



## Railroaded Items

The terms “woven railroaded,” “shown railroaded” and “woven railroaded-shown turned” are some of the most misunderstood terms in the textile industry. To make matters worse, there is no industry standard of how these terms are used, and there are variations of wording from company to company. The RM COCO Design Studio has been working to make the labeling of railroaded items as easy to understand as possible. Even with these efforts there is still confusion in the marketplace as to how some fabrics are made that fall into this category. Below are some explanations of how RM COCO labels these items.

When something is “woven railroaded” the item has been woven with the pattern running across the width of the fabric. For example, stripes that are “woven railroaded” will run horizontally from selvage to selvage. MOST railroaded items are woven this way. The intent is that when used (mainly for upholstery) that the item will be turned and run “up-the-roll” so that there will be seems. In this example, when the stripe is turned and applied it will appear to be a vertical stripe. \*\*) while we have used a stripe for illustration purposes, any pattern CAN be woven railroaded.)

By definition wide-width sheers (generally over 100” wide) are railroaded products. These items are all made to be turned to produce seamless drapery treatments. While there are some installations that do not turn these items, they are actually produced to be turned when used.

In recent years, horizontal stripes have become fashionable, so the lines have been blurred somewhat on how to label “railroaded” items that can be used as they come off the roll. Here are the labeling standards that RM COCO uses on the individual strip copy information for these patterns in our books.

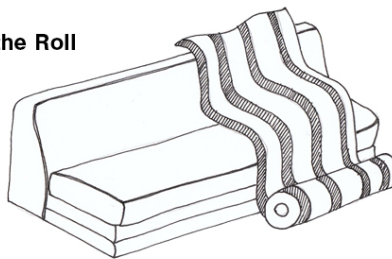
- 1) All items that are “woven railroaded” but have a pattern that would look odd if left in the direction the fabric comes off the roll will be labeled “Woven railroaded, shown turned”. The vertical and horizontal repeats listed are reflective on the pattern once the item has been turned for use. (Example: A stripe that is woven railroaded may have a vertical repeat of 2” and a horizontal repeat of 0” as woven, but when turned for use, the repeat our strip copy would list would be 0” vertical and 2” horizontal to account for the turning.

- 2) Sheers that are over 100" wide are by nature railroaded products. Even though this is understood by most customers, our strip copy will also show that these patterns are "woven railroaded" just to be clear. Repeats for these items will be listed as they will appear when the fabric is turned for use in most normal applications.
- 3) There are new items, mainly stripes, which are designed to be shown in keeping with today's fashion trend. These items do not necessarily always need to be turned. When this is the case our strip copy will not list these items as railroaded products. We will show these patterns as they come off the roll and we will list the vertical and horizontal repeats in the same manner. This implies that we are showing the item as it is manufactured (not turned as most railroaded fabrics have always been shown).

The top fabric is Up-the-Roll and the bottom fabric is Woven Railroaded



**Up the Roll**



**Railroaded**

