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Decorative Panel
Installation


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Decorative Panel Installation

Congratulations on your purchase of Eucatex Paneling, a maintenance-free choice for any indoor application.

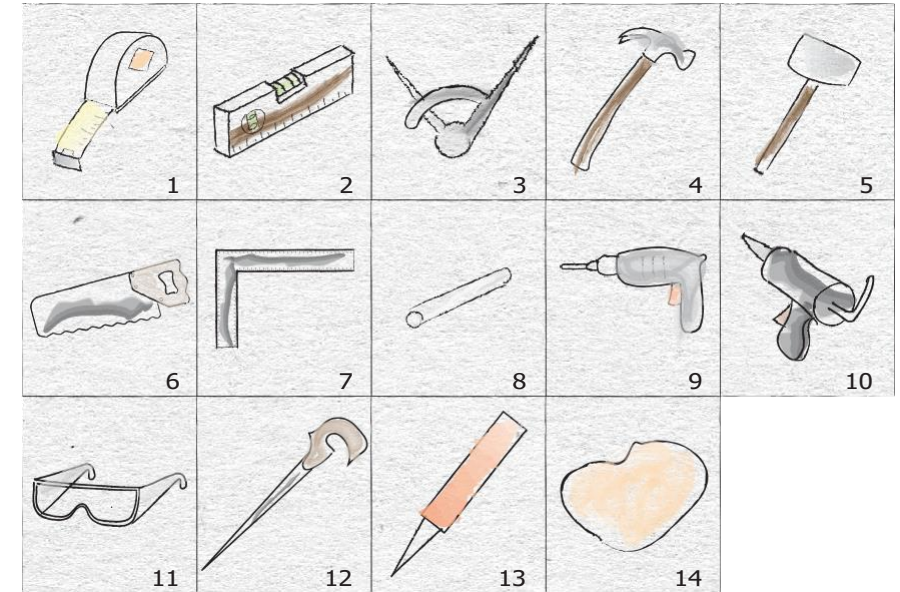
Our modern finishes and patterns bring updated trends in paneling décor to your home.

Eucatex panels are available in smooth or textured finishes.

Textured Panels give the feel and full richness of natural woodgrain. Smooth panels are available prefinished, with no additional painting needed, or with re-coatable finish allowing you to paint to suit any color style. Eucatex panels will enhance your ambience with different textures and colors.



TOOLS AND SUPPLIES FOR INSTALLATION



Here is what you will need for most common wall paneling installations:

- 1 - Tape measure
- 2 - Level
- 3 - Pencil compass
- 4 - Hammer
- 5 - Padded wooden block (or rubber mallet)
- 6 - Power or handsaw (with short fine-toothed blade)
- 7 - Carpenter's square
- 8 - Chalk line
- 9 - Drill
- 10 - Adhesive caulking gun
- 11 - Eye goggles (must be worn when using any power or hand tools)
- 12 - Keyhole saw/miter box
- 13 - Tub caulk
- 14 - Cloths for clean-up

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BEFORE YOU BEGIN, PLEASE READ

Be sure to read and follow the instructions.

Eucaboard / Eucaplac/ Eucatile paneling is intended for dry interior use only and requires care in handling.

Eucatex paneling should not be used in environments where an accumulation of water, grease, smoke, or other surface contaminants will require frequent cleaning to remove accumulations.

Panels cannot be installed directly to studs in mobile homes.

When using cleaning materials, experiment with scrap paneling or spot clean in an inconspicuous area. Eucatex is not responsible for any damage caused by non-recommended cleaning methods.

Always check your building code. Panels are Class III fire rated and most panels are only allowed to be installed over a solid wall under most building codes.

Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) containing potential physical and health hazard information is available at your retailer.

Care should be taken during installation to allow for space between panels and heat producing appliances and ignition sources. Consult your local building code authority for guidelines and requirements.

