scrim.

**Fabric Type** – material used to make a stage curtain. Typical stage curtains are made from either cotton velour or inherently flame retardant synthetic velour. Other fabric types are available.

**Flame Retardant** – resistant to sustaining flame. Stage curtains are required by law to be flame retardant. NFPA 701 is the national code governing flame retardancy for fabric. Some states and cities may have codes of there own.

**Nap** – certain fabrics, like velour, have a pile on the face that runs in a certain direction. The direction affects how the fabric appears under stage lighting.

**Top Finish** – treatment to the top of the curtain which includes webbing, pleating, grommets and fasteners.

**Pleating** - folding additional fabric to make a softer, more aesthetic curtain. Also, helps to minimize echoes from solid walls. Box pleats are the most common stage curtain pleat although knife and pinch pleats are not uncommon.

**Fullness** - percentage of additional fabric included in a pleat. Another way to think about it is the amount the bottom width exceeds the top width (and webbing).

**Flat** - No pleating and/or 0% fullness.

**Webbing** – band of material (jute for cotton fabric, polyester for synthetic fabric) sewn to the edge of a curtain to increase the strength. Standard stage curtains usually include webbing at the top.

**Bottom Finish** - treatment to the bottom of the curtain which includes chain and pockets. It can include webbing and grommets.

**Hem** – edge of a curtain which usually includes additional fabric folded over for a finished appearance.

**Seam** – connection line of two widths of fabric.

**Turnbacks** – the hem on the leading edge (onstage side) of a traveler curtain which is usually larger than other side hems.

**Paging Handle** – a sewn-in handle (usually of the same fabric) on the leading edge of a traveler used to temporarily open a curtain without movement along its track.

**Storage Pocket** – a sewn-in pocket on a traveler used to store the traveler’s floor pulley when not in use.

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**FULLNESS / PLEATING**

- **50% Box Pleat**
  - 12” on Center

- **75% Box Pleat**
  - 12” on Center

- **100% Box Pleat**
  - 12” on Center

**Knife Pleats**

**Pinch Pleat**

**TOP FINISH**

*CCF stands for Curtain-to-Carrier Fastener*

- **CCF-1**
  - (“S” hook)

- **CCF-2**
  - (Bit Snap)

- **CCF-3**
  - Sewn Snap Hook
    - (Above)
    - (Flush)

- **Tie Tapes**

- **Tie Line**

- **Hidden Grommets & Ties**

**BOTTOM FINISH**

- **Pipe Pocket**

- **Pipe Flap**

- **Suspended Pocket**

- **Chain Pocket**

- **Lead Tape**

*Note: hem shown open for illustration purposes*

**Lead is a toxic substance; it is NOT recommended**

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