

experts on call

## SOLUTIONS

Need decorating, renovating or sourcing advice? The English Home Panel has been established to offer you the very best in expert advice and inspiration

### Panel experts



Daniel Morris is a former director of Sotheby's and co-founder of Corfield Morris, advisors to buyers of antiques, fine art and jewellery. [www.corfieldmorris.com](http://www.corfieldmorris.com)



Julia Begbie is a director of the KLC School of Design in London. She also runs a private design practice.



Jonathan Foyle is a renowned architectural historian, writer and broadcaster. He is also Chief Executive of The World Monuments Fund in Britain, an independent, non-profit organisation for the protection of our cultural heritage.



Laura Clement is a specialist in antique and contemporary textiles and can advise on all the practical aspects of using fabrics in the home.



Miranda Russell is a decorating and design writer with inside knowledge of all the best suppliers and products nationwide. She can offer various solutions to many household dilemmas.



The Pearlwood shutter from Plantation Shutters enhances the feeling of light in a small room.

### Shutter chic

**Q** The bedroom in our cottage is very dark and has just one window which looks out directly onto the street. We obviously need privacy, but I don't really want to use voile. What would you recommend?

Caroline Richards, Cheltenham

### MIRANDA RUSSELL REPLIES:

One of the best ways to control the level of light is to install louvered shutters. These have tilting slats that adjust to let in more light or give complete privacy and, if your room is small, you can choose a bi-fold style that opens in the minimum space.

Also, if your window is set in a gable wall, shutters can be made to fit its shape. Some manufacturers offer a measuring and installation service or you can take the self-fit option.

Prices vary and may depend on the service required. Shutterly Fabulous start at £230 per square metre, The

New England Shutter Company, from £285 per square metre and Plantation Shutters, from £185 per square metre.

Stained or painted finishes are available, but some manufacturers have specialist treatments. Shutterly Fabulous, for example, apply a UV-filtering finish to protect against sun damage.

*The New England Shutter Company*  
Tel 020 8675 1099. [www.tnesc.co.uk](http://www.tnesc.co.uk)  
*Plantation Shutters* Tel 020 8871 9222.  
[www.plantation-shutters.co.uk](http://www.plantation-shutters.co.uk)  
*Shutterly Fabulous*  
Tel 0845 644 2873.  
[www.shutterlyfabulous.com](http://www.shutterlyfabulous.com)