Application No. 481: Car curtain
Author: supermagnete, Uster, Switzerland

Dependable darkening of cars and "part-time camper"

Table of Contents

There are still cars that have an iron interior paneling: Volkswagen vans of course, but also Caddy, Kangoo, Partner, etc. Especially families don’t like it that these cars don’t have standard sun blinds and accessories are often expensive and impractical and often these products don’t offer enough shading if you want to stay overnight in the car. Hand-sewn curtains with magnets in the seam can do the trick. The advantages are clear:

- Small neodymium magnets are hardly visible.
- The magnets are sufficiently strong, but not so strong as to damage the fabric when you want to take it off.
- The curtain can be fastened firmly so no light enters the interior of the car.
- The curtain can be quickly attached and removed.
- The curtain also works when windows are open.

Depending on the time budget and manual skills, different implementations are possible. Here are some we'd like to introduce you to.

For all version, the following applies:

- The number of needed magnets depends on the format and material of the curtain as well as the distance between magnets and magnetic base.
- The magnetised curtains must be removed and stored safely before the car starts driving around!

Sew magnets into curtain seam

Stefan from Ulm sewed some Q-20-04-02-N (www.supermagnete.de/eng/Q-20-04-02-N) block magnets into the curtain seams for his "part-time camper."

The block magnets need to be fastened in the seam with a few stitches so they don’t wander, or it would be difficult to put them back in the desired spots. The thin block magnets don’t need much space and keep a low profile in the curtain.

Now, Stefan can sleep at night in his darkened bus. During the day, he can quickly take off the curtains and use the vehicle as a pick-up-truck again.

Pro tip: Instead of block magnets, Stefan could have also sewn sew-in magnets (www.supermagnete.de/eng/group/sew-in) directly on the fabric or place rubberised discs (www.supermagnete.de/eng/S-15-03-R) on the fabric without having to sew the magnets in.
Decorative curtain rod with pot magnets

Another car curtain project by Johanna S. from Zurich:

If you want to hang up curtain rods in a camper without damaging the interior panelling with drilling, super magnets are a simple solution. Advantages are secure mounting and demounting without residue or scratches, provided that there is an iron sheet panelling in the upper window area.

Material per window

- Curtain made of light material (white for screen, black for black-out)
- Bamboo rail
- 3 pot magnets with internal thread (www.supermagnete.de/eng/ITN-20)
- 3 rubber caps (www.supermagnete.de/eng/PAR-21) (Alternative: 3 rubberised pot magnets (www.supermagnete.de/eng/ITNG-16))
- 3 screws of fitting size with M4 thread
- 4-8 sew-in magnets (www.supermagnete.de/eng/M-SEW-01) (depending on the curtain size)

The bamboo rail can be easily drilled. The drill angle depends on the angle of the interior panelling. Use fitting screws (e.g. M4 like in the example) to attach pot magnets with an internal thread to the rail. The right rubber caps protect the paint from scratches and prevent magnets from sliding down.

Alternatively, you could use three rubberised pot magnets (www.supermagnete.de/eng/ITNG-16) to begin with, which combine the two positive features.
Application No. 481: Car curtain

www.supermagnete.de/eng/project481

Reliable thick screen thanks to sewn-in magnets
In the middle and at the bottom of the curtains magnets are sewed in (www.supermagnete.de/eng/M-SEW-01) to tighten the fabric on the sides and the seam.

If the screen is not needed, you can simply fold the curtain up - or remove it entirely.

Additional applications of the magnetic curtain rail
You can also attach the bamboo rail on the outside of the car to try laundry.

All projects on the topic 'Camper' (www.supermagnete.de/eng/projects/camper)
Articles used
Q-20-04-02-N: Block magnet 20 x 4 x 2 mm (www.supermagnete.de/eng/Q-20-04-02-N)
S-15-03-R: Disc magnet rubber coated Ø 16,8 mm, height 4,4 mm (www.supermagnete.de/eng/S-15-03-R)
M-SEW-01: Sew-in magnets 12 x 2 mm angular (www.supermagnete.de/eng/M-SEW-01)
M-SEW-02: Sew-in magnets 12 x 2 mm round (www.supermagnete.de/eng/M-SEW-02)
M-SEW-03: Sew-in magnets 18 x 2 mm angular (www.supermagnete.de/eng/M-SEW-03)
M-SEW-04: Sew-in magnets 18 x 2 mm round (www.supermagnete.de/eng/M-SEW-04)
ITN-16: Pot magnet with internal thread M4 (www.supermagnete.de/eng/ITN-16)
PAR-17: Rubber caps Ø 17 mm (www.supermagnete.de/eng/PAR-17)
ITNG-16: rubber coated pot magnet (www.supermagnete.de/eng/ITNG-16)
ITNG-25: rubber coated pot magnet (www.supermagnete.de/eng/ITNG-25)
S-15-08-R: Disc magnet rubber coated Ø 16,8 mm, height 9,4 mm (www.supermagnete.de/eng/S-15-08-R)

Online since: 20/04/2011

The entire content of this site is protected by copyright. Copying the content or using it elsewhere is not permitted without explicit approval.