

Roseview *windows*

#TraditionRedefined

ARCHES GUIDE

How to measure and order different styles
of arched sash windows

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this guide is to explain and simplify the process of defining, measuring and ordering arched sash windows.

Traditionally arches have been ordered by making a template on-site, usually on paper, cardboard, plywood or anything that's to hand at the time. That template is then sent to us, we extract all the key dimensions and turn it into a computerised arch order.

The problem is that this method is slow, open to inaccuracy and—in most cases—completely unnecessary. It's much simpler, faster and more accurate to simply take the key dimensions.

This guide explains exactly how to do that. It's probably simpler than you think!

At the end there is also a simple arch order sheet, which lays out the required dimensions depending on which type of arch you are ordering. Send this in with your normal window and we'll do the rest.

Key terms used in this guide

The following terms are used to define different aspects of arched sash windows:

Combination arch - a single continuous arch that stretches across two or more coupled windows.

Continuous vs welded shoulders - on a true arch we use a single piece of frame and sash profile for the arch and the sides, giving a continuous line around the window without joins or seams. On a swept head each end of the arch is joined to the vertical sides with a weld.

Gothic arch - this is an arch that comes to a point at the top. Imagine it as a triangle pointing up, where the two sides are slightly curved.

Radius - this defines the curvature of an arch, but is rarely required. On a true arch, the radius is always half of the window width.

Shoulder height - see *Spring line*.

Spring line - also called the shoulder height. This is the point at which the straight sides of a window start to curve. It is measured from the bottom of the window.

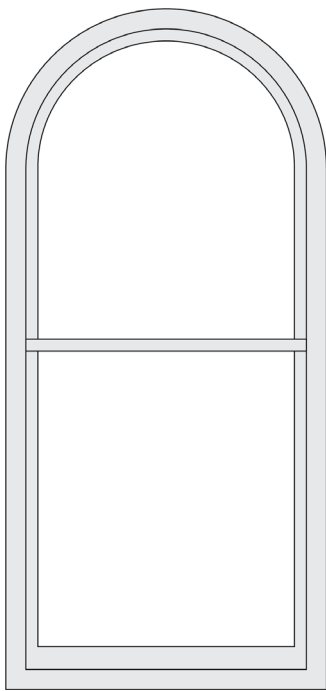
Swept head - sometimes also referred to as a “rake” or “formulated arch”. This has a shallower curve than a true arch, which means that the distance between the spring line and the top of the window is less than half of the window width.

True arch - an arch where the curved top is a complete true semi-circle. Therefore the radius of a true arch is always half of the width of the window.

ARCH TYPES

There are three types of arch: **true**, **swept head** and **gothic**. For measuring and ordering purposes, true and swept head arches are almost identical (although they are manufactured slightly differently). Gothic arches, however, need one extra measurement.

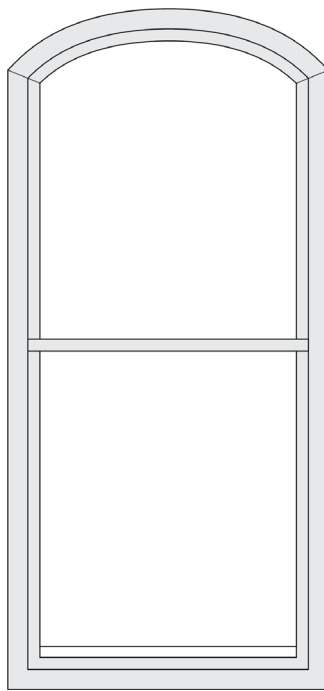
When ordering an arch it is important to let us know which type of arch it is, along with the key dimensions. This is all laid out for you on the order form at the end of this guide.



True arch

The head of a true arch is a perfect semicircle. This means that the radius of the arch is naturally exactly half the width of the window.

