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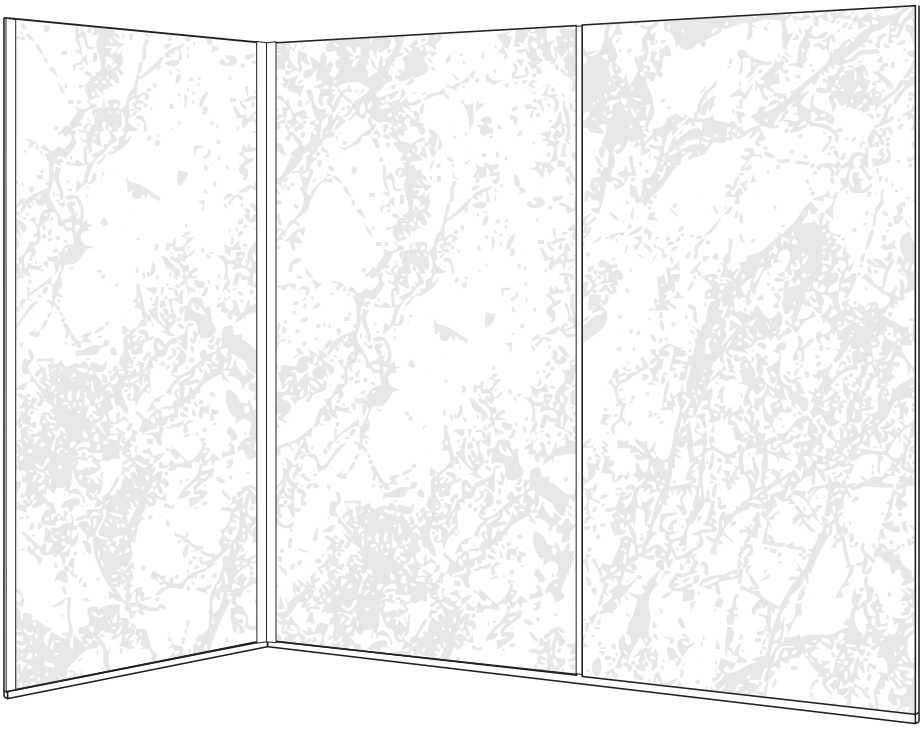
2400 x 1000mm Shower Panel



Fitting Instructions

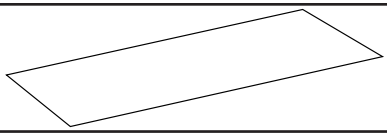
Please follow them carefully and
leave this manual with end user

Before you begin:

1. **We recommend that this product is installed by a qualified tradesperson**, Victorian Plumbing Ltd. accept no liability for products incorrectly installed or any damage to the floor, walls, plumbing, wall panels or personal injury during installation.
2. Observe all local building codes & regulations.
3. We strongly recommend the use of a dedicated installation kit in order to achieve a professional finish.
4. If a dedicated installation kit is not being used, then it is important that a natural cure silicone is used for the installation to avoid cracking and poor adhesion. **Do not use a standard acetic curing silicone.**
5. Panels will expand and contract with temperature so it's very important to allow a 3-4mm expansion gap at the perimeter of each panel.
6. When using panels for renovation over existing tiles or other wall finishes, it may be necessary to reposition the taps and outlets to align with the finished wall surface of the panel.
7. **Do not store or transport the sheets outdoors, in direct sunlight or in extreme heat.**
8. Sheets must be stored inside and stacked horizontally to avoid any bowing of the sheets.
9. We strongly recommend that the sheets should be allowed to acclimatise to the installation room's temperature (approx 19°C) for 24 hours before cutting/installation to prevent any adverse effect due to expansion (as shown in Fig.3).
10. **Sheets may have sharp edges, always wears gloves and other appropriate clothing and footwear for your protection during the installation process.**
11. **Always wear eye protection during the installation of PVC panels and other safety equipment relative to the installation tools being used.**
12. Unpack the product then read these instructions before proceeding. Inspect the product for damage. If any damage is found, contact our Customer Relations team.

