

wall flats™

EMBOSSSED WALL TILES SIMPLE, MODERN, VERSATILE, & ECO-FRIENDLY

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

FOR WALL FLAT HOW-TO INSTALLATION VIDEO VISIT INHABITLIVING.COM

**PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE USING THIS PRODUCT.
DIFFERENT INSTALLATION METHODS REQUIRE DIFFERENT PREPARATION.**

SUPPLIES: ITEMS AND TOOLS NEEDED TO INSTALL

Tools and supplies below are listed mostly as an “either / or” option. Items we feel are essential are indicated with an asterisk. How you choose to install the panels will determine which items you will need. **Please read the instructions in their entirety before purchasing any supplies.**

CUTTING – UTILITY KNIFE AND/OR MOST POWER CUTTING TOOLS

ADHERING – **CLAY BASED EXTRA STRENGTH WALLPAPER ADHESIVE** - ROMAN PRO-732 or DYNAMITE 111 HEAVY DUTY CLAY WALLCOVERING ADHESIVE + PAINT ROLLER FOR APPLYING

PRIMER – DRYWALL PRIMER/SEALER OR PROFESSIONAL LEVEL FINISH PRIMERS

SEAMLESS FINISHING – SHEETROCK® DURABOND® JOINT COMPOUND, PUTTY KNIFE

PAINTING – USE YOUR FAVORITE LATEX WALL PAINT. PAINT CAN BE APPLIED WITH A BRUSH, ROLLER OR WE RECOMMEND A PAINT SPRAYER (AIR LESS OR HVLP)

HELPFUL TOOLS – **LEVEL**: for proper alignment. **WALLPAPER SEAMER**: for applying pressure on flat areas. **RULER**: for cutting, marking and measuring panels. **PAINTERS TAPE**: for taping cut and drill areas and masking off paint areas. **VARIOUS GRIT SANDING BLOCK AND SANDPAPER**: for sanding panels. **FINISHING NAILS**: to ensure all areas of panel are flat while adhesive sets up.

(1) PREPARATION

Wall Flats are made to install over a relatively flat and smooth surface that is clean, dry and free of loose debris. If installing over glossy plaster/paint rough up the surface with sandpaper and wipe clean with a damp rag. **Panels should acclimate for at least 48 hours.**

(2) PLANNING

Position the panels straight and level. Use a level or mark lines on the wall to help with this. Take wall straightness and other obstacles into account. Be mindful of your project to reduce cutting and allow cut panels to fall in more inconspicuous areas like corners and the bottom of a wall. If working from the center out, all panels that fall at edges may need to be cut. Plan your design well to ensure desired results are what you expect. **Remember, measure twice and cut once.**

CUTTING PANELS

In most installations you will probably need to cut some panels. The panels can be cut with a standard utility knife or power tools. We recommend taping along cut lines or drill holes with painters tape to reduce pulp flair when using power tools. We also recommend using blades, bits, etc... designed for finishing work. This will ensure the best possible finish. When using power tools always follow manufacturer's suggestions for equipment use and safety precautions.

(3) INSTALLATION

Determine if the installation will be wall-to-wall, a floating design that leaves an even border, a strip of panels, etc... It's important to have this well thought out before beginning. If you are unsure, lay the panels out on the floor or sketch it out to help you decide.

If a panel has a slight bow it can gently be flexed to lay flat before adhering to the wall. If you have trouble with an area not laying flat or an edge raising, tack down with a finishing nail and leave it until adhesive is dry, then remove. The hole can be addressed during finishing. In addition to applying the adhesive on the wall, apply to the back of the panel on flat areas to help ensure good contact. Prior to adhering to the wall, let adhesive book according to the manufacturer's recommendations. If necessary, use a damp cloth to blot off excess adhesive. Minimize rubbing on panels that have not been primed.

SEAMLESS INSTALLATION

For a near seamless installation a **1/16" gap** must be left evenly between the panels.

(4) PRIMER COAT

After panels are all adhered to the wall and the adhesive is set up we recommend a primer/sealer coat be applied before any finishing work is started. The primer coat also allows for light sanding if needed and generally protects the panels during finishing.

(5) FINISHING

A modular product will have visible joints. If this is planned into the design there is no need for additional work. Most panels are designed in a manner that the design elements and spacing work to minimize joint appearance without additional finishing work.

ADDRESSING THE JOINTS FOR A SEAMLESS INSTALLATION (OPTIONAL)

For a near seamless installation earlier we recommended spacing the panels **1/16"** apart. The gaps will be filled with Sheetrock® Durabond® joint compound. The first coat will be for mostly filling the gaps. Keep it clean to avoid excess sanding. If you need a quick knock-down sanding to smooth the joints out do it between coats. **Do not over sand.** The second coat should be for creating a smooth transition between panels. A final sanding will be required to perfect the blending. If you need to go back and address certain areas with additional compound and sanding now is the time.

FINISHING AROUND OUTLETS AND SWITCHES

Use extension boxes for outlets and switches to bring them out past the Wall Flats. Cut panels to fit the box opening and finish caulk around edges.

(6) FINAL PAINT AND PRIMER COAT

After you are satisfied with the finishing work make sure the surface is free of dust and apply final primer coat and paint coat.

EASY TO REMOVE & REUSE SOLUTIONS

See Inhabit's Hanging Wall Flat System available at www.inhabitliving.com

This product is designed to be low-impact on the environment. It is made from bagasse, a byproduct of sugarcane. There are no chemical additives. The tiles are modular and nest inside one another to reduce shipping volume and costs. They are 100% biodegradable or can be recycled with other paper products when removed. To keep the product as environmentally-friendly as possible we recommend low VOC paints and glues for installation.

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888-830-5072 inhabitliving.com info@inhabitliving.com

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