

FIBO AQUALOCK

Tongue and groove system - making panel fitting as easy as 1,2,3...

With our Aqualock tongue and groove system of fixing, Fibo panels are perfect for both refurbishment or new construction projects as panels can be fitted directly to existing walls, including tiles, or onto stud partitioning.

Using Fibo panels provides a wall that is every bit as effective as a tiled one, with a high quality and long lasting surface but without the disadvantages - no grouting to clean and replace, no mould growth, low maintenance, shorter installation time and lower fitting costs.



PREPARATION BEFORE INSTALLATION

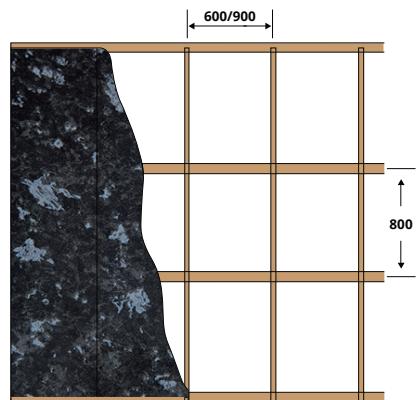
Panels should be stored flat in their packaging and protected from moisture.

Being a wood product, they must be acclimatised in the room or area in which they are to be used for at least 3 days prior to fitting.

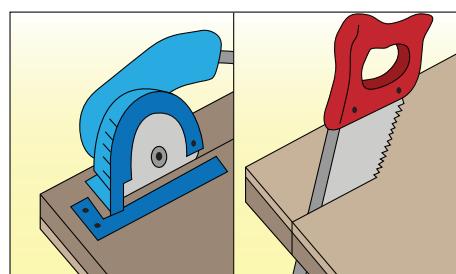
Before installing your Fibo panels to the wall, check that it is completely dry and level and provides a firm nail/screw hold. It is always preferable to attach panels to battens using screws and plugs or nails especially if the surface is uneven or out of plumb. There needs to be a vertical batten under every panel joint. Where heavy items are to be attached to the wall, extra battens must be installed to carry these.

Panels can also be glued to walls, studwork or on top of existing tiles provided they are sound and reasonably square. Walls should be dry and ceramic tiles should be degreased. Use a waterproof, high tensile strength glue applied to the back of the panel in a zig-zag pattern.

Use a plastic film between panels and an outside wall.



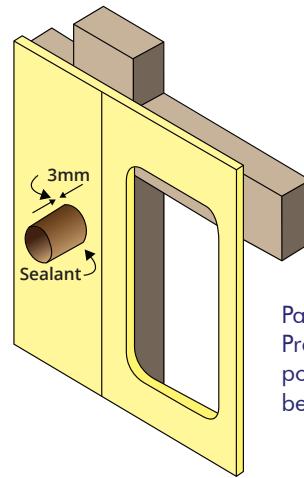
Distance between battens:
Vertically - 600mm or 900mm
Horizontally - 800mm



CUTTING THE PANELS

Fibo panels are easy to cut – place panels decorative side down when cutting with circular saw or jigsaw.

Using a fine toothed handsaw, place decorative side up and cut on the down stroke only.



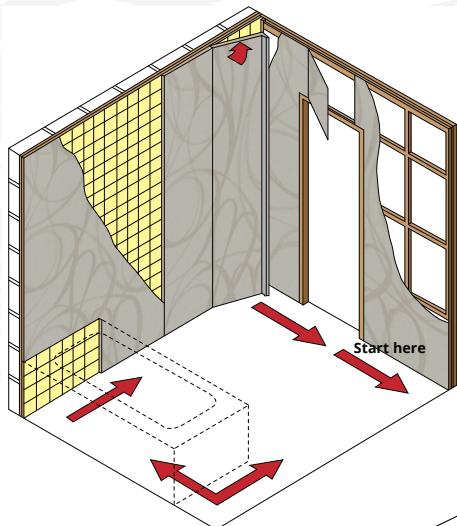
Panel cut outs
Pre-drill with largest
possible drill-bit
before cutting.

Apertures for pipes etc. The opening should have a clearance of approx. 5mm Seal the clearance with polymer sealant.

A BASE PROFILE MUST ALWAYS BE USED IN ANY WET AREAS. AS WITH ALL WOOD PRODUCTS, PANELS SHOULD BE ACCLIMATISED FOR THREE DAYS PRIOR TO FITTING. CHECK PANELS THOROUGHLY FOR DAMAGE, FLAWS, SHADING OR DEFECTS BEFORE INSTALLATION AND REPORT ANY PROBLEMS TO YOUR SUPPLIER. GUARANTEE MAY BE INVALIDATED IF THESE PROCEDURES ARE NOT CARRIED OUT.

WHOLE ROOM INSTALLATION

Install panels using our Aqualock easy-to-fit tongue and groove system, clicking into place as you go.
Check that the panels are correctly aligned and remember to use sealant in all the joints

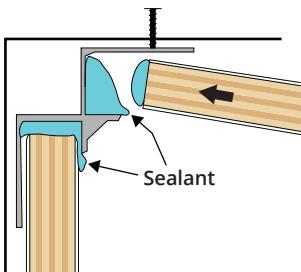


Where an installation is to go around a room, for best results, start fixing the panels in one corner, panelling in both directions so that the last wall to be panelled is the wall with the door. Finish up with the last panel installed and cut to fit over the doorway.

