

Covering a light box with ETTLIN *lux*[®] Decolux

A finished light box with an integrated LED light and prestressed fabric, used as a piece of furniture, was outfitted with fabric from the ETTLIN *lux*[®] Decolux collection.

The type of cover remained the same: textile with cord edge sewn into all four sides. The cord edge is then inserted into the grooves on each side of the light box.

The precise procedure for installing an ETTLIN *lux*[®] Decolux cover is described in these instructions.

1. General note

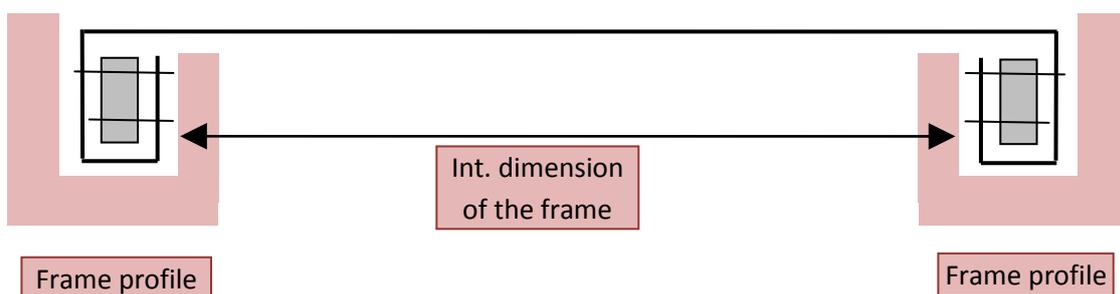
All ETTLIN *lux*[®] fabrics are very susceptible to creasing. In addition, individual threads may shift when force is applied. Therefore, do not fold the fabric; treat it with care and keep it rolled up when storing and transporting it, whenever possible.

Fabric must be measured and sewn carefully, since ETTLIN *lux*[®] fabrics do not stretch.

2. Preparing the fabric

First, cut the fabric to size for the frame you want to cover. You will need the following dimensions: interior of the frame and cord edge circumference.

The interior of the frame is measured from the inside edge of the profile to the opposite inside edge, as shown in the following picture.



The cord edge used to mount the fabric is attached to the fabric with two seams, so that the end of the fabric is wrapped once around the cord edge and then fixed in place. Since this is done on both sides, the measurement must include two times the cord edge circumference.

The fabric size is calculated using the following rule:

Interior dimension of the frame + (2 x cord edge circumference).

Example: For a frame with exterior dimensions of 35 cm x 115 cm, the interior dimension of the frame is 33.8 cm x 113.8 cm.

The cord edge is 14 mm wide and 3 mm thick. That gives it a circumference of 34 mm.

Fabric width: 33.8 cm + 2 x 3.4 cm = 40.6 cm

Fabric length: 113.8 cm + 2 x 3.4 cm = 120.6 cm

Thus the piece of fabric must be cut to measure 40.6 cm x 120.6 cm.

Covering a light box with ETTLIN *lux*[®] Decolux

When cutting the fabric, be sure to cut in the direction of the grain. With ETTLIN *lux*[®] Decolux, you can use the black threads (running parallel to the effect) or the orthogonal colored effect thread (running perpendicular to the effect) as a guide. The next steps are much easier when your fabric is cut with the grain.

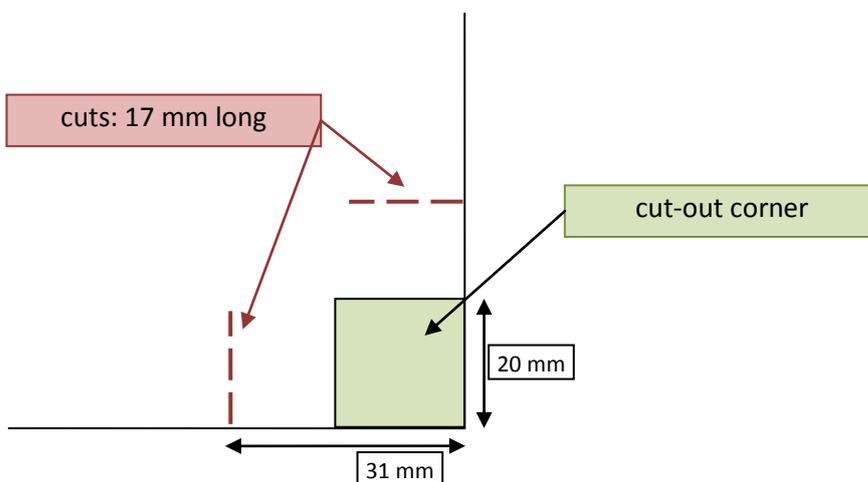
The image shows a piece of fabric cut with the grain, perpendicular to the direction of the effect.



