

SURROUND by Laminex®

Installation of Surround by Laminex® on ceilings

Surround by Laminex panels can be installed in a standard ceiling with truss and batten construction. In conjunction with this Technical Bulletin, always follow the instructions outlined in the latest Fabrication and Installation Manual. Download Manual at laminex.co.nz

Planning and installation

- Ensure the ceiling structure is straight and level.
 - Ceiling battens must be placed at intervals of 450 mm or less.
 - Plan how you will finish internal and external corners before starting the installation.
 - DO NOT END BUTT panels as they may lead to ongoing movement; use a cover mould or bulkhead design instead.
 - Classic VJ 100 is 9mm thick with no white backer on the panel, so priming on the back face is required.
 - All other profiles are only available in 12mm thickness with a white backer, so no priming on the back face is required.
 - If the joists are spaced at 450mm or less, the panels can be installed directly onto them.
 - When using a powered saw, cut with the face side down. When using a handsaw, cut with the face side up. If using a powered saw, refer to the manufacturing guidelines for directional cutting.
 - Leave a 5mm expansion gap around the perimeter of each room's ceiling.
 - Allow a 1.0mm to 1.5mm expansion gap at each joint between panels.
 - If joining off the battens, support any joins with additional noggins spaced no more than 700mm apart where required.
 - Surround by Laminex panels are a timber-based product. Care should be taken when installing to manage the moisture environment from the adjacent air conditioning plant and pipe works. Refer to section 6.8 in the latest Fabrication and Installation Manual for Internal Moisture Area installations (e.g. bathrooms, laundries, and kitchens).
- Ⓜ Penetration through Surround by Laminex panels to accommodate light fittings, shower fittings, ducts, and vents of any description, should be sealed to prevent moisture ingress to the panel and prevent leakage behind the panels. Recess shower heads into the surface of Surround by Laminex ceiling panels is not a warrantable application.

DISCLAIMER: Surround by Laminex Wall Panels cannot be installed in direct 'Splash Zones'. This includes showers or in any application where a vessel (bath, tapware or basin) is within 75mm of the wall. However, Surround by Laminex Wall Panels can be installed on all other walls within bathrooms and laundries, so long as the installation complies and is in accordance with NZBC E3 AS/1 or NZBC E3/AS2. Fire Resistant product (E1 MDF FR) is prohibited for use in Internal Moisture Areas.

For additional information, refer to section 6.8 - 'Installation in Internal Moisture Areas' in the latest Fabrication and Installation Manual.

- Ⓜ Claims resulting from failure to adequately seal all exposed edges will not be recognised.

Consumables

Anti-rust parallel threaded screws to fix Surround by Laminex® panels to the ceiling. Make sure they penetrate the battens at least 25-30mm. Consider self-drilling and countersunk screws.

Flexible construction adhesive to glue the panels to the battens. Ensure the adhesives allow 25% movement capability. We recommend Sikaflex® 123 MS Bond, Gorilla 240FC and Gorilla MS Bond.

It is recommended timber putty filler is on hand to cover fixings.

PVA adhesive is recommended for fixing any timber moulding and trims used in combination with Surround by Laminex panels.

For tooling, refer to section 5.1 - 'Tools and equipment' in the latest Fabrication & Installation Manual.

Cutting instructions

Surround by Laminex panels can be readily cut with a powered saw or hand saw. New or sharpened blades should always be used as blunt or dull blades will decrease the accuracy and finish of cuts.

Surround by Laminex panels should be cut only on saws that have a scribing blade on the underside.

When using a powered saw, cut the panels with the decorative face down and when using a handsaw cut the panels with the decorative face side up.

It is recommended that a test piece be cut to verify the correct decorative face position for the specific cutting equipment to be used.

If using a router, do not allow the cutter to take too deep a cut at a time and only trench a maximum of one-third of the thickness, per pass.

