



## Tub and Shower Walls Installation Instructions

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Please read all instructions carefully before installing the wall system. This manual will give you basic instructions for the installation of tub and shower walls in a step-by-step sequence that will work in most types of installations. If you have an installation that is not covered by these instructions, please call us for additional information.

### Before You Begin

- Read these instructions fully before starting.
- Inspect all panels for damage. Report any issues immediately.
- Store panels flat in their packaging until installation. Do not store upright.
- Allow panels to reach room temperature before installing.

 **Warning:** Improper storage or cutting can cause warping or cracking.

### Tools and Supplies Needed for Installation

Circular saw with carbide tip blade (24- 40 tooth)  
Hand drill Square  
Hole saw Compass or scribe tool  
Level  
Cleaning shop rags  
Shop Vac  
Random orbital sander  
Safety equipment (gloves, goggles, hearing protection)  
Suction cups for the large wall panels

Jig saw with wood finish blade  
Denatured alcohol  
2" x 4" x 8' for bracing  
Belt sander with 80 grit belt  
Caulk gun  
Urethane-based construction adhesive  
Sandpaper, 150 – 220 – 320 grit  
Shims and spacers  
Torque wrench

### Preparing the Installation Site

- Prepare the area with moisture resistant dry wall, marine grade plywood, or tile backer board.
- When installing over ceramic tile, check for loose tiles. If you find any correct the problem. Make sure that the area to be covered is uniform in support. If not, build up the areas without tile. Remove the bottom row of tile and cut a ventilation gap in the substrate.

Figure 1

- On every installation, make sure that there is a 1/2" clearance between the top of the shower pan or tub and the bottom of the substrate. This will allow for ventilation and keep water leaks from wicking up the substrate. (Figure 1)

### Preparation for Accessories

#### Recessed Accessories:

- Make sure the accessories will fit near but not in a stud and closer to the center of the sheet.
- Make sure no electrical wiring or plumbing is present before cutting out for the accessories. Make the cutout in the substrate to receive the accessory.

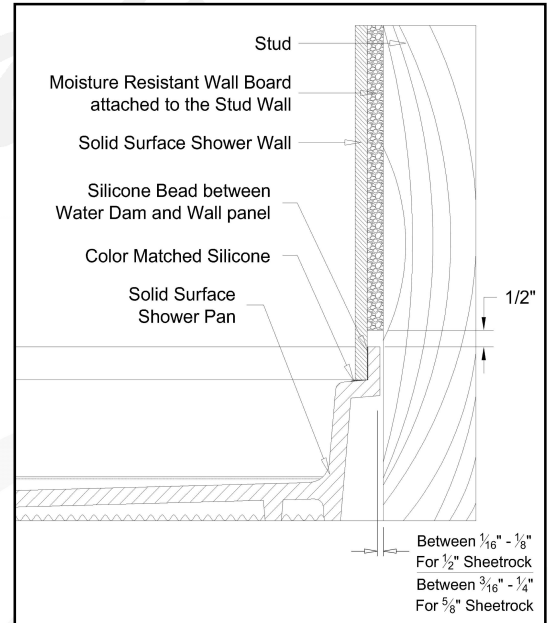


Figure 2a

#### Surface Mounted Accessories

Verify all blocking dimensions and positions to ensure proper structural support, especially for ADA-compliant installations. Confirm placement before closing walls.

- Grab Bars:** Provide continuous horizontal blocking of 2" x 8" across the wall area ranging from 30" to 38" above the finished floor (or sub-floor). (Figure 2a)
- Fold-Down / Shower Seats:** Make sure the studs are minimum 16 ga metal (or equivalent wood) from bottom plate to top plate. Apply a double layer of 3/4" plywood flush with the face of these studs, extending from the bottom plate up to 48". Ensure the center stud pair aligns correctly relative to the rear wall intersection per seat specifications. (Figure 2b)
- Other Accessories:** Provide 2" x 6" wood blocking (minimum) located to receive all mounting fasteners.

