

**Please Read Disclaimer**

Please read all instructions before beginning installation. These guidelines are provided in good faith to help prevent any problems caused by errors in installation. The manufacturer of this product shall not be held responsible for installation actions taken or not taken. There are many details of installation that are assumed to be general construction knowledge to experienced installers; which are not included in these instructions. These installation guidelines are intended to be strictly recommendations and are not to serve as a step-by-step, fail-safe installation checklist. Selection of an experienced installer is the sole responsibility of the project owner and architect.

Protek Systems, Inc. does not accept any responsibility for job failure resulting from or associated with improper site environmental conditions and installation failure due to expansion contraction issues.

**Storage:**

Products must be stored flat in the original packaging. Do not stand on end or store other material on top of them. Store in a clean dry place where the temperature is maintained above 50°F.

**Before Installation:**

The temperature of the walls and the rooms should be maintained at a minimum of 70°F for at least 48 hours prior to installation. Allow material and adhesive to acclimate for at least 24 hours at a minimum temperature of 70°F but no more than 80°F before beginning the installation process.

**Surface Preparation for Wallcoverings:**

Remove any pre-existing wallcovering. For best results walls must be resurfaced if damaged. Remove any rough spots by sanding walls until smooth. Test for paint adhesion. Use a razor to score the surface of a 12" square area in a grid pattern. Try to remove the broken paint film by applying cellophane or masking tape; pull off sharply. If the paint comes off, the wall must be stripped prior to installation. Prime unfinished surfaces with a latex flat primer. Before applying adhesive, the walls and wallcovering sheets must be completely free of grease, dirt, etc. Wipe surfaces with a clean water-dampened rag to remove any dirt or debris.

**During Installation:**

Maintain a constant temperature and environment while installing. Temperature for the application surface and the room should be maintained at a minimum of 70°F and a maximum of 80°F, with the preferred temperature being 75°F during installation. If relative humidity is greater than 80%, do not install wallcoverings with adhesive because high humidity can significantly lengthen the curing time of adhesives.

**After Installation:**

Maintain temperature stability between 70°F and 80°F for 24 to 48 hours after installation.

**Reminder:**

Proper handling and installation is an important factor in assuring that your facility gains the maximum benefits of the product. Read and follow all the temperature, storage, and handling information completely for optimum final results.

**Recommended Tools:**

- Writing utensil
- Tape measure
- Level
- Clamps / guide
- Proper cutting tools
- Ear & eye protection
- Caulking gun
- Bracing
- Shims

**Cutting the Material:**

Aluminum can be cut with fine tooth aluminum cutting blades. Use a circular saw with straight edge as a guide to make straight cuts. Jigsaws can be used for cuts around framing, outlets, and other cutouts. Make sure material is secure and that cuts are made in flat surfaces to ensure a clean cut.

For crash rails, corner guards, U-channels, door frame covers, or other profiles that may need to be cut to length, use a chop saw with fine tooth aluminum cutting blade.

**Drilling the Material:**

Any high-speed steel, titanium or cobalt twist bit will work. Clamp the item securely. Use a punch and hammer to make a dimple where the hole is to be drilled. This will keep the drill bit from wandering.

**Warnings:**

Keep in mind that field cut edges of the aluminum may be sharp and need to be handled with care. Wearing gloves is a good idea when cutting and handling the material. De-burr the edges with a file, grinding wheel, or other abrasive. Wear eye and hearing protection whenever appropriate.

Material for the project will most likely consist of flat wall panels, corner guards, base board, and chair rail. Please read all instructions carefully before installing.

### Installation:

- Use a chalk line or masking tape to outline the area to be covered.
  - If installing as a wainscot, make sure the sight line at the top edge is level.
  - On a full wall installation, the vertical edge must be plumb.
- Begin installation with the flat wall panels.
  - Wall panels should be installed prior to the base board and chair rail. This will allow room for adjustment with the base board in case the floor is not level. Ensure that you leave enough space between the wall panels and the floor for the base board to be installed.
  - Ensure that chair rail and wall panels are level.
- Measure from the vertical starting point and horizontal sight line to determine the location of outlets and other cutouts that require sheet modification. Transpose those measurements onto the wall panel and make the cutouts prior to installing the sheet on the wall.
- Dry fit the wall panels to ensure they are the correct length and that the cutouts are aligned.
- If everything lines up, install the wall panel.
  - If using adhesive, apply the construction adhesive to the back of the wall panel. Place beads of construction adhesive 2 inches away from the perimeter edges and across the width of the panel every 8-12 inches making sure the beads contact the perimeter bead of adhesive. Press the panel in place by hand, and then run a handheld heavy pressure roller back and forth across the panel to make sure there is a strong adhesion between the substrate and the wall panel. Allow 24-48 hours for the adhesive to cure.
  - If using fasteners, drill holes every 16" on center, and no more the 2" from the panel edges.
- Cover exposed corners with outside corner guards.
- Wall panels should butt together at inside corners. Seal seams with caulk if necessary.
- Flat seams in the middle of a wall should also butt together. Utilize factory edges for the cleanest look. Seal seams with caulk if necessary.
- Additional bracing such as masking tape, shims, or other forms of support can be used to secure the wall system in place and prevent it from sliding. Some panels are heavier than others and will need to be secured.
- Seal seams with caulking if required.

Remove adhesive residue and protective covering (if applicable). Clean any dirt with a damp cloth and non-abrasive detergent.