



EcoDomo[®]
Leather Surfacing and Fabrication Company

Wall and Ceiling Panels Installation Instructions

Before You Start

You must read and understand these instructions completely before installing panels. In the event these instructions leave unanswered questions or if you would like additional information, please contact us at 301-424-7717 prior to beginning installation. It is the responsibility of the installer to determine suitability of EcoDomo Panels for each application.

Summary

EcoDomo panels can be installed on walls using French cleats, Z clips, Velcro® or Loctite PL-400 adhesive over a primed substrate. The panels need to be acclimated prior to installation and laid over a smooth, primed surface.

Panels installed on ceilings should be installed with the PL-400 adhesive and screwed in place with a minimum of a 2 1/4" screw in wood or concrete. Square head screws are recommended as they can easily be finished with a decorative "fast cap" screw cap. Z-Clips designed for panels may also be available.

The general guidelines are to have a smooth, clean and solid substrate, a controlled environment where you install acclimated panels following basic procedures appropriate for each system : French Cleats, Z Clips, Velcro, or adhesive.

Preparation

Panels are the last thing you want to install in a room. **ALLOW THE PANELS TO ACCLIMATE ON-SITE FOR A PERIOD OF 48-72 HOURS AT ROOM TEMPERATURE DEPENDING ON SITE AND LOCATION.** Never install Panels below 55F (12°C) and 90F (32°C) due to humidity. Keep the doors closed during the acclimation period to maintain the room temperature. The permanent HVAC should be on and done in the environment in which it is expected to perform prior to installation.

- **Check that the substrates - wall or ceiling - is firmly fastened to the original surface;**
- **Use a belt sander or sanding block to smooth out any rough areas;**
- **The surface where panels are installed must be smooth, clean, dry and dust-free;**
- **Ensure you reviewed the panels for color and mix and match lots when installing as necessary.**

Panels must not be installed directly on concrete slab if vapor pressure exceeds 3 lbs. per 1000 square feet in 24 hours as tested according to ASTM F 1869 (calcium chloride test method).

Review and Prepare Substrate

No installation is better than the substrate over which it is installed. The finished appearance and performance of the panels will be determined by the condition of the substrate. The substrate must be structurally sound, rigid, smooth, flat, clean, and permanently dry. Any painted surface must have a strong bond- any signs of peeling will ensure problems with the panels. The substrate should be free of dirt, waxes, polish, old adhesives, and voids.

We recommend the application of Kilz® water based General Purpose Latex in order to seal the substrate and limit dust and moisture variations. This is a similar process to sealing a wall when installing wallpaper. The sealer may be colored to match the color of the tiles to minimize the visual impact of the substrate.

Layout your pattern as you would for tile work. Chalk your lines onto the ceiling or walls. Install with either adhesive, a cleat system, or Velcro.

Permanent Option: Adhesive

We recommend the application of PL-400 panel adhesive following the manufacturer's instructions with the spread rate described below on plywood, concrete, or primed sheet rock. The panels should be free of dust at the time of application. Apply the adhesive within 2" from the sides of the panels and do an "X" with the adhesive for every 24" x 24" surface within the panel. Apply firmly in place the panels to the wall or ceiling.

For ceilings, each corner of the panels should be screwed in place in addition to the placement of the adhesive with 2 1/4" screws. Additional screws should be placed on the edges of the panels in the ceiling studs no more than within a range of 24" from each other to ensure the stability of the panels.

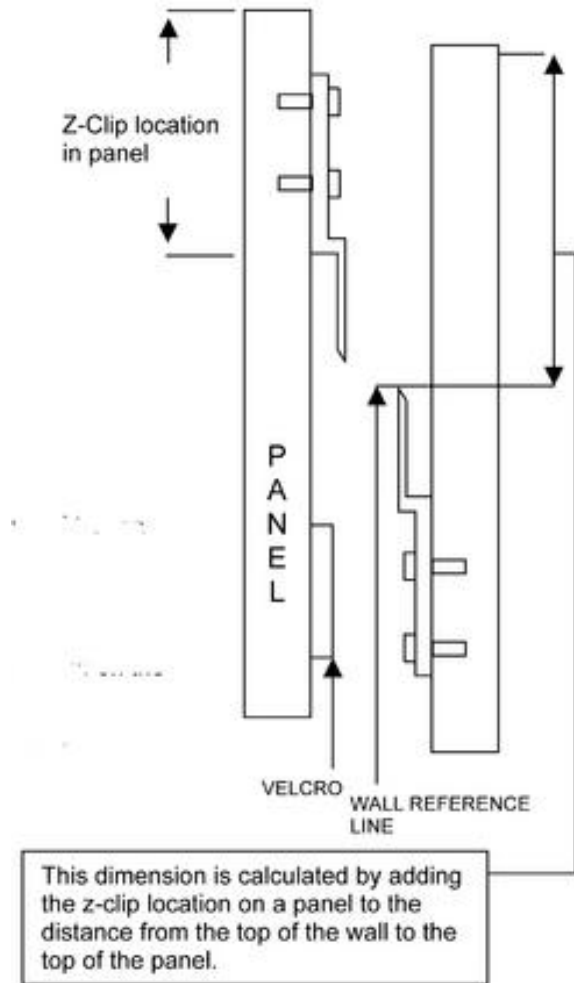


Removable Option: Z-Clips & French Cleats

The "Z"-clip mechanical mounting method is used when you have large panels that you would like to be removable. This method is much like hanging a picture on the wall. The clips allow the panels to be easily lifted off or set on the wall. The Z-clips or the French cleats are factory installed on the back of the panels. Additional z-clips or cleat bars are sent in a separate box along with the panels.