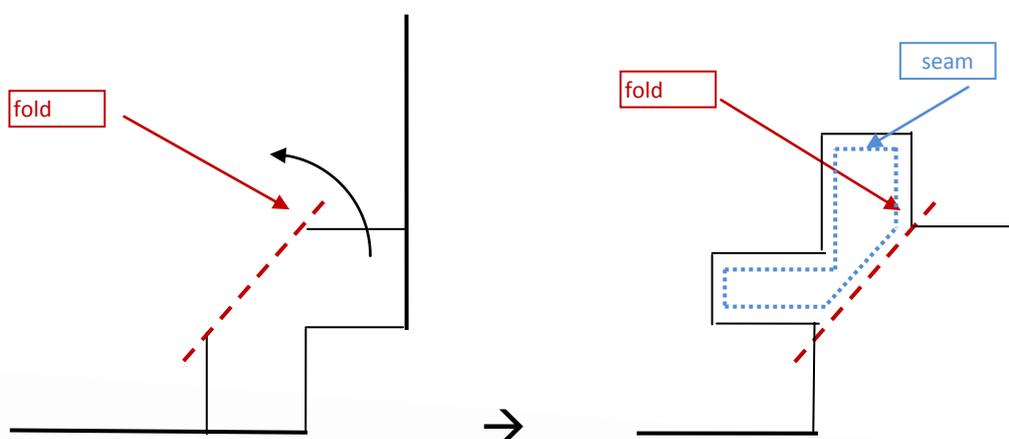
3. Preparing the corners of the fabric

Before the cord edge is sewn on, the corners of the fabric must be prepared, in other words reinforced. To do so, cut a corner measuring 20 x 20 mm out of the fabric. In addition, two 17-mm cuts are made in the fabric. The cuts are 31 mm from the corner.

The following sketch shows the measurements:

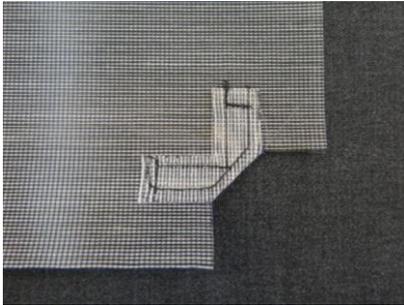


Once the corners have been prepared, the projecting piece of fabric is folded inward and fixed in place with a seam.



Covering a light box with ETTLIN *lux*[®] Decolux

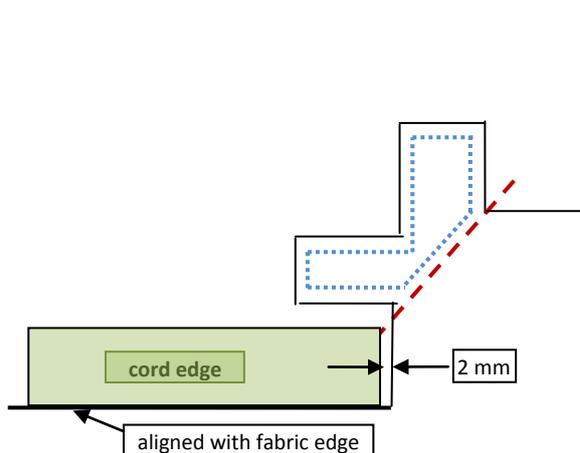
The following picture shows the finished corner:



4. Sewing on the cord edge

The length of the cord edge is chosen so that it fits easily into the grooves in the profile frame, with a little extra room. A distance of 2 mm between the narrow side of the cord edge and the fabric edge is recommended.