Items included:

Diagrams are for illustration purposes only. Your Shower Panel may superficially differ from this drawing however the installation guide steps still apply.

Description	Picture	Qty
PVC Shower Panel		1

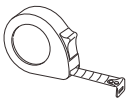
Tools Required (Not Included):

Ensure the appropriate PPE is used during installation

Caulking Gun

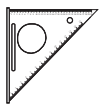
Mounting Panel Adhesive

Pencil



Tape Measure

Spirit Level

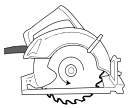


Carpenter's Square

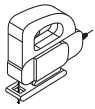
Neutral Cure Silicone Sealant

Profiling Tool

Power Drill



Power Saw

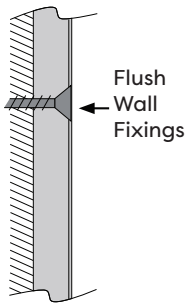


Jigsaw

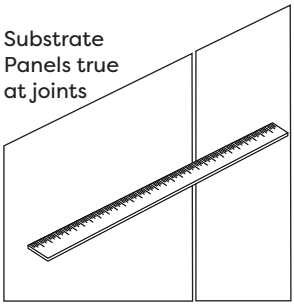
Area Preparation:

- Ensure the walls are smooth, clean and dry.
- All existing substrate wall panel fixings must be set flush or recessed as illustrated in Fig 1 A,B and C. If the wall is uneven consider using a timber substructure to mount the panels.
- For wall lining, use waterproof panelling or plasterboard only in accordance with local building regulations for shower/bath areas.
- All substrate wall linings must be sealed at the joints with a generous silicone or waterproofing compound as Illustrated in Fig.2.

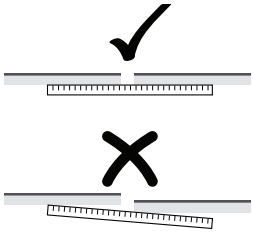
Fig.1



A.

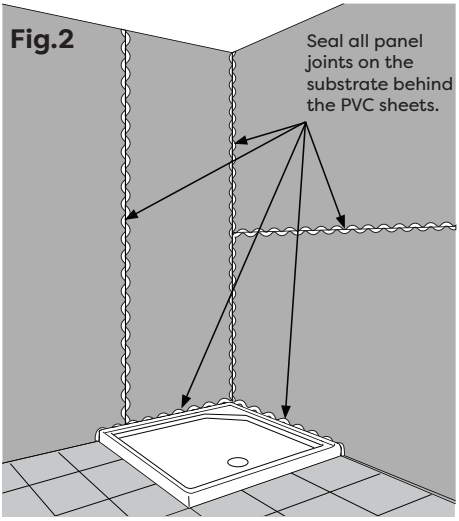


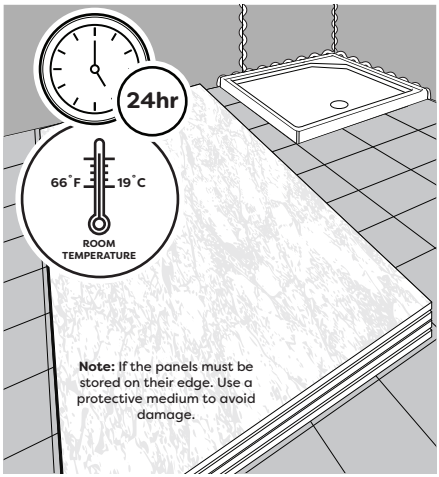
B.



C.