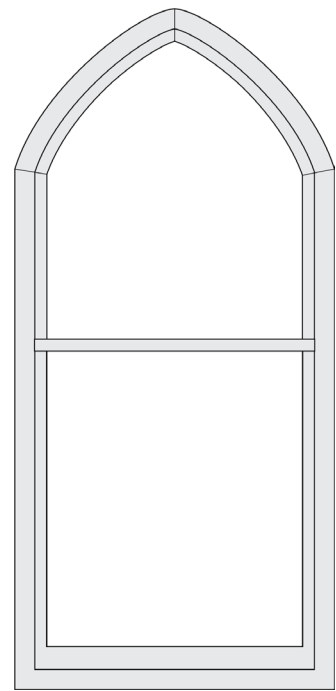
To order a true arch all you need is the window width and height, and the spring line.



Swept head

A swept head is shallower than a true arch, which means that the arched top has to be joined to the vertical sides.

To order a swept head all you need is the window width and height, and the spring line.



Gothic arch

This is an arch that comes to a point. It's made by creating two curves that are joined at the point, and joined at the ends to the vertical sides.

For a gothic arch you need the window width and height, the spring line and the arch radius.

A note on combination arches

A combination arch refers to a **single continuous arch** that stretches across two (or more) coupled windows. When defining dimensions, treat them as a single arch with a single set of measurements (overall width, height at top, spring line etc). These will then be split across the coupled windows.

DEFINING ARCHES

This section describes what we need from you when ordering each type of arched sash window. If you provide this information, it replaces the need to make and send us a physical template. Note that this information should accompany your standard window order form, which defines the options, colours and features you want on your windows.

Notes for all arches

1. The minimum window width for arches is 600mm for Ultimate and Heritage Rose, and 680mm for Charisma Rose.
2. Arches must be symmetrical. We cannot bend uneven or lopsided arches.
3. There is **no tilt facility** on the top sash of arched windows.
4. On windows less than 700mm wide, **the top sash will be fixed** and will not slide.
5. When the distance between the spring line and the top of the window is more than 110mm, **the top sash will be fixed** and will not slide. This includes all true and gothic arches. This is because the low spring line doesn't leave enough space for full balances.

True Arch

Dimensions required

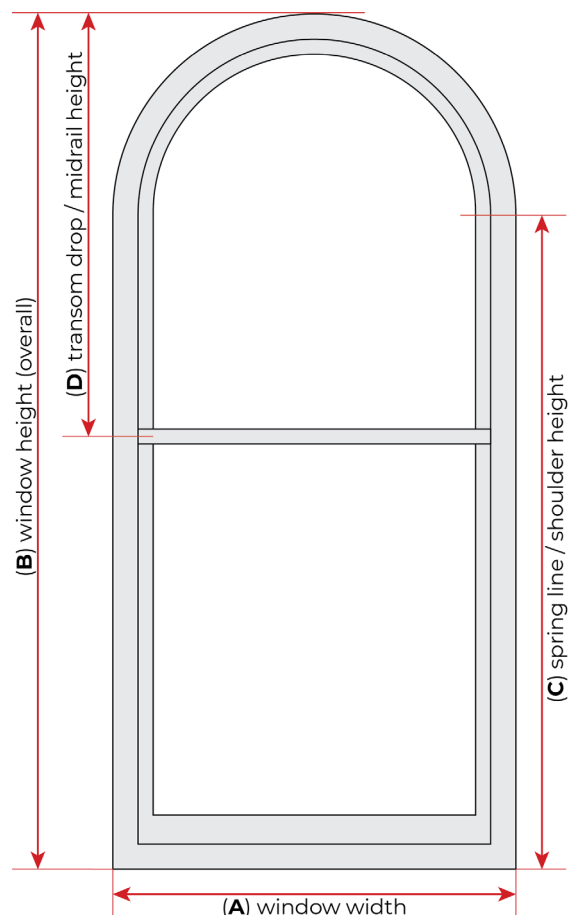
A: Window width
- Don't include cill horns in this measurement

B: Overall height
- Measure from bottom of cill (or sub-cill) to highest point of the arch.

Optional dimensions

C: Spring line (shoulder height)
- Measured from the bottom of the window
- This isn't strictly necessary, as on a true arch the difference between the window height and spring line (i.e. the radius) should always be half the window width.

D: transom drop (midrail height)
- Measured from top of window to centre of midrail.
- Only required for unequal split sashes.