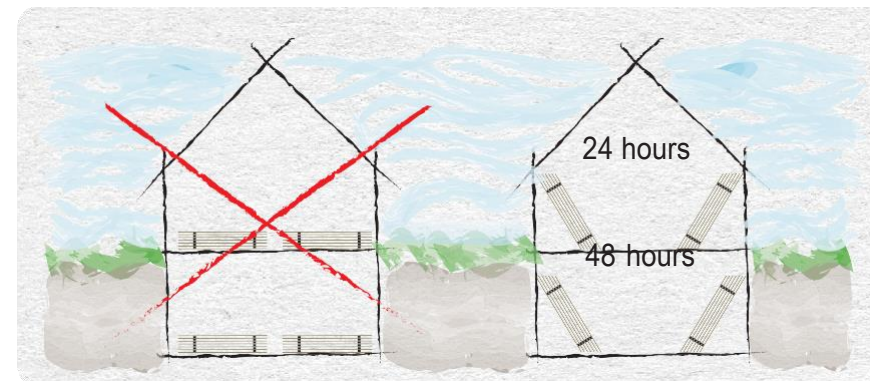
Improper use and/or installation will void any warranty of the product.



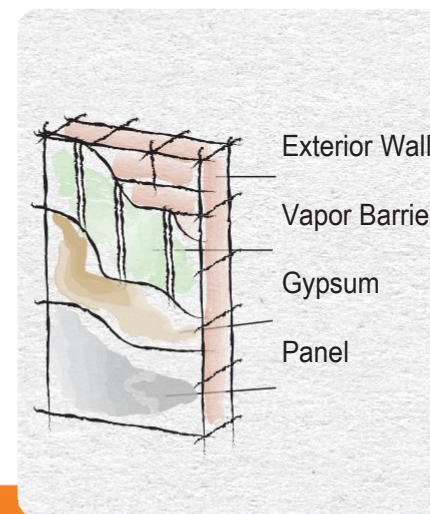
CONDITIONING PANELS

Condition panels by placing them in the room to be paneled at least 72 hours prior to installation.

Stack the panels or lean them against a wall, with spacers between each sheet. This allows the room air to circulate around each panel for proper acclimation.



WALL PREPARATION



Installing paneling over existing true walls requires no preliminary preparation. Sanding high spots on the wall is generally about all you have to do.

Panels of 1/8" thickness must be applied to solid walls only, and above the grade.

Panels of 3/16" thickness or greater may be installed directly to the stud frame, above or below grade.

To install Panels directly to studs, it is necessary to have a solid insulated exterior wall and 4-mil or greater polyethylene vapor barrier behind the studs.

ADHESIVE APPLICATION

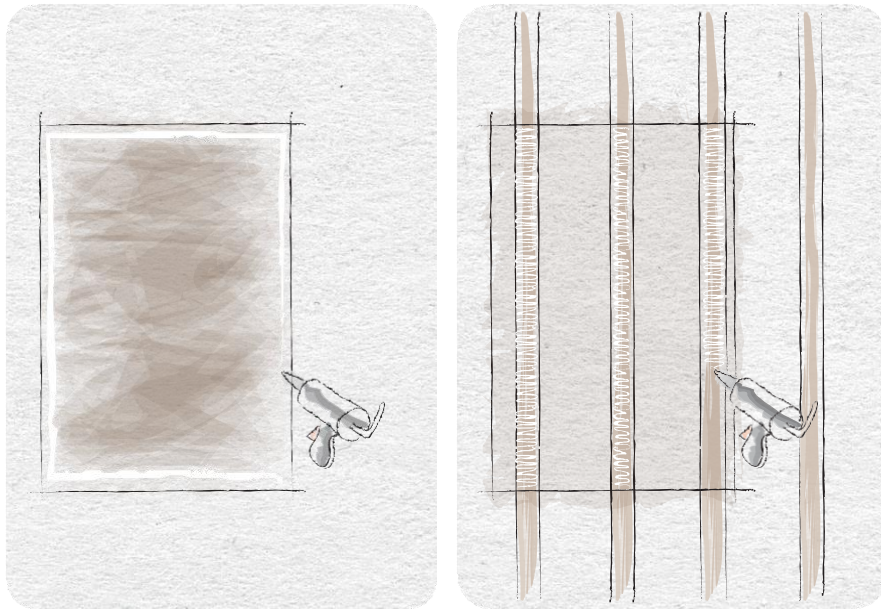
Use high quality adhesive suitable for paneling. It can be "Solvent-Based" or "Low-VOC". Be sure to read the adhesive manufacturer's instructions carefully prior to installation, as instructions may vary.