STARTING A WALL ▼

When setting up the first panel, fix an internal corner profile to the wall and apply sealant into both channels. Cut the panel to size and push the clean cut panel edge firmly into the profile.

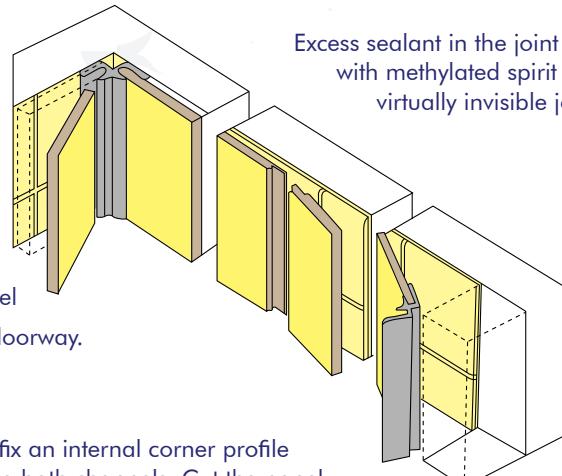
Fix the other side of the panel to the wall or batten by screwing or nailing along the tongue ensuring it is correctly aligned before securing. Countersink the screws so that they don't catch on the panel. Install the next panel into the other side of the profile securing in place as before. Continue along the wall, clicking the panels into place after applying sealant into each joint.



CAREFULLY READ THE INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED WITH THE PANELS BEFORE FIXING. PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO VIEW AN ANIMATION OF THE INSTALLATION PROCESS.

Fibo wall panels with Aqualock are fixed to battens/walls by nailing or screwing into the groove running along the length of the panel using No. 6 screws or 35mm gypsum board nails. Leave a distance of 200mm between each nail/screw. The lowest nail/screw must be fastened a maximum of 20mm from the bottom of the panel.

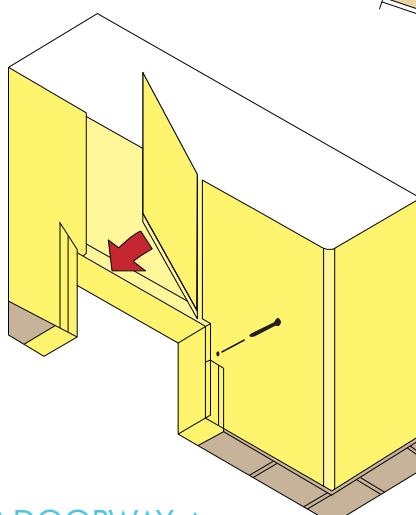
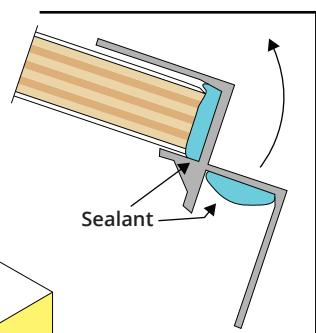
In areas of high humidity, Fibo panels must be fitted with a polymer waterproof sealant in every joint and to all exposed edges to ensure that they are totally waterproof. Apply the sealant when the panel is upright against the wall, next to the previously installed panel. It is then easy to 'lock' the two panels together into position without creating a mess. Run a bead of sealant along the length of the panel groove with a sufficient amount to provide a good seal for the panels once they are assembled.



Excess sealant in the joint must be removed at once and then sprayed with methylated spirit and wiped with a damp cloth. This will ensure a virtually invisible joint.

FINISHING OFF A WALL ▼

The last panel of each run of a wall should be measured and cut to size and then swung into position with the internal corner profile already attached. The profile is then fastened to the stud or batten on the return wall. Ensure that sealant is applied into the profile channel before inserting the panel.



LAST PANEL OVER DOORWAY ▲

Cut the two panels left and right of the door so they have a centred space (full panel width) over the door frame. The last panel can be inserted tongue first on one side with the lip of the other edge removed to fit flush to the adjoining panel. Fix by gluing the back edge. Fit panels around the door frame with screws/nails which will be hidden by door moulding and coving.

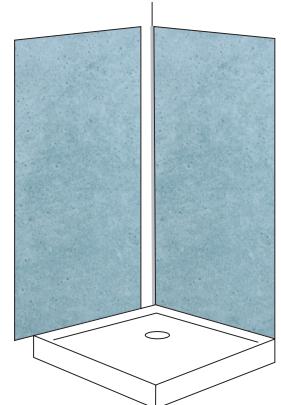
INSTALLING PANELS IN A SHOWER

To ensure that you get a waterproof seal every time, make certain that all exposed plywood has sealant applied.

