Wardrobe *rail, door and drawer* dimensions: set-out and swing

How a wardrobe's clear interior becomes an overall size, how many leaves a run needs, the floor each door type uses and the zone an open drawer needs.

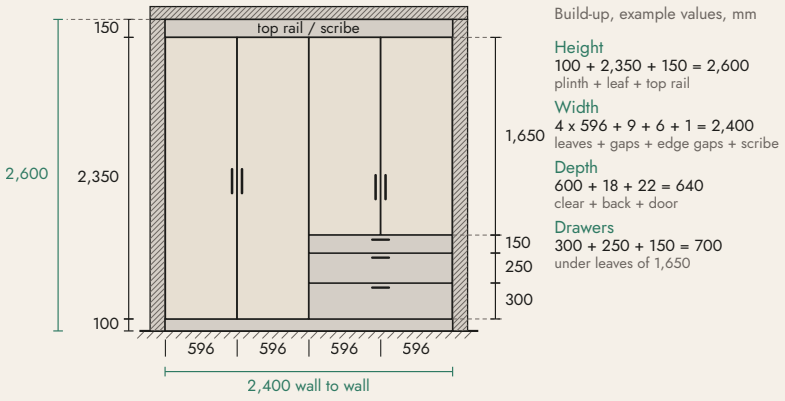
Compliance guidance. Wardrobe provisions are from Approved Document M volume 2 (2015 edition incorporating the 2020 and 2024 amendments; England): paragraphs 4.20 and 4.24(b) and (c), read on 5 and 6 November 2026. Everything else is plan geometry from the example sizes and allowances stated, practice, or one runner maker's listing, and is to be confirmed with the partner workshop. Rail, shelf, hinge and runner loads are given by the maker and the partner, not on this sheet. Guidance, not legal or engineering advice.

AT A GLANCE

Item	Rule and example, mm	Notes
Height stack	plinth 100 + leaf 2,350 + top rail 150 = 2,600 (ceiling)	Our example. The top rail takes the ceiling's unevenness: say what it scribes to.
Width stack	run 2,400 = 4 x 596 + 3 gaps + 2 edge gaps + 1 remainder	Gaps of 3 mm are an example; the remainder goes to the scribe.
Depth stack	overall = clear depth + back + door: 600 + 18 + 22 = 640	Clear depth as the interior sheet defines it. Handles add to this.
Hinged leaf width	up to 600; a run of 1,800 = 3 leaves of 596	Our interior sheet gives 500 to 600. Hinge rating depends on height and weight.
Floor used by a hinged leaf	equal to the leaf width at 90 degrees (600)	At 180 degrees the leaf ends parallel to the front and needs its own width free beside the run.
Sliding panel	up to 1,000; open share is (n - 1) / n of the width	Interior sheet range 900 to 1,000. Track zone adds 50 to 100 to the depth.
Drawer runner length	the longest listed length with body depth + 4 within the clear depth: 550 for 600	Pattern from one runner listing (lengths 300 to 600 in 50 mm steps).
Zone in front of an open drawer	runner length + standing zone: 550 + 500 = 1,050	Standing zone is an example; matches the 1,000 aisle on the interior sheet.
Rail span	clear width of the bay between panels: 1,200 bay = 1,164	Rail section, material and span limit are for the hanging rails sheet and the partner.
Hotel and accessible bedrooms	swing doors to built-in wardrobes open through 180 degrees	Approved Document M vol 2, 4.24(b) (England).

Millimetres. Thicknesses, gaps, heights and the standing zone are examples chosen to show the sums, not standards. Only the Approved Document M row is regulatory. The interior sizes are on the wardrobe and dressing room sheet.

A 2,400 MM RUN IN ELEVATION



Example values in millimetres, to scale: height stack on the left, drawer heights on the right, width stack below.

