

Floor and Decor

Wall Board Installation Instructions

INSTALLER/OWNER RESPONSIBILITIES

Wood wall boards are a product of nature and the inherent beauty stems from the fact that each piece is unique with no two pieces the same. As such, the installer and/or owner, have the following responsibilities:

1) Understanding how the wall will look once installed – the installer and owner must meet prior to installation to review. How was the product chosen? Review the control samples (the samples from which the product was chosen), and compare to the actual wall boards onsite prior to installation to make sure it meets the owner's expectations as to:

- Grade – is it the correct grade? The grade from batch to batch may vary slightly, so make sure the owner is happy with this batch of wall boards you are about to install.
- Color/Graining - do certain dark/light pieces or wild grain need to be graded out to meet the owners expectations?
- Color Variation, Batch to Batch – inspect the production run of wall boards you received and make sure it meets the consumer's expectations. Wood from different locales can have varying color and grain and differ from the samples from which the initial product was chosen. Tint colors may also vary slightly batch to batch. Make sure the owner will be happy with the batch they received.
- Slight Color Change - do they understand that wood may change color slightly over time? The owner may have chosen their product from samples that have aged, so they need to understand in advance of installation the color change to be expected in this wood.
- Finish issues: Ensure gloss and finish quality will meet the customer's expectations.

2) Installer responsibilities during installation:

- Receive the wall boards & make sure they are as ordered and meet the owner's expectations.
- Test the quality of the wall to ensure it is structurally able to receive the wall boards and produce a satisfactory installation.
- Follow these Installation Instructions.
- Grade out any pieces with undesirable visible attributes and stop the installation should a reoccurring problem be found, (over the 5% allowed by industry practices). DO NOT INSTALL pieces with defects not represented in the original sample.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

WARNING: Our wall boards are skillfully manufactured and are designed to perform within the typical residential environment. We are not responsible for site conditions.

PRE-INSTALLATION JOBSITE REQUIREMENTS

Carefully examine the product prior to installation for grade, color, finish and quality. Ensure adequate lighting for proper inspection. If product is not acceptable, contact Floor & Decor immediately and arrange for replacement. The manufacturer cannot accept responsibility for wall boards installed with visible defects. Prior to installation of any wall boards, the installer must ensure that the jobsite and receiving wall meet the requirements of these instructions. The manufacturer is not responsible for wall installation failures resulting from unsatisfactory jobsite and/or wall structures.

*****Verify with owner if heavy objects (anything exceeding 5 lbs) will be hung from the decorative wall boards. IF SO, the wall boards MUST be installed by nailing into the studs in a horizontal application only.*****

INSTALLATION TOOLS

For all installation methods:

- Tape measure
- Pencil
- Level
- Saw (radial arm saw, handsaw, cross cut saw, or mitre box)
- Stud finder (when required for nail installation method)
- Fasteners - depending on installation method chosen (see below):

For permanent installation using nails or staples, you will also need:

- Pneumatic Nail Gun/Stapler with appropriate nail/staple
- Air compressor

For permanent installation using glue, you will also need:

- Fast acting construction adhesive (“Gorilla Glue,” “Liquid Nail,” or equivalent).

For temporary installation using tape, you will also need:

- Double sided, pressure sensitive tape or strips (like “Command Strips” or equivalent).

STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION

ENSURING A VISUALLY PLEASING INSTALLATION

- Decorative walls featuring wood boards have been designed to offer a reclaimed and random look. In order to ensure the most attractive result, many people will benefit from doing a “mock” layout on the floor prior to installation. For an authentic reclaimed look featured in certain colors, the overall wall should feature a well mixed layout of board lengths and color tones. Installations where end joints and color tones line up and are not randomly spread out throughout the installation area may not achieve the desired visual effect. Take care to lay out the order that most accurately represents your/your customer’s vision.
- When making cuts on the wall boards, different types of saws will cause one side of the board to cut clean and one to look rough. Test a scrap piece prior to installation so you know which side should be facing up during the cut (face or back) to ensure the decorative side receives the “clean” cut. Use a sharp blade to avoid tear out of the face.

