

PVC Wall & Ceiling Panels

Background information

- Virtually no preparation is required.
- Installs straight onto brick, block, plaster, battens and ceramic tiles.
- Do not use directly behind an open flame, like a gas hob, or on surfaces where temperatures will exceed 60 degrees centigrade.
 - When cutting to length use a sharp, fine toothed saw.

Tools required:

Adhesive, Measuring Tape, Masking Tape 50mm wide, Square, Electric Drill (to install fixtures), Spirit Level or plumb line, Electric Jigsaw (1mm pitch) or hand held saw (15 teeth, 16 point), junior hacksaw, Pencil, 1 x tube of bathroom grade silicone sealant (coloured to suit).

Sequence

1. If installing panels on wall and ceiling, install ceiling panels first.
2. Prepare surfaces.
3. Install trim framework.
4. Fix panels.
5. Add any final trims that are applied over the panels (like coving or our matching corner & edging trims).
6. Add fixtures and fittings.

Preparation

- a. Allow panels to reach room temperature for 30 minutes prior to installation.
- b. Prepare surfaces. They must be free from dirt, film waxes or any other residues. Tiled and painted surfaces must be sanded to create a key for the adhesive. Newly treated walls should be sealed. Remove any wallpaper.
- c. Always double check your measurements before cutting.

Installing trims

- a. Any two part trims should be detached, with the back section adhered to the wall prior to fitting the panels and the front section snapped back into place after the panels have been attached.
- b. Always cut trims to size using a junior hacksaw and check alignments before installation.
- c. You may need to use masking tape to temporarily hold trims in place while adhesive is setting off.
- d. Matching Corner & Edging Trims have a self adhesive strip that installs over panels after they have been installed. It is prudent to also use a little superglue with these trims to be sure that the adhesive strips will hold over time, especially if you are using them in a shower area. If you are using our Matching Corner & Edging Trims in a shower unit, always seal joints first with silicone before applying the trim.

Methods For Attaching Panels to Walls

- By far the easiest method is to simply use adhesive like No More Nails or Gripfill, and adhere the panels directly onto the wall. The additional advantage of using this method is that lightly uneven walls can also be 'packed out' by the adhesive. Simply apply blobs of adhesive here and there on each tile (you do not need to cover the whole area like you would on a ceramic tile as each panel is held on place by the tongue and groove system). If using this method, ensure that you are adhering to a clean, dry solid surface. Do not adhere to wallpaper.
- Staples can be used on surfaces like plaster board or plywood. Make sure that you staple where it will be covered by the next panel. Screws can also be used in this way, but they are much slower and offer no real benefit.
- If you have very uneven walls attach battens first to achieve a level surface, then use adhesives or staples as above. This method is also ideal if you want to hide wiring behind your panels.
- Where you are installing over existing tiles that run to less than full height, use battens above the tile level to fill out to an even level.

Methods For Attaching Panels to Ceilings

For ceilings a combination of staples and adhesives is often the best route, the staples holding the panels in place while the adhesive sets off.

Joints

The simple tongue and groove joint snaps one panel into another and no silicone is required. These joints are water tight although, in a power shower area it can be advisable to add a thin bead of silicone inside the joint.

Fixing Through Panels

Many items, like soap dishes, toilet roll holders, shower curtain rails etc, will need to be fitted over your panels. This process is straight forward but over tightened screws and heavy items can crush the honeycomb structure in the panel so:

- Fit a spacer to fill the area between the wall surface and the surface of the panel i.e. the depth of the panel.
- For light and medium duty fixings simply cut your wall plug to finish flush with the surface of the panel.
- For heavy duty fixings use a wood or metal spacer.

Maintenance

- a. For regular cleaning use only warm, soapy water or mild detergents applied with a soft cloth.
- b. Do not use solvent based cleaners, scouring pads, gritty cloths or harsh abrasive cleaners as these will damage the panel.
- c. Always rinse all surfaces well after cleaning.
- d. Like with wall papers and other coloured wall coverings, if positioned in direct sunlight you may experience slight fading over time.