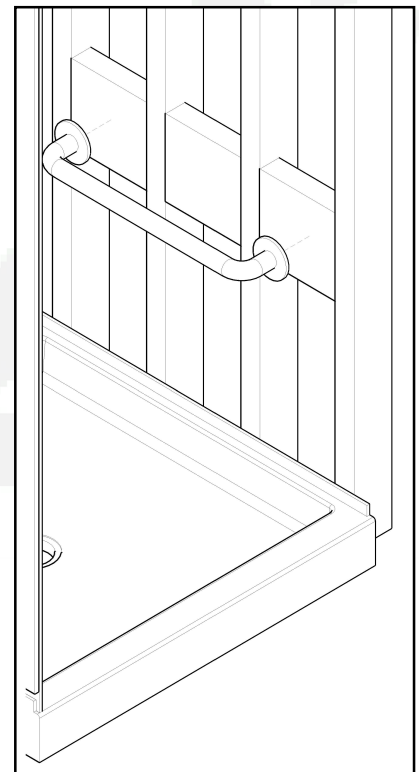
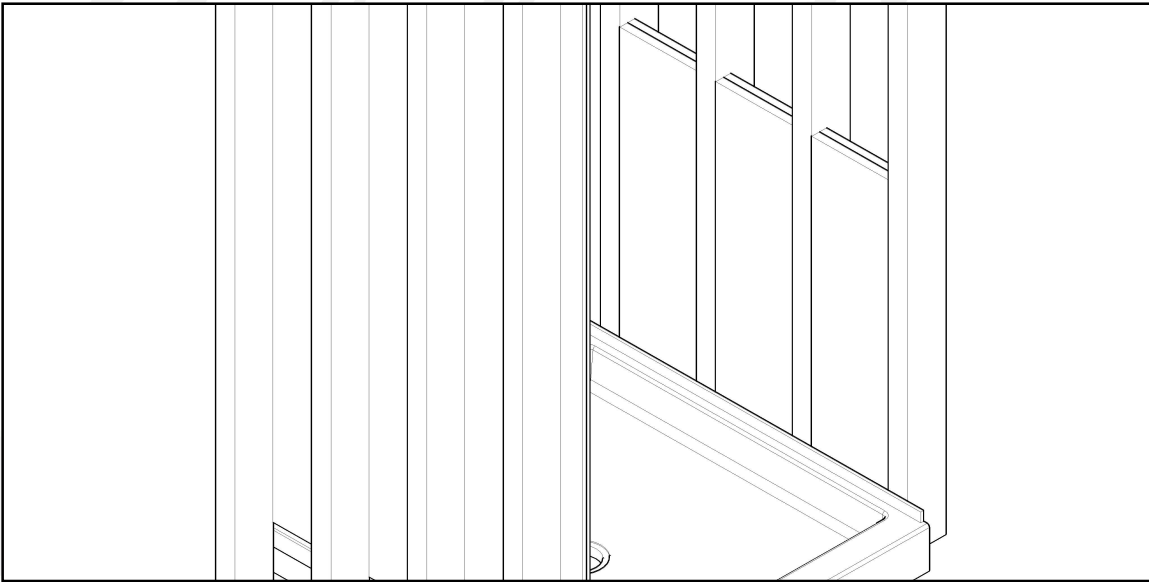


Figure 2b



### Measuring for Installation

Leave the protective film on the panels until the walls are installed.