Adhesive may be used to apply panels directly to studs (if thickness is 3/16" or greater) or over existing walls as long as the surface is level, sound and clean. Once the panel is fitted, apply beads of adhesive with a caulking gun in a continuous strip along the top, bottom and both sides of the panel.

For intermediate studs, apply beads 3' long across the top and 6' down the sides. Over solid backing, apply adhesive in a zigzag pattern between studs.

Panels of 3/16" thickness or less - Do not install panels with nails against the studs or backing, as this will not allow the panels to expand/contract, and the panels will buckle.

Panels of 7/32" or higher can be installed either with adhesive or nails.



CUT - OUTS

Cut-outs for door and window sections, electrical switches and outlets, and heat registers require careful measurements.

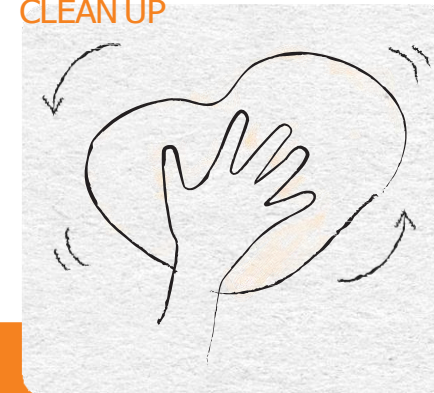
One method is to mark the outlet box with chalk. Then, place the properly cut panel on the wall and tap at the outlet location. This will transfer an image to the back of the panel and indicate the area for cutting.

A 1/4" gap around this area will provide room for spacing and adjustment – the faceplate will cover up the extra space.

On an existing wall, adjust the outlet box to meet panel thickness. Unscrew at the top and bottom, wedge a small piece of paneling scrap at the screw locations, and tighten.



CLEAN UP

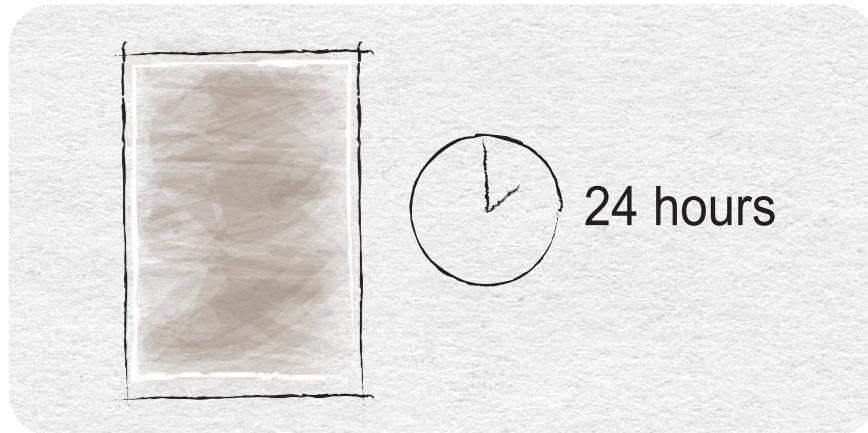


For solvent-based adhesive, clean up surface with a dampened rag of mineral spirits (do not use lacquer thinner). For low VOC adhesive, wipe off all excess adhesive on the surface with a water dampened rag.