Fig.2



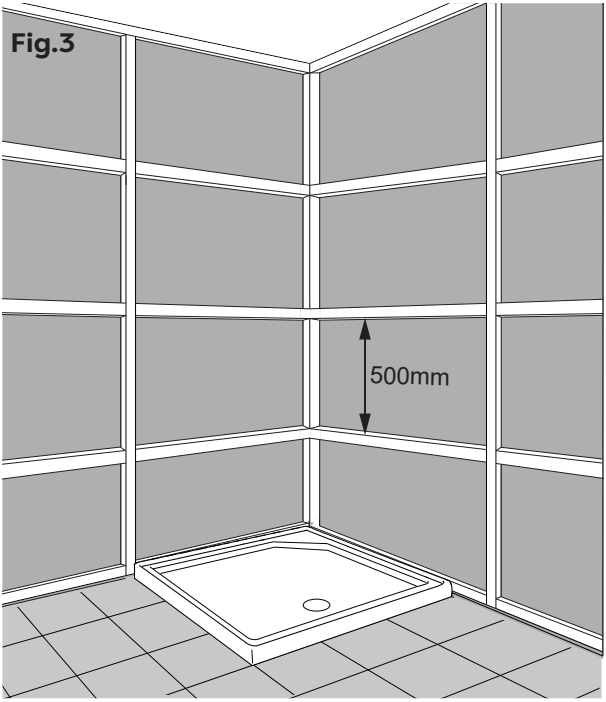


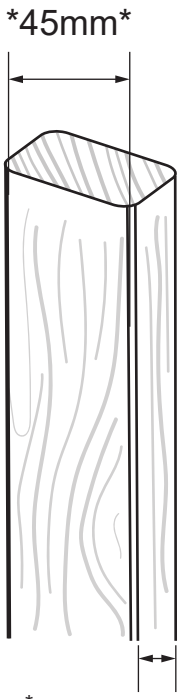
Tiled walls

- PVC Panels can be easily installed over existing tiles as long as the wall tiles are securely attached and thoroughly cleaned before installation.
- Ensure the tiles are free of soap or any other build up. Conduct a final clean using a degreaser such as "Sugar Soap" and rinse well with clean water. Allow the tiles to fully dry.
- Check the walls carefully for any high spots and remove any tiles or fittings that may interfere with the PVC panel or create a wavy result when the panel is installed.
- Exposed edges can be sealed with good quality silicone sealant. A finishing trim can also be used to crate a neat appearance covering both the tile and PVC edge.

Timber Battens

- The panels should be fixed directly to the battens using a mounting panel adhesive.
- The height and thickness of the treated timber battens should be approximately be 45 x 21mm. (As shown in Fig.3)
- The battens should be fixed horizontally with one at the top and the bottom of the panels, with additional battens at a recommended distance of 500mm apart. They should be plumb and parallel to each other to give a solid ground for fixing the panels to the adhesive.
- Wash basins, towel rails and other heavy items should have additional battens behind them to provide a secure fixing.





Standard width and thickness for timber batten

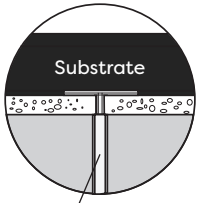
Types Of Panel Fittings:

Square edge fixing

Recommended for shower panels.

Carefully trim off the tongues on each side of the panels. The edges will be covered by the shower extrusions on the profiles.

Panels can be joined together in continuous runs with H-Joint profiles.



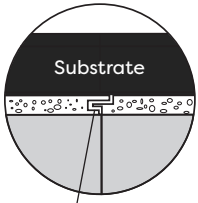
H-Joint Profile

Tongue & Grooved

Recommend for continuous panel runs.

Each panel on the vertical edges are tongued and grooved to give a 5mm joint overlap, giving a smooth panel surface.

Seal with silicone sealant to ensure a waterproof joint is assured.



Tongue & Groove

Measuring:

- Measure each wall area and decide on a suitable panel size.
- Allow for 3-4mm joints at each edge as illustrated in Fig.5.
- Check that the installation area is square. If the area is not square or an odd shape, we recommend the fabrication of a timber template and trial fitting, Use the template to cut out the PVC panel to achieve an accurate result.