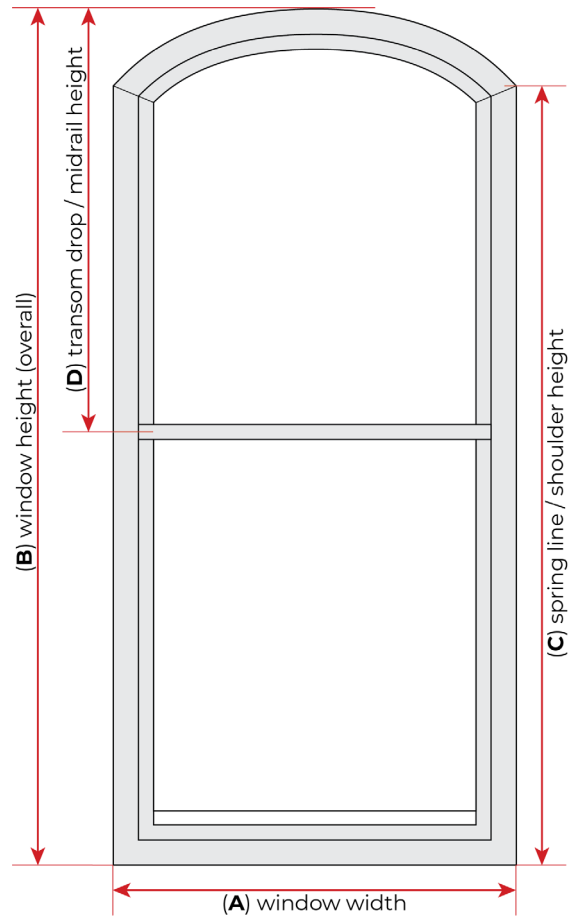
Swept Head

Dimensions required

- A:** Window width
- Don't include cill horns in this measurement
- B:** Overall height
- Measure from bottom of cill (or sub-cill) to highest point of the arch.
- C:** Spring line (shoulder height)
- Measured from the bottom of the window

Optional dimensions

- D:** transom drop (midrail height)
- Measured from top of window to centre of midrail.
- Only required for unequal split sashes.



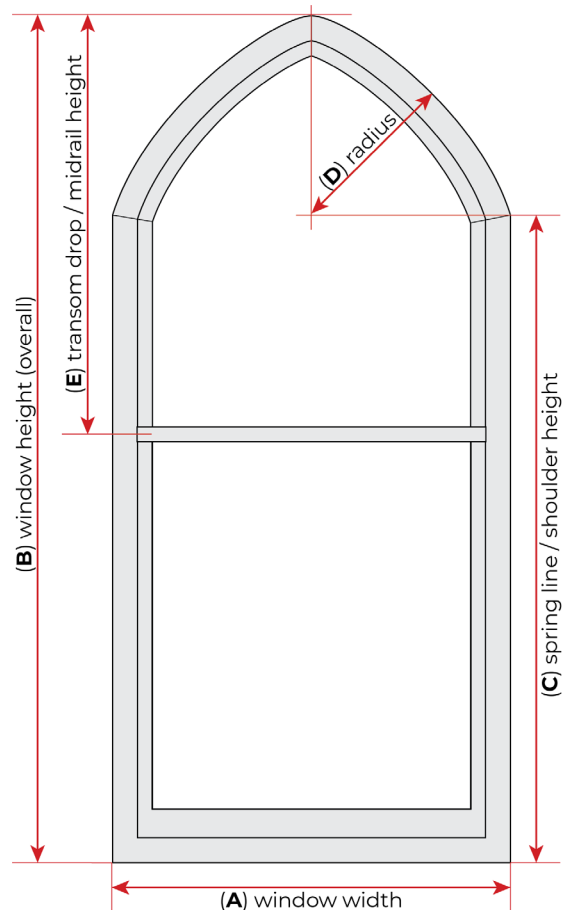
Gothic Arch

Dimensions required

- A:** Window width
- Don't include cill horns in this measurement
- B:** Overall height
- Measure from bottom of cill (or sub-cill) to highest point of the arch.
- C:** Spring line (shoulder height)
- Measured from the bottom of the window
- D:** Radius
- Where the spring line (C) crosses the window's centre line is the **datum point**. Measure from here to the middle of the arched side (i.e. the widest point).