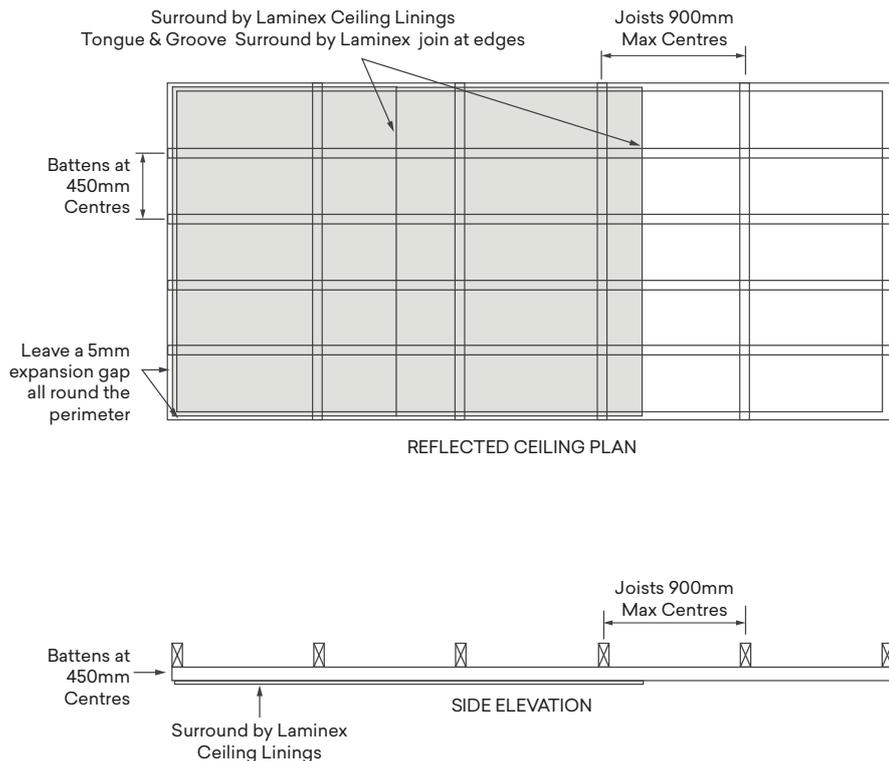


FIGURE 1

Note: Maximum 900mm joist / rafter / truss centres for fixing ceiling battens / furring channels where the roof design allows for this.

Preparing the ceiling

Any modification required to the structural framework must be conducted by a qualified Tradesperson.

Ensure that the ceiling structure is straight and level. Rectify any irregularities or defects.

Install battens across the ceiling trusses, maintaining a spacing of 450mm or less between them.

Preparing the Surround by Laminex panels

Allow the sheets to achieve “moisture content equilibrium (MCE)” in the area where they will be installed for 24 to 48 hours before proceeding with the installation.

Painting and finishing

Please refer to the following sections of the Fabrication & Installation Manual:

- Section 6.8.4 - Painting panels in ‘Internal Moisture Areas’.
- Section 7.1 – ‘Painting’.

Installing the Surround by Laminex® panels

Laminex New Zealand® recommends installing the sheets across the ceiling battens.

Begin the installation from one side of the room, working systematically across the entire ceiling.

To install panels on the ceiling, begin by applying flexible construction adhesive at 600mm intervals on each batten and any noggins behind the first sheet. Ensure that you follow the recommended quantity specified by the adhesive manufacturer. Continue this process for each subsequent sheet working along the ceiling from one side to the other.

Next, position the first panel, keeping in mind any out-of-square battens.

Use nails or screws to fix the panel to the ceiling battens. Ensure screw or nail holes are filled with solid filler before painting.

Fixings should be carefully positioned to prevent splintering and breakout.

No face fixings are allowed less than 25mm to a corner or less than 10mm to an edge.

No edge fixings are allowed less than 75mm to a corner.

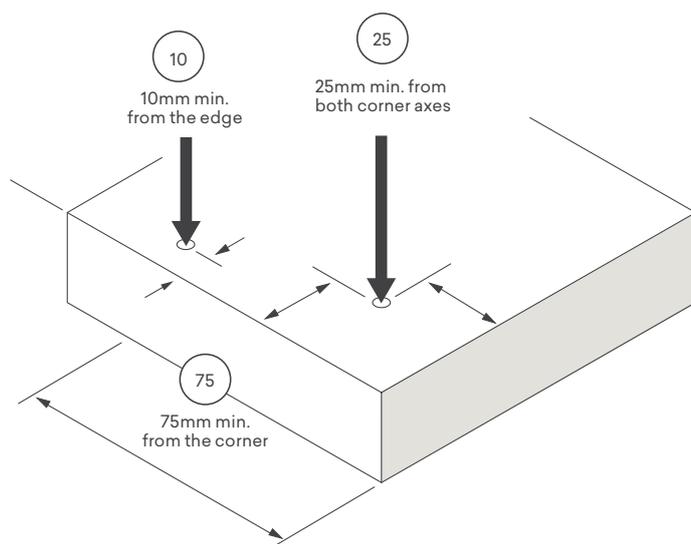


FIGURE 2

Use a spirit level to ensure that the panel is level and adjust it as necessary using screws. The adhesive will help bridge any gaps between the panel and the batten.

Screws or nails are spaced approximately 400mm apart to secure the sheet to the battens, ensuring that the fixings penetrate the battens by at least 30mm.

Repeat this process to fix the remaining sheets, progressing from one side of the ceiling to the other.

Leave a 1.0mm to 1.5mm gap at each sheet joint to allow for sheet expansion.

For the final panels, measure the remaining space and cut the sheet 5mm shorter than the gap to be filled.

If an existing ceiling is in place, it is important that Surround by Laminex® should be fixed to the ceiling battens or joists. Failure to secure the primary ceiling structure may result in panels dislodging where they are secured only to the ceiling substrate. This outcome is dangerous to the occupants of the room and must be avoided.

Ⓢ Failure to secure the Surround by Laminex panels to the primary ceiling structure will not be recognised under warranty.