Fig.4

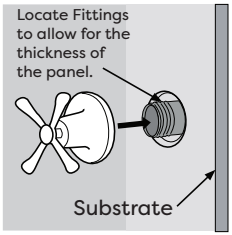
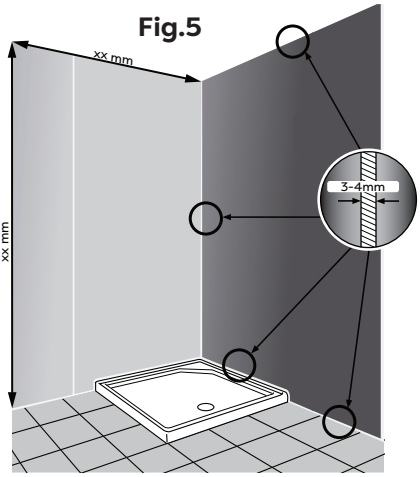
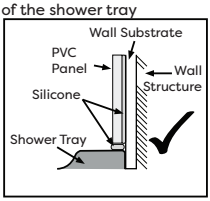


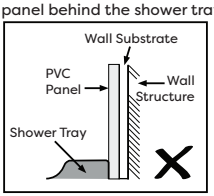
Fig.5



DO Run the panel on top of the shower tray



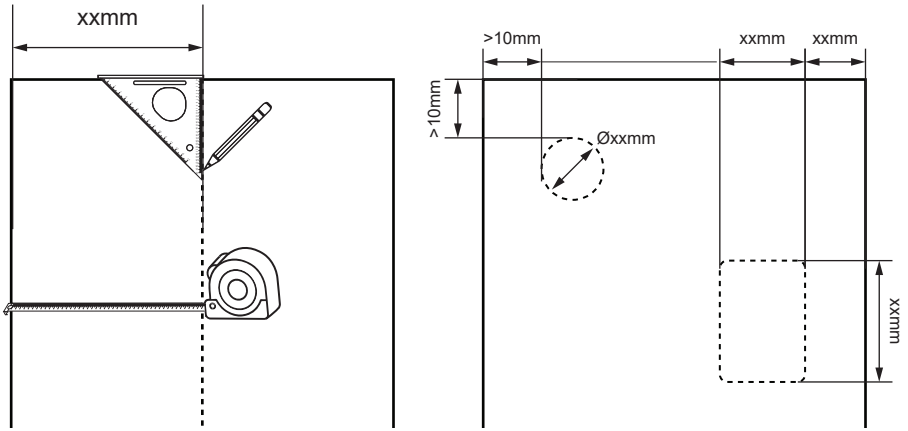
DO NOT Run the PVC panel behind the shower tray



Marking Out:

- Mark any holes and cutting lines on the panel using a pencil/pen, as shown in Fig.6. Do not use metal scribes.
- Do not mark out the sheet in direct sunlight or freezing conditions as thermal expansion/ contraction could affect the final panel size prior to installation (e.g. below 0°C or above 25°C).
- The edge for any hole markings should be no closer than 10mm to the edge of the panel sheet.

Fig.6



Panel Cutting:

- When cutting or drilling, always wear the appropriate personal protection equipment relevant to the tool being used. We recommend the use of safety glasses at all times.
- Use the appropriate clamping and support to avoid vibration and potential chipping of the edges.
- Always protect the panel using a non-abrasive material between the clamp and the sheet surface being careful not to damage the surface.
- Using a power/jig saw or table saw will deliver a straight and accurate cut. It is recommended to use a sacrificial timber beneath the board for the best cutting results. As shown in Fig.7 below.

