



# Installation Recommendations

## Acoustical Wall Panels

### HANDLING:

- A. Carry panels upright with the width in the vertical position to avoid stress on the panel and possible cracking or breaking.
- B. Wear disposable white cotton gloves whenever possible to avoid soiling fabric, especially with light color fabrics.
- C. Clean stains and soiling, including adhesive, as soon as possible to make removal easier (see Cleaning and Maintenance Instructions)

### INSTALLATION:

1. Strike a level line at panel bottom with a laser or chalk line. Leveling clips, bottom angle or J-trim is recommended where field conditions and experience demand additional support to be required.
  2. Establish a plumb line for the first panel with a laser or plumb bob. Use this as a reference for the balance of panels to be installed.
  3. Check existing wall to assure that it is flat and true. Shim panel attachments as required to provide a flat and plumb panel installation.
- A. **IMPALING CLIP** attachment (fiberglass panels):
1. Install Impaling Clips 4-6" from side edges of panels, approximately 2'0" to 2'6" on center. Install additional clips in center of panel if wall is out of plumb.
  2. Install impaling clips to the wall with drywall screws (for more secure attachment, apply adhesive behind clip), concrete anchors, or shots and pins for concrete block or pre-cast concrete walls.
  3. Impaling Clips may be attached to the wall before hanging panels by determining where each panel edge falls. Vertical placement of W1 clips is preferred, but accuracy of installation (square, level) is not critical. W2 and P2 clips must be closer to level as the angled prongs are directional.
  4. Shim clips to plumb condition as needed to align each panel face flush with adjoining panels.
  5. For more secure installation, apply construction adhesive (such as Liquid Nails or other quality adhesive) liberally to fiberglass and teeth of clips to bind fibers to clips. (Note: clips will hold panel in place while adhesive sets up, generally 8 hours. For faster setup time, consider Liquid Nails Fast Set Paneling adhesive or Henry 420 or 421 adhesive.)
  6. Line up panels to marks and push panels onto clips. **For proper adhesive setup, release panel and reapply to allow gases to escape for permanent bond** (read application instructions).
  7. Do not apply excessive pressure or impact to the panel so as to crush the substrate. Use 6" square (or larger) clean block of wood or other suitable substrate to push panels onto clips.
  8. For **2" thick panels**, larger **W-2 or P-2 clips** are recommended. See Data Sheet details
  9. The use of leveling clips, angle, or molding to support bottom of panels is not required.
- B. **ADHESIVE** attachment (required for mineral fiber tack panels):
1. Apply adhesive to back of panel spaced 2'0"-2'6" on center. Swipe or trowel adhesive smooth to back of panel to prime substrate. Reapply adhesive onto primed areas in walnut size daub and apply to wall. For proper adhesive setup, release panel and reapply with firm, gentle pressure to allow gases to escape for permanent bond (read application instructions)
  2. Adhesives recommended above (Impaling Clip method) are suitable, as well as acoustical adhesive, FRP adhesives, and other general- purpose construction adhesives. For longer set times, leveling clips or bottom support is recommended, or panels may need to be tacked in place

with fine finishing nails. These can be removed, or driven through fabric into panel, when glue has set up.

3. Always use caution when using adhesive to avoid soiling fabric face. Should this occur, clean up adhesive promptly (see cleaning instructions) to make removal easier and less time consuming.

**Z-CLIP** attachment:

1. Allow for 5/8" minimum clearance above panels to allow clips to clear and seat with each other.
2. Measure from clips on panels to determine location of support clips required on wall. For easier installation, apply chalk, paint, or similar coating on back of panel clips to mark location of clips on wall when placed in proper position.
3. Secure Z-Clips (or Z-Bars) firmly to wall, as suggested above for Impaling Clips. Clips or bars must be perfectly plumb, square, level, and aligned with clips provided on back of panels. (Note: installation time is roughly 3 times longer.)
4. The use of leveling clips, angle, or molding to support bottom of panels is recommended.

**C. H-SPLINE** attachment:

1. Cut border panel to size and wrap fabric over cut edge. Apply adhesive to cut side to hold panel securely in place.
2. Insert H-mold into exposed kerf (slot) and attach with drywall screws or appropriate fasteners.
3. Slide next panel onto H-mold and repeat the process inserting and attaching splines and panels.
4. Treat next border panel the same as your first panel.
5. **Always** use leveling clips, angle, or molding to provide bottom support of panels.

**E. VELCRO** (hook and loop) attachment:

1. Measure from Velcro installed on panels to determine locations on wall, or apply chalk, paint, or similar coating to mark location as suggested above for Z-Clips.
2. Apply self adhesive Velcro strips to wall surface. Tack or nail strips in place for additional security.
3. Align panels and secure hook and loop attachment by pressing firmly and smoothly into place.
4. Leveling clips, angle, or molding is recommended for hook and loop installation, and **required** for thicker panels.

**F. MAGNETIC STRIP** attachment:

1. Align panels and secure magnetic attachment to metal surface by pressing firmly and smoothly into place.
2. Leveling clips, angle, or molding is **required** for thicker panels.

**FIELD REPAIRS:**

**A. CUT PANELS TO SIZE** (to accommodate job conditions):

1. Peel back fabric beyond point panel needs to be cut.
2. Use hacksaw or drywall saw to cut through hardened edges. Cut through balance of fiberglass with a sharp utility knife, linoleum knife, or stainless steel kitchen knife.
3. Apply strip of plastic laminate or similar molding to cut edge of panel for reinforcement and rewrap fabric around edge and back of panel. Secure with 3M Super 77 or Spray 90 adhesive.
4. Crimp the excess fabric tightly at a 45° angle to the corner and cut off the excess fabric with scissors.

**B. CUT OUTS** for Electrical Boxes:

1. Locate the position of the hole on the back of the panel and cut out only the fiberglass. You may wish to use an outlet box as a template by pressing it into the fiberglass.
2. Cut the fabric diagonally across the hole in an "X" pattern.
3. Rewrap the fabric and secure with spray adhesive (see above).
4. Cover with cover plate.
5. Exposed cutouts (no cover plate): Apply a strip of excess fabric to inside corners and then reapply fabric.

For any other questions or field problems, contact us at **(803) 802-5596** or visit us on the web at [www.soundesign-sc.com](http://www.soundesign-sc.com).