PERMANENT NAILING INSTALLATION

1. Identify and measure the area that will receive boards. Vertical installation is not recommended with nailing installation. Divide the total length in inches of the installation by the width of the individual boards (5”) to determine how many full width rows you will have. If the dimension is not divisible by 5, you will have to determine which part of the installation will receive the row of planks that has to be cut to size. However, this is up to the consumer’s preference and will not affect the integrity of the installation.
2. Once you have identified the cut side, the first row or column will be on the opposite side.
3. Identify studs with stud finder and mark location with pencil from top to bottom so you will know where to nail each row of wall boards.
4. Wall boards have a tongue side and a groove side. Identify the tongue side, the part that sticks out away from the face.
5. The “Tongue” side should always be facing the direction of installation. For example, horizontal installations (where boards will go longways from left to right) will start at the bottom of the wall with tongue facing the ceiling. Subsequent rows will install on top of the previous. Vertical installation of wall boards, where the boards will be installed longways from top to bottom, will have the tongue facing the direction of the subsequent rows. This will allow you to nail through the top of the tongue and the next row of boards to cover the fastener.
6. Once the tongue has been identified, start from the bottom of the wall above the base board. Always place the tongue facing the direction of the next row you will be installing. If you are installing a full wall to a corner, it is helpful to start with the corner and move left or right, tongue facing the direction of installation.
7. **For the first row**, have someone hold the first board in place while you face nail/staple the board into the wall. The first nails are for positioning. Then, come back and nail the board (also through the face) into the studs. Face nailing the first row ensures you have a straight starting line (because it will be easier to keep the board from slipping out of level), which is **critical** to an easy and successful installation. Install the first board and continue across to complete the first row, nailing every 16” into the studs.

8. **For the second row and beyond**, find a board that is a different length than the one underneath so the end joint will be staggered. This creates a stronger installation and a better look. Work from multiple cartons of material at a time for the best result.
9. Insert the groove of the second row over the tongue of the plank below. Tap into place if necessary so that the joint is fully closed and the board is straight/level.
10. Position the nail gun to shoot the fastener **into the tongue**, careful to ensure the proper pressure. The right amount of pressure will position the top of the fastener flush with the tongue so that it is not sticking up, but is also not imbedded down into, or damaging the tongue. Once you are comfortable with the pressure, continue installing the second row, staggering the end joints so that they do not line up with the joints in the row below. Stagger them at least the width of the board (5").
11. Continue working in this manner, stapling the tongue of the current row into the studs. when you get to the end of the row, it may be necessary to cut the last piece to the appropriate length. Simply measure the length needed and cut the board so that the edge of the board is flush with the edge of the installation area.

*****ALL rows/boards can be installed by simply nailing or stapling through the face of the board into the wall if the consumer finds this visually acceptable*****

12. When you reach the final row, it may be necessary to cut the board lengthwise to finish the installation (see previous section "Ensuring visually appealing installation").