Line up the cord edge with the fabric edge on the back of the fabric, leaving a 2-mm space between the narrow side of the cord edge and the edge of the fabric.



Then sew on the cord edge using a lock stitch (thread tension about 4/10). Since the cord edge can stretch during the sewing process, do not cut it until the sewing is finished. Here, too, leave a 2-mm space to the edge of the fabric.

To distinguish between the two sides of the fabric, please note the following:

ETTLIN *lux*[®] Decolux fabrics have two different surfaces. One side, the back of the fabric, has a black system of threads that create ridges.

This is less apparent on the other side, whereas the colors and pattern are more distinct. This second side is the upper side of the fabric.

For the second seam, fold the cord edge over. Use a lock stitch for this seam as well.

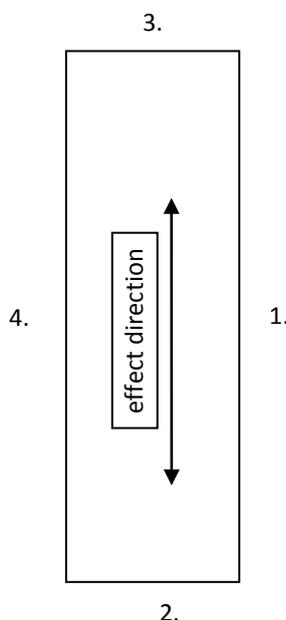
Covering a light box with ETTLIN *lux*[®] Decolux

The following sketch shows the two seams:



5. Attaching the fabric

The finished textile can now be attached to the cord edge frame. Be sure to insert the sides in the correct order.



Start with a side running parallel to the direction of the effect (parallel to the black threads).

Next, attach the two perpendicular sides. Only then should the last side, opposite the first side, be attached.

If the first side to be attached is one of the long sides – as shown in this picture – first check whether the same amount of material is available on the left and right sides before attaching the short sides, 2 and 3.

The cord edge will sit very tightly in the frame, so you will not be able to balance out any unevenness when attaching the short sides

6. Completed light box

The finished light box with backlighting is shown in the following picture.



If the fabric was precisely cut to size and precisely sewn, it will lie flat across the surface of the box, without any creases, once it has been attached.

You can use this procedure to outfit any size light box, or a corresponding aluminum box without an integrated light, with ETTLIN *lux*[®] fabric and sewn-on cord edge.

Covering a light box with ETTLIN *lux*[®] Decolux

7. Possible problems after attaching the fabric

If ripples are still visible on the surface of the fabric after it has been attached, this may be due to the differing stretch properties of the fabric and the cord edge.

Fundamentally, the cord edge is more elastic than the fabric. If the cord edge is stretched too tightly when it is sewn on and is then attached to the profile without being stretched, there will be too much fabric, which then creates ripples.

In this case, you can remove the cord edge from the profile and reattach it with more tension. This will smooth out the ripples. You can also carefully slide your hand across the cord edge to smooth it out.

8. Disassembling and reusing the fabric

The two sewn-on loops can be used to easily remove the fabric from the frame. That allows you to change fabric types and use them again later.

When disassembling the fabric and reattaching it, treat the fabric very carefully in order to prevent the threads from warping. This is especially important on the edges that are perpendicular to the direction of the effect.

During disassembly, pay close attention when moving from one side to the next, working slowly and carefully to keep the fabric from tearing.



9. Storing and transporting the finished fabric

If you want to transport and/or store the finished fabric, it should always be rolled up. This will prevent fabric damage and creasing. To do so, roll the finished fabric onto a cardboard tube. Since the cord edge is relatively stiff, make sure the radius of the tube is not too small.

To prevent mechanical damage, we recommend wrapping up the fabric with a layer of bubble wrap. To protect the fabric from dust, the rolled fabric should also always be covered with plastic wrap.