Fig.7

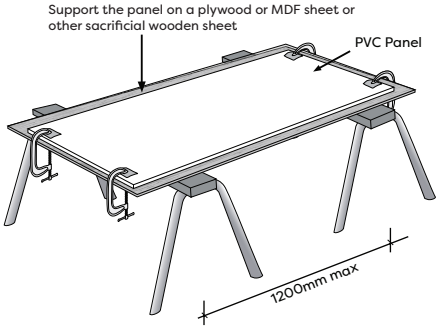


Fig.8 TABLE SAW

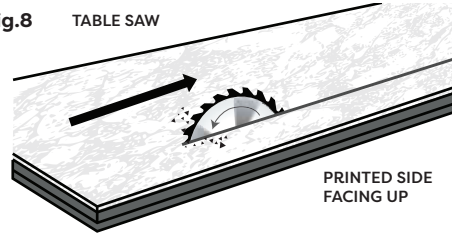
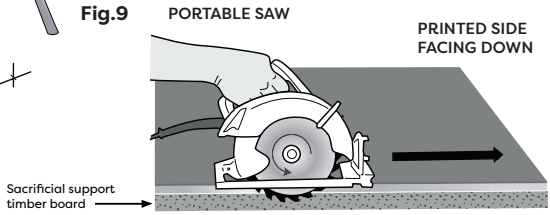


Fig.9 PORTABLE SAW



- To ensure a neat edge when using a fixed table circular saw (Fig.8), cut with the coloured side of the PVC sheet facing **Upwards**. If you are using a portable saw, cut with the printed side of the PVC sheet facing **Downwards** (Fig.9). **Note:** Always ensure the printed surface of the panel is fully protected from scratching.
- Jigsaws can be used for cutting short distances such as power point openings. You must only use jigsaw blades that are suitable for aluminium or plastics. Cut with the printed side of the PVC sheet facing **Downwards**.
- Do not use jigsaws to make long cuts as the blade may overheat and melt the sheet, resulting in a poor finish.
- Clean swarf away frequently after cutting to avoid damage.
- A carpenter square is recommended for making out square cuts in the panels.

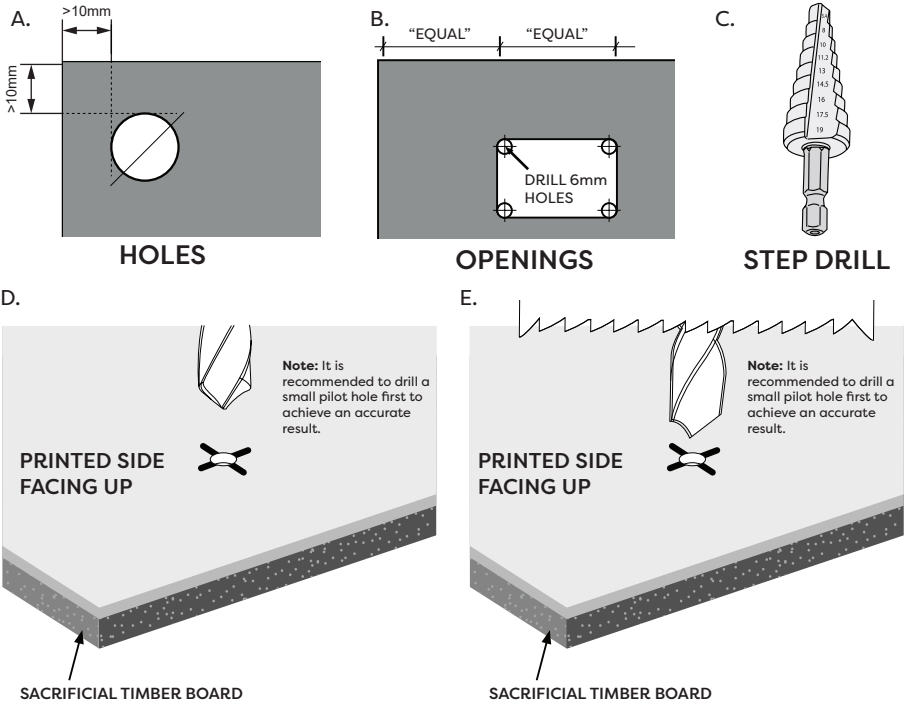
Cutting Recommendations & Blade Types:

- We Strongly recommend that panels should only be cut or shaped at room temperature (approx 19°C).
- **Jigsaw** - Use a fine cutting blade that is suitable for plastic/aluminium.
- **Table Saw/Power saw** - Use a fine tooth carbide tip blade with 60-80 teeth.
- **Electric Multi-Tool** - Use a fine cutting blade.
- **Drill bits** - Use a high speed steel tipped drill bit. Do not allow the drill bit to overheat. Work at a moderate speed and pressure.