IN A TWO SIDED SHOWER ENCLOSURE

Remember to use a base profile fitted as per instructions for a wet area (see below)

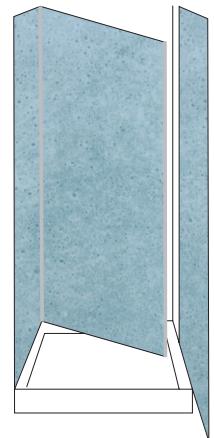
- 1) Fix an internal corner profile to the wall first, remembering to countersink the screws so they won't catch and then apply sealant into the two channels.
If using mechanical fixing, insert the first panel into the prepared internal profile, push back the panel to the wall and screw it into place through the groove in the fixing lip.
If gluing to the wall, first apply adhesive to the back of the panel then insert panel into the internal profile and push the panel back to the wall applying pressure to fix into place.
- 2) Insert the second panel into the other channel of the internal profile and fix into place as in step 1.
- 3) Finish the installation by fixing the L-shaped finishing profile to the exposed edges of the panels using sealant. If using a J-shaped profile, this should be fitted to the exposed edge of the panel with sealant prior to fixing into place as above.
Wipe off any excess sealant from the panels using a damp cloth.



IN A THREE SIDED SHOWER ENCLOSURE

- Remember to use a base profile fitted as per instructions for a wet area (see below)
- In a 3 sided shower installation, the back panel must always be fitted first.
- If using a 600mm or 900mm wide panel, remember to cut off the tongue of the panel to be used on the back wall.

- 1) Fix an internal corner profile to the left hand side corner and apply sealant into both channels.
- 2) Apply sealant into both channels of a second internal profile and attach to the right hand side of the panel that will form the back wall.
Apply glue to the reverse side of the panel and insert this panel into the internal profile that is already attached to the wall and swing the panel into position to form the back of the enclosure, applying pressure to fix into place. Fix the second internal profile to the wall with screws, remembering to countersink them so they won't catch.
- 3) Insert the second and third panels into the channels of the two internal profiles and fix into place either by screwing through the fixing lip of the opposite edge or, if using glue, ensuring that this is applied to the back of the panels before inserting into the internal profiles.
- 4) Finish the installation by using L-Shaped or J-shaped profiles as described before.
Wipe off any excess sealant with a damp cloth.



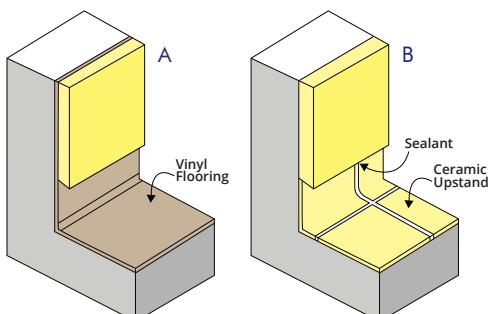
IF USING 1200MM PANELS FOR A SHOWER ENCLOSURE, FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ABOVE BUT GLUE ALL THE PANELS TO THE WALL. SCREWS CANNOT BE USED IN THIS INSTANCE AS THESE PANELS DO NOT HAVE FIXING LIPS.

FITTING PANELS AT FLOOR LEVEL

DRY AREA

Height adjustments should be made where the panel meets the ceiling.

- A. Where there is vinyl floor covering - the material should continue approx. 100mm up the wall behind the panel and the distance from the bottom of the panel to the floor should be 60-80mm
- B. Where there is a ceramic tile or upstand - apply sealant between the bottom of the panel and the top of the upstand remembering to leave a gap of 4-5mm to allow for expansion of the sealant.

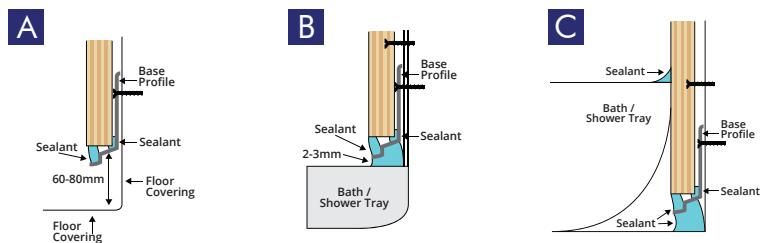


WET AREA - In all wet areas a base profile must always be used.

BATH, SHOWER OR WETROOM

Height adjustments should be made where the panel meets the ceiling.

- A. In a wetroom installation the floor covering should continue approx. 100mm behind the panel and the base profile. Sealant should be used both in front and behind the profile and the panel. The clearance between the bottom of the profile and the floor should be 60-80mm
- B. When fitting over a bath or shower tray, or above a ceramic upstand, sealant must be applied in front and behind the base profile and the panel as well as between the bottom of the profile and the top of the bath, shower tray or upstand. Allow a gap of min 2-3mm under the base profile to allow for expansion of the sealant.
- C. When fitting behind a bath or shower tray, always use a base profile between the bottom of the panel and the floor. Seal between the underside of the profile and the floor allowing a gap of min 2-3mm to allow for expansion of the sealant. You will also need to seal where the bath or shower tray meets the panel.



FAILURE TO INSTALL FIBO PANELS IN ACCORDANCE WITH MANUFACTURER INSTRUCTIONS MAY INVALIDATE THE GUARANTEE