Panels may be cleaned when needed with a mild soap and water dampened rag. Do not use abrasive cleaners on your new wall panels.

CAULK

Allow adhesive to cure for 24 hours before applying caulk. Use only 100% silicone sealant (not siliconized acrylics) to thoroughly caulk all seams, edges around panels, around and behind all fixtures and in between seams.



SPACING BETWEEN PANELS

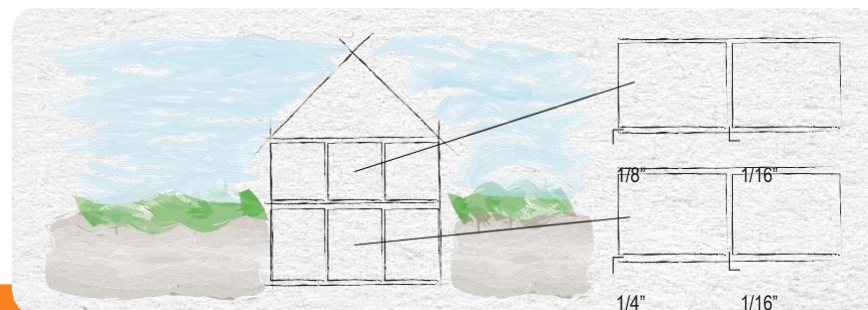
Above Grade:

Allow 1/16" of space between panels to the left and right – along the 8' edge. Use shims to leave 1/8" of space at the top and bottom of the panels.

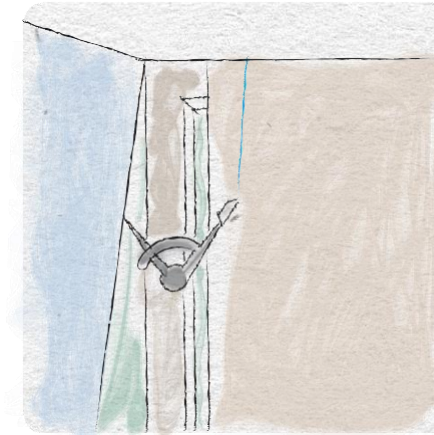
Below Grade:

Allow 1/16" of space between panels to the left and right – along the 8' edge. Use shims to leave 1/4" of space at the top and bottom of the panels.

IMPORTANT: DO NOT butt panels tightly together, to avoid risk of buckling.



FITTING PANELS

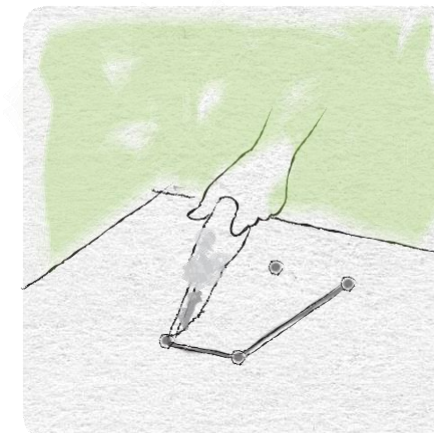


Put the first panel in place and bring to the adjacent wall in the corner allowing 1/16" of space. Make sure it is plumb and both left and right panel edges fall on solid stud backing.

The panel may have to be trimmed to allow the outer edge to be on the center of a stud if nailing. Also, on rough walls, or adjoining a fireplace wall, use a pencil compass to mark the panel on the inner edge and then cut on the scribe line to fit around the obstruction.

If you have chosen simulated wood grain panels, take a few minutes to stand the panels side-by-side around the room. Arrange them to achieve the most pleasing balance of color and grain pattern, then number the back of each panel in sequence.

CUTTING PANELS



If measured floor-to-ceiling height is 8' or less, subtract 1/2" from this measurement to allow 1/4" expansion clearance on top and bottom. Transfer these measurements to panels for cutting.

If using a handsaw or table saw, mark and cut the panels face up. If using a portable circular saw or sabre saw, mark and cut panels face down.