Determine the z-clip locations on the wall where panel is to be installed. With back side of panel facing up, lay wall clips into panel clips.

1. Measure from top of panel to bottom of wall clips. (Refer to detail). This will give dimension of bottom of wall clips to desired panel height.
2. Snap chalk lines on wall at indicated heights.
3. Attach wall clips to wall with bottom of clip at chalk lines. (See notes 1 & 2)
4. Place panel on wall at least $\frac{3}{4}$ " higher than desired height and press firmly against wall. Slide panel down to engage clips. Check to be sure all clips are engaged.



NOTES:

- On gypsum board walls Where it is impractical to screw through to studs use of appropriate screw anchors is recommended.
- On Wood or Steel walls: Clips may be screwed directly to the wall.
- Velcro dots may be installed as well at the bottom of large panels for additional stability. Remove the liner prior to installation and press firmly in place.

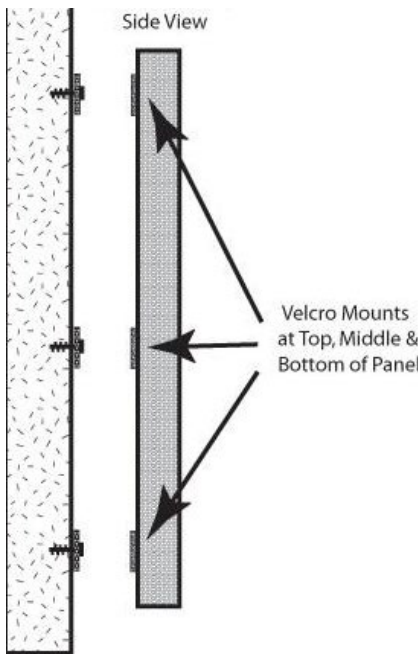
FRENCH CLEATS follow the same directions as Z-Clips for installation. The panels "drop in" on the matching wood piece along the wall. The walls must be perfectly flat for the cleat system to engage properly over long areas.



Removable Option: Velcro System

If the panels are designed to be removable, the use of Velcro may be used for installation. The Velcro is factory installed uniformly on the back of the panels. The amount of Velcro used is related to the size and weight of the panels. An equivalent measure of Velcro will accompany the panels.

Velcro can only be used to panels to clean, smooth, non-porous surfaces. This system should always be applied by using either contact cement, or with a staple gun to supplement the adhesion of the Velcro on the wall. The adhesive that is already on the back of the Velcro pieces MAY NOT hold up the panel alone. **CONTACT CEMENT, SCREWS OR STAPLES MUST BE USED TO SECURE THE VELCRO TO THE WALL!** Follow the following steps:



1. Determine the appropriate positions for the Velcro tape
2. Apply contact cement to the wall where the Velcro will be applied, let the contact cement dry according to the manufacturer's directions. Once dry, remove the release paper and press the Velcro firmly in place.
3. Remove release paper from the hook Velcro and press Velcro very firmly to wall. All entrapped air must be removed. DO NOT apply hook Velcro to panel back, remove release paper and run panel to wall.

Wall panel is then firmly pressed against wall engaging the loop Velcro on the panel back to the hook Velcro on the wall

NOTES:

- A small roller, the size used for wallpaper seams works well to remove entrapped air.
- If repositioning or removal of the panel is necessary, the panel must be "peeled" from the wall if possible. A thin, flat, rigid blade is useful in starting the break in the bond between the panel and the loop Velcro, the hook Velcro and the wall, or both.
- Some panel facings may soil easily. Installers should have clean hands or wear clean gloves.

Panel Maintenance

There is no need to apply a wax sealer or other protective finish on the panels. Maintenance is made by wiping the panels with a damp, well wrung cloth. Recycled leathers can also be washed with pH neutral cleaners. Always make a spot test prior to any cleaning with an untested chemical or product.

Keep HVAC systems set at 70F (21C) and 35%-55% relative humidity. A humidifier may be required in the winter months to prevent movement and shrinkage to a minimum.

Contact us for more information regarding products, designs, sales, distribution and installation.

NOTE: EcoDomo makes no warranty or guarantee of the quality of work performed by a selected installer. EcoDomo disclaims all liability for imperfect installation of its product. This warranty does not cover material with visible defects once they are installed in error. EcoDomo declines responsibility for failure resulting from or connected with subfloor or job-site damage or deficiencies. These tips and photo guides are a general guideline to assist with installation of the product provided for reference only. A deviation from the instructions voids any responsibility of EcoDomo LLC.



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Questions or Comments?

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