LEAVES PER RUN (3 MM GAPS), AND THE SUMS

Run	Hinged, up to 600	Sliding, up to 1,000
900	2 x 445	2 x 450
1,200	2 x 595	2 x 600
1,500	3 x 496	2 x 750
1,800	3 x 596	2 x 900
2,100	4 x 521	3 x 700
2,400	4 x 596	3 x 800
3,000	5 x 596	3 x 1000
3,600	6 x 596	4 x 900

Hinged leaf at 90 degrees sweeps its own width of floor (600). Approved Document M vol 2 4.24(b): swing doors to built-in wardrobes in all bedrooms open through 180 degrees. Open drawer: runner length + standing zone = 550 + 500 = 1,050 clear. Rail span = bay width - 2 panels (1,164 in a 1,200 bay).

SPECIFICATION WORDING

OVERALL SIZE AND STACKS

Wardrobe run [ref]: [2,400] mm wall to wall x [2,600] mm floor to ceiling x [640] mm overall depth (clear depth [600] mm from the back panel to the inside face of the closed door, back [18] mm, door [22] mm, handle projection [ ] mm). Plinth [100] mm, top rail [150] mm scribed to [the ceiling]. Leaves [4] x [596] mm with [3] mm gaps and [3] mm edge gaps; the remainder [1] mm taken in the scribe. All dimensions from finished floor level and [named wall]; the drawing governs over any catalogue figure.

DOORS

Doors [hinged / sliding]. Hinged leaves not wider than [600] mm and not higher than [2,350] mm, on hinges rated by the hinge maker's chart for a leaf of [ ] kg (count [ ] per leaf, stated by the partner workshop in writing). In bedrooms in buildings other than dwellings, swing doors to built-in wardrobes to open through [180] degrees (Approved Document M volume 2, 4.24(b)), with hinge, offset and opening angle on the shop drawing, and the space beside the wardrobe in line with its front kept free for each leaf. Sliding panels not wider than [1,000] mm on [track ref], track zone [75] mm added to the overall depth. Handles easy to grip and operate and contrasting with the door [ref].

DRAWERS AND RAILS

Drawers [3] fronts [300 / 250 / 150] mm, full-extension runners [nominal length 550] mm rated [ ] kg, minimum body depth [554] mm, in a clear depth of [600] mm; clear floor in front of an open drawer [1,050] mm. Hanging rail [section, material and finish as hanging rails sheet ref], centre [1,800] mm above finished floor, centred in the clear depth; clear span between supports not more than [ ] mm as stated by the partner workshop for a load of [ ] kg; centre support where the clear bay width exceeds it. Rail, shelf and drawer loads confirmed by the partner workshop in writing.

TERMS USED

Overall depth
The depth of a wardrobe from the wall to the front of the closed door: the clear depth plus the back panel and the door. A handle adds to it, and a sliding door adds a track zone.

Scribe
A strip or rail cut to follow the line of a wall, ceiling or floor so that a fitted unit meets it without a gap. Any remainder in a run's width, and the top rail's depth, are taken in it.

STANDARDS AND SOURCES

- Approved Document M, Volume 2 (2015 edition incorporating 2020 and 2024 amendments; England): paragraphs 4.20 and 4.24(b) and (c) read on 5 and 6 November 2026.
- BS EN 16122:2012, BS EN 16121:2023, BS EN 14749: storage furniture test methods and requirements: status read from BSI Knowledge listings on 6 Nov 2026 (16122 current; 16121 current, published 30 Apr 2025; 14749:2016 current, under review, with a conflicting seller listing for the 2016+A1:2022 edition). Texts not read; no figures quoted. BS EN 15338 (extension elements): the BSI record seen is a draft for comment, so no edition is cited here; see the drawer construction sheet for the published edition.
- Make Bespoke Studio technical library: wardrobe and dressing room dimensions: the interior sizes this sheet builds on.

Full guide: https://makebespoke.com/trade/technical/wardrobe-rail-and-drawer-dimensions. Make Bespoke Studio coordinates manufacture through its partner workshops. Figures are guidance only and your specification governs; some may be superseded, so contact the studio to verify.