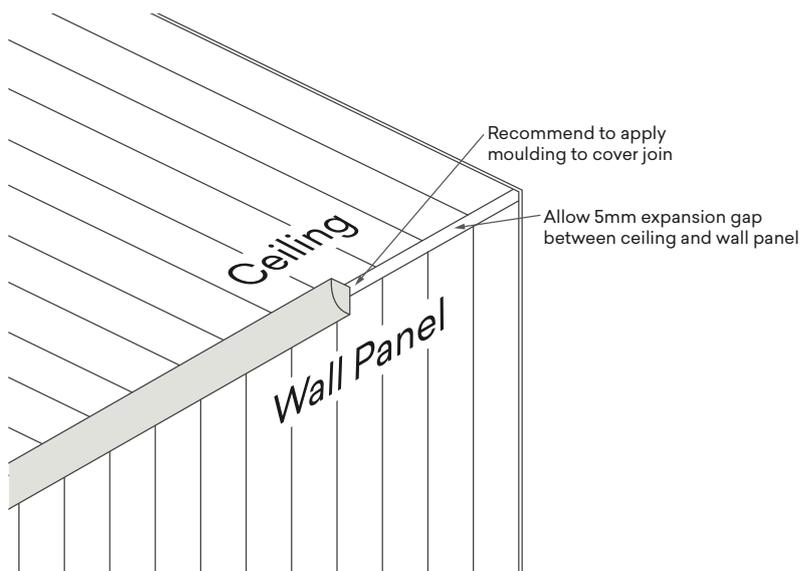


FIGURE 3

Ceiling finishing

Wall to ceiling options

Various options are available for finishing the junction between the wall and ceiling. These include:

- Timber Cornice/Mould: Utilising timber cornice or moldings to create a decorative transition between the wall and ceiling.
- Plaster Cornice: Installing plaster cornice, which is another popular choice for adding a refined look to the wall-to-ceiling interface.
- Timber Quad/Bead, Quad, Scotia, Ovolo: Opting for timber quad, bead, scotia, or ovolo profiles, which offer different design possibilities for achieving the desired aesthetic.
- Square set junctional shadow line utilising the 5mm expansion gap.
- Please note that these are just suggestions, and there are numerous plasterboard cornices and timber moldings available through various timber, hardware, and plasterboard suppliers. The displayed images and profiles are not exhaustive; they serve to demonstrate the wide array of possibilities for finishing and detailing Surround by Laminex® panel installations. You have the freedom to explore and select from a diverse range of options to suit your preferences and requirements.

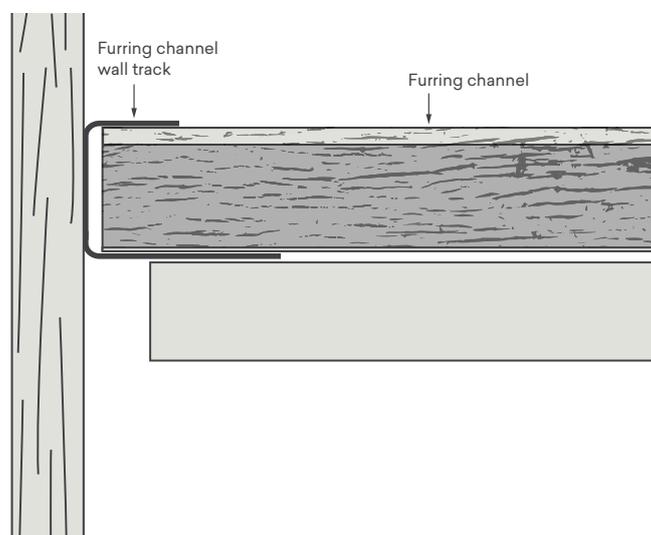


FIGURE 4

Butt end alternatives

In situations where longer sheets are necessary for ceilings or when the product is used horizontally on walls, it may be required to join sheets end to end. However, Laminex New Zealand® recommends against end-butting the sheets. This is because the building frame may experience movement over time, coupled with environmental changes, which could lead to slight shifts in the panels. Consequently, this movement could cause the joint sealant (gap filler) and paint to crack, resulting in an unsightly and uneven caulked joint.

To avoid these issues, Laminex New Zealand advise exploring alternative ways to detail sheets that need to meet, allowing the profile to continue without joining the sheets directly end to end. By considering other methods of joining, you can achieve a more seamless and aesthetically pleasing result for your Surround by Laminex® Panel installation.

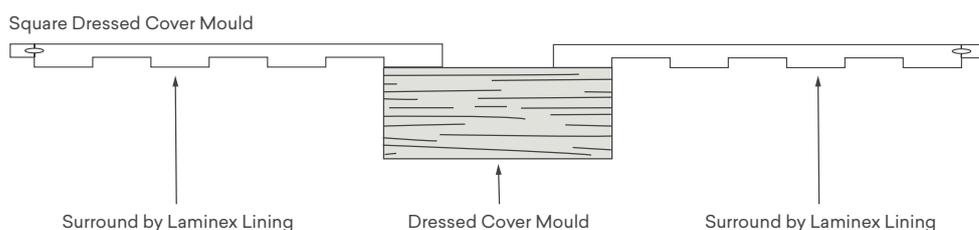


FIGURE 5

Download the latest Fabrication and Installation Manual at laminex.co.nz.