

TRIMAC WALL PANELING – Installation Instructions

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

To insure the best finished appearance, please follow these instructions.

IMPORTANT:

- In new buildings do not install panels until new plaster and masonry have dried out. Never install paneling over 'green' studs or furring strips.
- Paneling is an interior wall finish and is not designed or recommended for exterior application or where the panel may come into direct contact with excessive moisture.
- All panels should be installed over a solid backer to prevent warping.

VAPOR BARRIER: Where paneling is installed on the interior side of exterior facing walls or over a masonry or concrete wall, use a continuous vapor barrier (either plastic film or foil) between the paneling and the supporting structure.

STORAGE & HANDLING

Trimac prefinished wall panels are natural wood products and, like all wood products, will tend to expand or contract with changes in humidity.

Store the panels flat, preferably in the room where they will be used. At least 48 hours before installing, stand the panels around the room (backs facing out) to allow them to acclimatize to room humidity. Allow 72 hours where humidity is very high.

Before installing, set the panels vertically around the room and arrange them for the best pattern and color continuity. Then number them on the back and mark the top with an arrow. At the same time decide on the relationship between full panels and the doors, windows and other openings in the room. A few minutes spent considering this aspect will pay dividends by keeping panel cutting to a minimum.

INSTALLATION

When installing Trimac paneling in areas where significant changes in humidity occur, allowance must be made for the expansion and contraction of the panel. While not recommended for ceilings application in kitchens or bath area they can be used provided that all faces and edges are thoroughly sealed after panels have acclimated.

Leave a space of 1/16" between panels, including where panels intersect at corners. Leave a space of at least 1/16" around all doors, windows, wainscot moldings or other projections that would prevent the free movement of the panel due to expansion. Always leave a space of 1/4" between the panels and the floor & ceiling. Cover the gap with a molding attached so as to permit the free movement of the panel.

Remember to always use a vapor barrier between the supporting structure and the paneling on the interior side of all exterior facing walls, above and below grade.

Cutting

All Trimac Paneling can be cut with ordinary carpenter's tools. When sawing by hand, use a fine tooth panel saw blade "never a rip saw". A hollow ground blade is recommended for use with a power saw. When using a hand saw, keep the panel face up. With a power saw, check the rotation of the blade and place the panel to ensure that the teeth pierce the decorative face first.

Cut the panels 1/2" shorter than the wall height and allow 1/4" gaps at the top and bottom in all situations. A floor wedge will help in positioning the panels. Start in a corner of the wall that is first seen when entering the room.

Paneling in poorly fitting corners

When the adjacent wall does not join well with the panel edge, the wall contour needs to be duplicated on the panel.

Stand a panel with one long edge touching the wall. Using a spirit-level, set the panel vertical and secure with a few temporary nails partially driven in. Mark a line using a pencil or felt-tip pen held in a compass.

Move the compass down the contoured face of the wall and the marker will trace a parallel line on the panel face. Cut the panel to the scribed line.

Panelcut-outs

The accurate way to mark cut-outs is by careful measurement. Mark on the face of the panel, drill holes at each corner, then cut with a saber saw or keyhole saw (panel face-up).

Fastening with adhesive

Panel adhesive is available in cartridges for use in a caulking gun. Apply a continuous bead of adhesive in vertical stripes not more than 16" apart and a continuous bead around the perimeter. Follow the instructions issued by the adhesive manufacturer for pressing panels in place, tilting away from wall, and then re-pressing. Nails may be used to hold the panel until the adhesive sets.

Paneling over masonry

Fasten furring strips to concrete with adhesive or concrete nails. Shim low spots with pieces of cedar shingle or other suitable wedge stock. Small spaces left between strips allow for air circulation. Rough, uneven concrete may require the construction of a 2"x 3" or 2"x 4" stud wall. Apply solid backing over the furring prior to paneling. A continuous vapor barrier must be installed between the masonry and the backing.

Renovations

If existing walls are sound and true, remove trim at floor, ceiling, doors and windows. Use adhesive to fasten panels.

MAINTENANCE

Use a cloth dampened with water or household liquid detergent to remove dirt or stains. For most panels, stubborn grease or crayon marks can be removed with paint thinner or mineral spirits. Test in a small, inconspicuous location prior to using any harsh cleaning agent.

**Do not use abrasive cleaners.*

Trimac ExactMatch Molding is a great way of achieving a first class installation. The molding has a decorative face matched to each of the panels in the ExactMatch range.

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PANEL PRODUCTS

Note: The user is responsible for proper installation of this product. The product must be installed in strict conformity with Trimac's instructions and all applicable building code requirements and other regulations. In addition, if not specifically covered by Trimac's installation instructions, the product must be installed in accordance with generally accepted construction practices. When installing this product, the user also should consider the effects of local climate and geography. Trimac does not warrant and is not responsible for any finished structure or system that this product may be incorporated into or other building components that may be used in the product.

FOR INTERIOR USE ONLY

- This product is not for exterior use. This product is intended for normal dry interior use environments only and must be kept dry and protected from moisture at all times.
 - This Product must be stored in dry interior areas and laid flat on skids or spacers.
 - Exposure of this product to (excessive) moisture, humidity, dampness, condensation, water, wet conditions or weathering can damage the product.
- When using cleaning materials, experiment with scrap paneling or spot clean in an inconspicuous area. Trimac is not responsible for any damage caused by such cleaning methods.