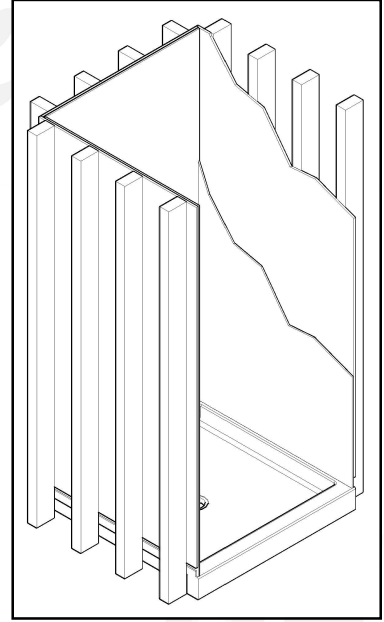
1. Panels should be installed in the following order: Ceiling, Back wall, Side wall without plumbing and then the plumbing wall.
2. You may need to draw level and plumb lines on the wall to determine whether your shower pan or walls are out of square. Using the reference line and measuring from the lowest point on tub or widest point on the wall, determine how your panels will need to be cut. Transfer this data to the panels.
3. Check your measurements and cut the panels with a circular saw or jig saw. You may make final adjustments to your cuts with a belt sander.

### Measuring and Making Cutouts

1. All inside corners of cutouts should have a minimum 1/4" radius. To avoid possible breakage do not cut sharp inside corners.

2. Determine the location of the plumbing holes. Transfer the data to the panels. Cut the holes a minimum 1/4" larger than the pipe diameters. The cover plates for the plumbing fixtures may allow for more variance. Consult the plumbing fixture installation instructions for templates and recommended hole cut out sizes. Check your measurements and using a jig saw or standard Bi Metal hole saw cut out the plumbing holes.
3. Once the panels are cut to size, locate the caddy cutouts and mark them. Make the caddy cut outs after the panels are installed.

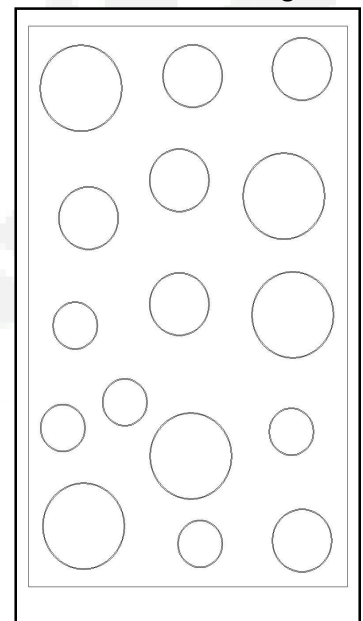
**Figure 3**



#### **Mounting the Panels (Figure 3)**

1. Dry-fit each panel before applying adhesive, verifying all dimensions and cutouts. If necessary, scribe the panel for a better fit. Trim the scribe with a belt sander.
2. Clean the sheets and installation area with denatured alcohol and a clean rag. Clean the back of the sheets and the substrate along with any other area that will be in contact with the silicone.
3. Apply the adhesive about 1" from the edge around the perimeter of the panel. Place several circular patterns, each no more than 5" in diameter, all around the panel, making sure to apply smaller amounts as to not leave more than 5in of space without adhesive. (Figure 4).
4. For Ceiling Panels, use a T-brace to hold the ceiling panel in place for a minimum of 24 hours.
5. Brace shower walls using dimensional lumber as follows; begin at the back inside corners of the shower, brace horizontally corner to corner tight up against the backwall and work your way out to the front panel edges. (Figure 5)
6. Once the silicone has set up and the panel is secure, remove the bracing and pull away the protective plastic.

**Figure 4**



7. Make any remaining cut outs. Silicone between the panels and the substrate along the cut out edge and install the accessory.