Drilling & Openings:

- The edge of any drilled holes should be no closer than 10mm to the edge of the panel sheet. (A)
- Do not create long openings close to edge of the sheet, as the sheet will be difficult to handle during the install.
- Always drill a hole at the corner of any cut-out or notch. Avoid cutting square inside corners. (B)
- Step drills are ideal for mid sized holes and making smaller holes into larger ones. (C)
- Drill the holes with the printed side of the PVC panel facing upwards to reduce the risk of chipping. Best results will be achieved with a slow to medium drill speed using only a light pressure. (D)
- Fine toothed hole saws can be used for larger holes. Cut with the PVC panel facing upwards. (E)

Fig.10



Profiles:

- The use of profiles is wholly recommended to protect the panel edges. Refer to the below diagram (fig.11) for the different types of panels.

Fig.11

EDGE PROFILE
Finishing touches end cap for square cut edge panel.

STRAIGHT JOINT
Used to mount panels side by side.

EXTERNAL CORNER
Used on external 90˚C corners.

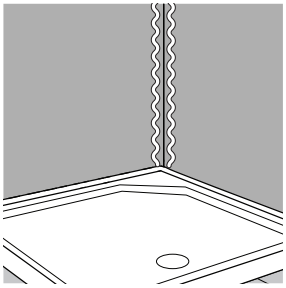
INTERNAL CORNER
Used on internal 90˚C corners.

Profile Installation:

- Profiles should be fixed to the walls using the appropriate mounting adhesive.
- Always first pipe a fine bead of good quality silicone sealant along the inside of each profile when seating a panel into the profile, ensuring the bead is not so wide as to spill out the sides of the profile when the panel is inserted.
- When inserting a profile, allow room for panel expansion as described in the 'Before You Begin' section.

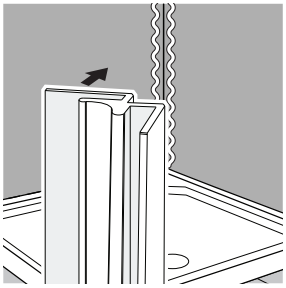
Fig.12

A.



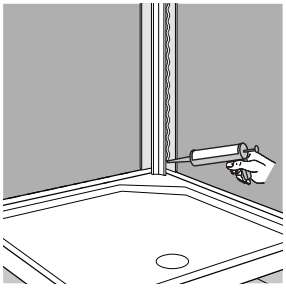
Pipe a fine bead of good quality silicone sealant along the edge of the substrate/batten.

B.



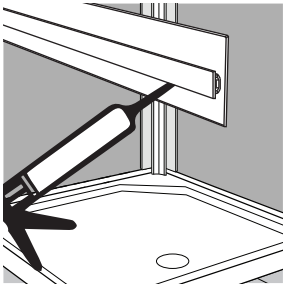
Place the required profile need over the silicone to the wall/batten ensure the profile is fully backed up against the wall. Carefully wipe away any excess silicone with a damp cloth.

C.



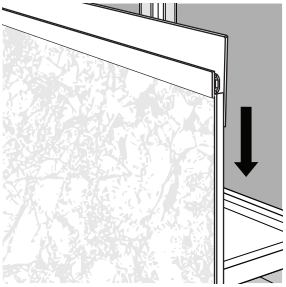
Once the profile is securely mounted to the wall/batten, pipe another bead of silicone along the inside of the profile.

D.



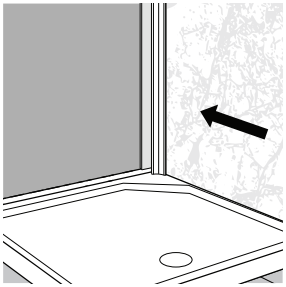
Apply silicone sealant to the channel of the second profile.

E.



Carefully insert the second profile along the edge of the second profile.

F.