Optional dimensions

- E:** transom drop (midrail height)
- Measured from top of window to centre of midrail.
- Only required for unequal split sashes.



Company: _____

Reference: _____

Order date: _____

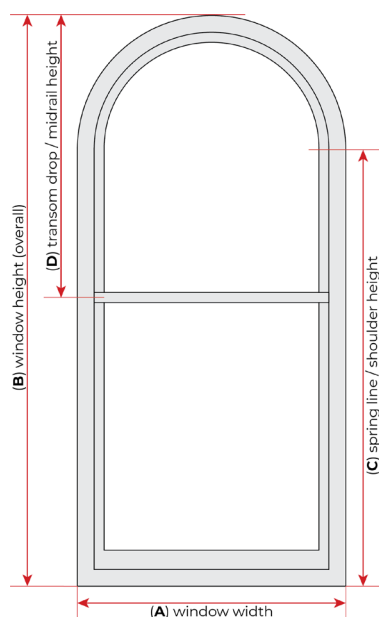
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ARCHED WINDOWS

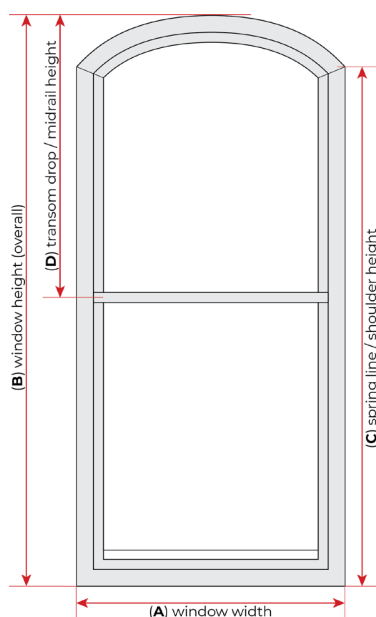
Use this form to provide arched window measurements. No templates required!

This form accompanies your standard window order form. Use this form to provide the arch dimensions, and the standard form to choose the colour, features and options you require. For combination arches on coupled windows, use a separate sheet to draw out the full arch.

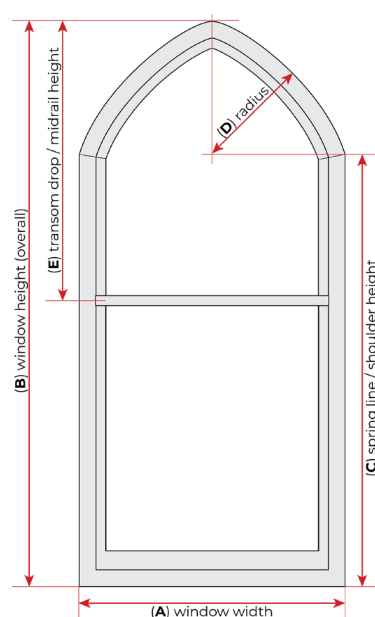
Note: lead times for arches are longer than standard lead times. Contact Sales for more information.



TRUE ARCH



SWEPT HEAD



GOthic ARCH

Arch 1

Location: _____ Window width: _____ Radius (gothic arch only): _____

Quantity: _____ Overall height: _____ Transom drop (unequal split): _____

Type: ☐ true arch ☐ swept head ☐ gothic

Spring line: _____

Arch 2

Location: _____ Window width: _____ Radius (gothic arch only): _____

Quantity: _____ Overall height: _____ Transom drop (unequal split): _____

Type: ☐ true arch ☐ swept head ☐ gothic

Spring line: _____

Arch 3

Location: _____ Window width: _____ Radius (gothic arch only): _____

Quantity: _____ Overall height: _____ Transom drop (unequal split): _____

Type: ☐ true arch ☐ swept head ☐ gothic

Spring line: _____

Additional instructions:

If you have any questions, please call us on: 01234 712657

Send completed form to: trade@roseview.co.uk

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