PERMANENT GLUING INSTALLATION

1. Identify and measure the area that will receive boards. Vertical installation will be measured from left to right, horizontal installations will be measured top to bottom. Divide the total length in inches of the installation by the width of the individual boards (5") to determine how many full width rows you will have. If the dimension is not divisible by 5, you will have to determine which part of the installation will receive the row of planks (or column) that has to be cut to size. In vertical installations, it will be more attractive to make the sides of the installation area even in width rather than having a full board on the far left and a cut board on the far right. This is up to the consumer's preference and will not affect the integrity of the installation.
2. Once you have identified the cut side, the first row or column will be on the opposite side.
3. Wall boards have a tongue side and a groove side. Identify the tongue side, the part that sticks out away from the face.
4. The "Tongue" side should always be facing the direction of installation. For example, horizontal installations (where boards will go longways from left to right) will start at the bottom of the wall with tongue facing the ceiling. Subsequent rows will install on top of the previous. Vertical installation of wall boards, where the boards will be installed longways from top to bottom, will have the tongue facing the direction of the subsequent rows.
5. Once the tongue has been identified, start from the bottom of the wall above the base board for horizontal installations. For vertical installations, determine your starting point using your level to create a vertical line. Always place the tongue facing the direction of the next row you will be installing. If you are installing a full wall to a corner, it is helpful to start with the corner and move left or right, tongue facing the direction of installation.
6. **For the first row**, mark a straight line to indicate the position of the first row so you can easily identify where to apply adhesive on the wall for the first row of boards.
7. Once you are ready with the first board, apply a bead of adhesive on the wall where the first board will be positioned (tongue facing the same direction as the next row), careful to follow adhesive manufacturer's installation instructions. It is critical for an easy and successful installation that the first row be straight and level. Install the first board and continue across to complete the first row, gluing the boards to the wall per the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations.
8. Determine how long it will take for glue to set, and use painters tape to hold each board to the wall if needed while adhesive hardens.
9. **For the second row and beyond**, find a board that is a different length than the one underneath so the end joint will be staggered. This creates a stronger installation and a better look. Work from multiple cartons of material at a time for the best look. Seams should staggered be at least the width of the plank from the seam below.
10. Glue the wall where the next boards will go and then fit the groove into the tongue of the previous row. Tap into place if necessary so that the joint is fully closed and the board is straight/level. Be careful to understand the set time of the adhesive you are working with so that you can position the board into place before the glue hardens.

11. Continue working in this manner, until you get to the end of the row. Once there, it may be necessary to cut the last piece to the appropriate length. Simply measure the length needed and cut the board so that the edge of the board is flush with the edge of the installation area.
12. When you reach the final row, it may be necessary to cut the board lengthwise to finish the installation (see previous section “Ensuring visually appealing installation”).

TEMPORARY INSTALLATION - DOUBLE FACED TAPE

1. Identify and measure the area that will receive boards. Vertical installation will be measured from left to right, horizontal installations will be measured top to bottom. Divide the total length in inches of the installation by the width of the individual boards (5”) to determine how many full width rows you will have. If the dimension is not divisible by 5, you will have to determine which part of the installation will receive the row of planks (or column) that has to be cut to size. In Vertical installations, it will be more attractive to make the sides of the installation area even in width rather than having a full board on the far left and a cut board on the far right. This is up to the consumer’s preference and will not affect the integrity of the installation.
2. Once you have identified the cut side, the first row or column will be on the opposite side.
3. Wall boards have a tongue side and a groove side. Identify the tongue side, the part that sticks out away from the face.
4. The “Tongue” side should always be facing the direction of installation. For example, horizontal installations (where boards will go longways from left to right) will start at the bottom of the wall with tongue facing the ceiling. Subsequent rows will install on top of the previous. Vertical installation of wall boards, where the boards will be installed longways from top to bottom, will have the tongue facing the direction of the subsequent rows.
5. Once the tongue has been identified, start from the bottom of the wall above the base board for horizontal installations. For vertical installations, determine your starting point using your level to create a vertical line. Always place the tongue facing the direction of the next row you will be installing. If you are installing a full wall to a corner, it is helpful to start with the corner and move left or right, tongue facing the direction of installation.
6. **For the first row**, use a pencil and a level to mark a straight line to coordinate with the top of the first board.
7. Next, adhere the double faced tape to the back of each board in 12-18” increments (or whatever is recommended by the manufacturer of the tape)
8. Peel off the back of the tape and stick the first board to the wall, careful to install in a straight, level manner.
9. Continue working across the row, careful to line up each board with the one before so that the combined line is straight.
10. **For the second row and beyond**, find a board that is a different length than the one underneath so the end joint will be staggered. This creates a stronger installation and a better look. Work from multiple cartons of material at a time for the best look.
11. After applying the tape to the back of the board, peel off the back layer and insert the groove of the second row over the tongue of the plank below. Tap into place if necessary so that the joint is fully closed and the board is straight/level.
12. Joints should be staggered at least the width of the board (5”).
13. The last board in each row may need to be cut down to size. Make sure to measure the length needed and cut the board such that the “clean edge” is on the front of the board.
14. When you reach the final row, it may be necessary to cut the board lengthwise to finish the installation (see previous section “Ensuring visually appealing installation”).