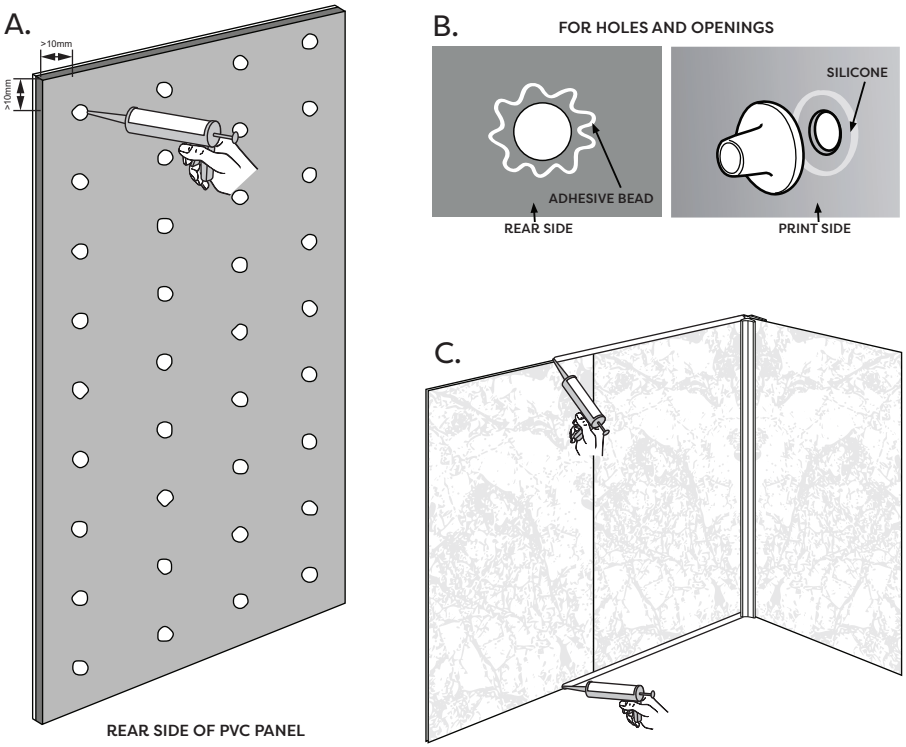


Apply the mounting panel adhesive to the rear of the panel and profile. Carefully insert the panel into the first profile. Wipe any excess silicone with a damp cloth.

Panel Installation:

- Once any cuts have been made, trial fit each panel to ensure the trim size and expansion gaps are correct (3-4mm).
- For tongue and groove joints, always pipe a fine bead of good quality silicone sealant along the inside of the groove to ensure a fully waterproof seal is made. Ensure the bead is not so wide as to spill out. **Note:** Always use a neutral cure silicone sealant.
- For square edge fittings. Cut off the tongue and groove joints on the panel edge then apply silicone sealant to the profile before inserting the panel into the profile.
  (Refer to "Profile Installation" for guidance.)
- Apply an appropriate amount of good quality board adhesive around the back of the panel board as shown in Fig.13. Run a bead of adhesive on the rear of the panel around any holes or cut outs, then pipe a bead of silicone sealant around the front of the panel **Note:** Always use a neutral cure silicone sealant.
- Mount the panel to the wall by resting on the spacers or wedges at the bottom of the panel. Add 3mm spacers between the panel and the ceiling.