Figure 5

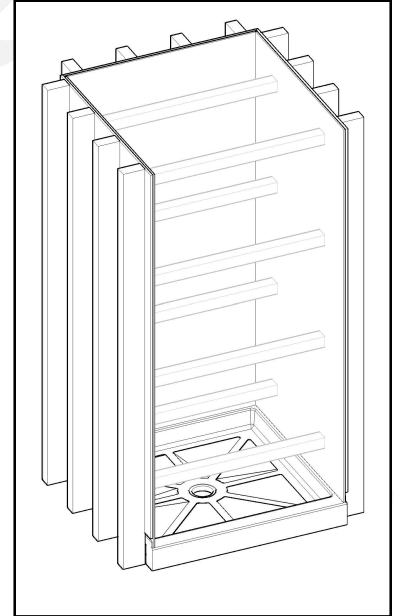
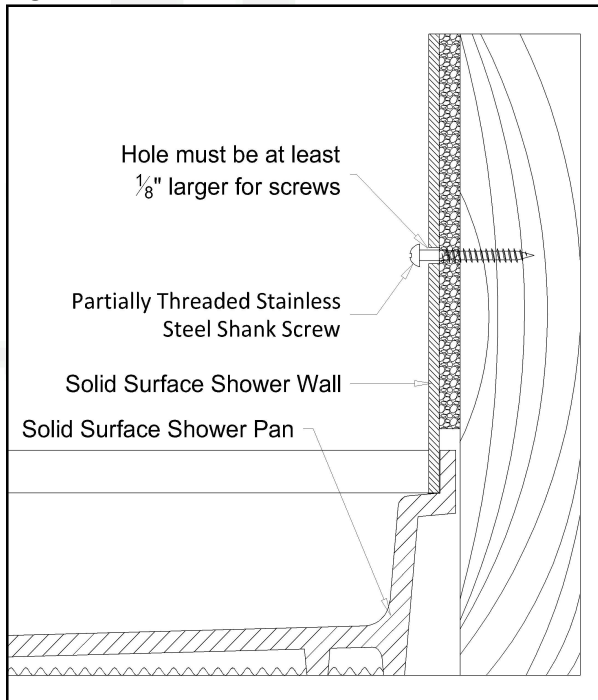


Figure 6



### Mounting Accessories

1. Install surface mounted accessories such as corner caddies or soap dishes. Refer to the project submittal for elevations. Install the accessories with clear silicone and hot melt glue, trim using color matched silicone. The hot melt glue will hold the accessory in place until the silicone has fully cured, usually 24 hours.
2. Install surface mounted items. Make sure that the diameter of the screw hole drilled into the wall panel is at least 1/8" larger than the screw so that the accessory is held in place by the wood blocking and not the wall panel. Use only partially threaded shank screws. Do not apply more than 30 in-lbs (3.5Nm) of torque (Figure 6). If the accessory is to be ADA compliant, please refer to the ADA manual for the proper heights and locations. When ADA fold down shower seats are to be installed, we strongly recommend using seats with legs.



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Trim pieces will not only enhance the looks of your installation but also provide extra protection against water. You can install trim pieces using hot melt glue along with the color- matched silicone. Install trim in the following order: vertical trim at the front of the shower, horizontal trim at the top of the shower walls, vertical inside corner trim. Refer to your project submittal for trim installation details. If you do not have a project submittal contact Wiltcher Industries to receive a copy.

### Installing the Trim & Cove

1. Dry fit all trim pieces marking the dimensions on each piece, cut to length.
2. Clean all areas where silicone will be installed with denatured alcohol.
3. Trim should be installed using silicone adhesive. Hot melt glue will hold the trim in place while the silicone cures.
4. Fill all visible inside joints with color matched silicone.
5. Outside joints where wall surfaces are to be painted are to be filled by others with paintable caulk. If outside wall surfaces are unpainted silicone may be used.
6. Clean up silicone with denatured alcohol while the silicone is still wet.
7. Adhere outside corner trim pieces to the outer wall and the shower wall panel, using hot melt and color matched silicone. Remember not to use silicone on outside wall surfaces to be painted.
8. Using the color- matched silicone or caulk seal all joint areas.

### Sealing the Walls & Trim

1. Thoroughly clean all joints to receive silicone with denatured alcohol. Any remaining contaminants can cause mold to appear, the silicone is not molding, it is unremoved contaminants.
2. Using the color coordinated silicone or silicone of your color choice, silicone all internal joints with a uniform consistent bead. Use denatured alcohol for cleanup while silicone is still wet.
3. If a non-paintable surface butts up to the shower walls (i.e. tile or stone), silicone can be used. Using a paintable latex caulk (not supplied) caulk the outside perimeter of the shower wall and paint with the exterior wall color.