Fig.13



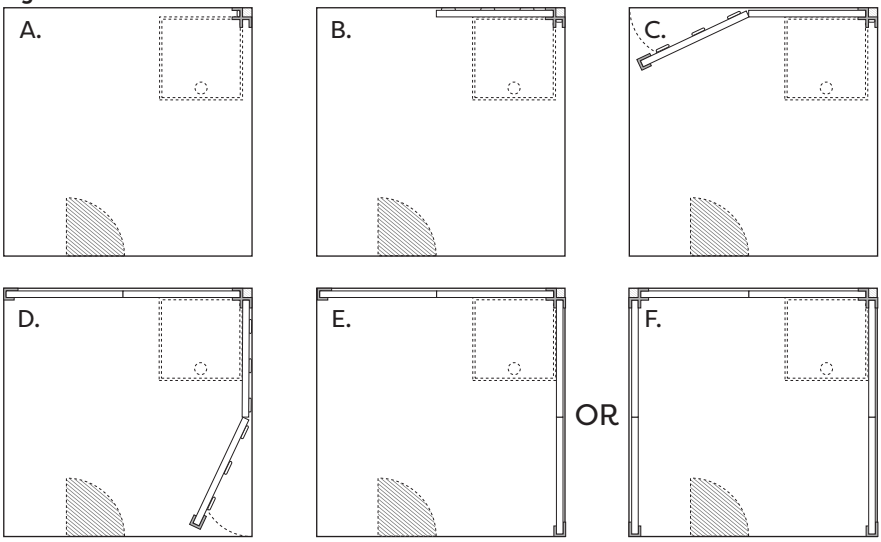
- Ensure the panel is firmly fixed to the wall. Repeat this task for the remaining panels required. Allow 24 hours for the adhesive and the sealant to fully dry.
- Remove the spacers/wedges then seal the floor and sealing joints with neutral cure silicone sealant. **Note:** To achieve a smooth finish on the silicone; spray the profiling tool with soapy water, then run the profile along the edge of the floor and ceiling.

Where to start:

Corner Installation:

- Start with fitting the internal corner profile to the corner of your desired area. Proceed to add the panels along the walls. Finish off the panel area with the end cap profiles.

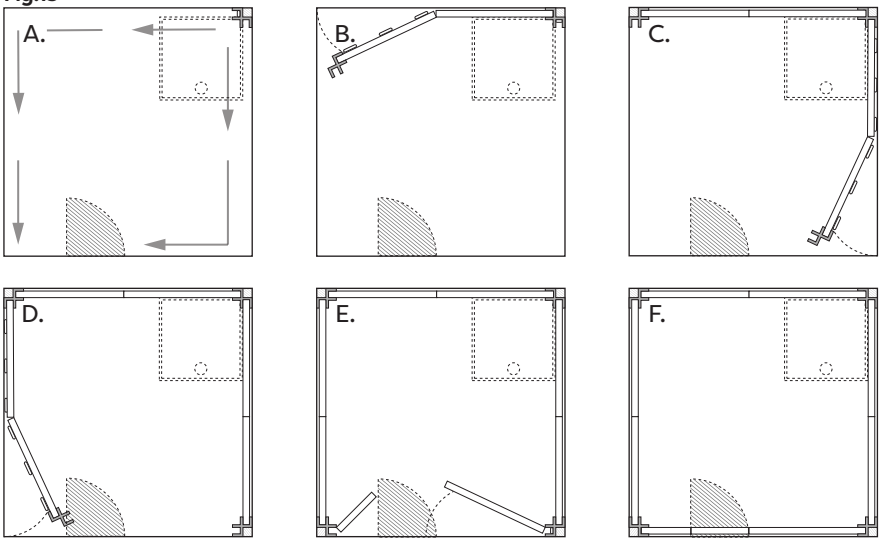
Fig.14



Full Room Installation:

- Start at the corner furthest from the door, panel in both directions around the room. The last panel is fitted above the doorway and should be cut accurately and joints to either side should be siliconed.

Fig.15



Important Notes:

- **DO NOT** use Acetic cure silicone. Always use a neutral cure silicone.
- **DO NOT** use Acrylic sealant as it will not bond to the panels.
- **VERY IMPORTANT;** For corner joints without a trim please see Fig.16 for panel positioning.

Fig.16

Cleaning & Aftercare:

- We recommend you have sufficient ventilation in the bathroom as per general building regulations in order to reduce condensation.
- For cleaning, best results are achieved using a soft microfibre cloth with non-abrasive detergent and warm water. Always rise off with clean water.

- The PVC panel is suitable to use with typical soap, liquid soap, shampoo and conditioners.
- **DO NOT** use brushes or scouring pads on the PVC as this may damage the finished surface.
- **DO NOT** use cleaners with high alkaline content such as concentrated bleach.