edge. Determine whether the finished edge goes on the left, right, top, or bottom and orient the panel accordingly. If adjustments to the size of the panel are necessary, do not cut the finished edge. Make all your cuts on the edge that is going against the wall.

4. Draw a level, vertical line approximately in the center of where the panels will be installed. You can now measure to each corner and determine if the corners are square. If necessary, cut the back panel so that it fits easily into place, though a tight fit is not necessary. The end walls will cover a small gap up to 1/4" in the corners.

5. Determine the location of the studs. If you are going to install any recessed accessories you must know the location of the studs.

6. Dry fit the back panel. If the back panel fits without binding, is level at the top and fits tightly and evenly to the tub, then it is ready to be glued. Clean the back of the panel with denatured alcohol or acetone, and make sure the wall is clean. Apply adhesive in small gobs across the wall, approximately six to eight inches apart. One click of the caulking gun and you are ready to place another gob. A four foot by eight foot panel should use at least two tubes of silicone/adhesive, one and a half tubes for a three foot by eight foot panel. Once the panel is aligned, push it against the wall. Next pull the panel off the wall to make sure that the silicone/adhesive has adhered to both the wall and the panel. Place the panel into position and press it firmly into place. If the panel begins to slip, hold it in place with masking tape.

Note: Do not bend the panel to conform to a bowed wall. The resiliency of the panel will break the bond of the adhesive to the wall.

7. The next panel to be installed is the faucet wall. Place masking tape on the finished side of the panel in the approximate location for the plumbing fixtures. Mark the hole centerlines. You need a one inch hole at the top to accept 1/2" pipe, and you need a to check the manufacturer's instructions for the hole size required for the mixing valve. If you have a two-handed shower, then the holes will be the same size as the shower head. Use a hole saw if possible to make these holes. Hole saws are inexpensive and good for home repair projects. Be careful when drilling, especially after the pilot bit is through the panel and before the hole saw grips. The torque of an 80 tooth hole saw is strong enough to spin you around. If a hole saw is not available, draw a circle the size of the diameter required, at each hole location. Then drill a series of 1/4" holes around this circle. Saw or file between the holes to remove the plug. Use the rasp or coarse file to smooth the inside of the hole. Saw marks may lead to stress cracking later.

8. Dry fit the panel. Make sure the panel fits tight across the tub and that the outside edge is sound. You may have to sand or grind the edge that fits into the corner. The back and side panel should meet at the same height in the corner. If it fits, you are ready to glue. Clean the wall and panel, and place a small gob of adhesive on the wall. Press the panel into place, pull back and press firmly into place.

9. The last panel of the surround is easiest to install because it contains no holes. Simply draw scribe the panel to ensure proper fit. Next clean the panel, silicone it, and put it in place.

10. If the wall panels reach the ceiling, you must measure very carefully to allow for skewed walls.

11. Inside corner molding should be used if the corners are not tight, to ensure a watertight fit. Inside corner molding and corner soap/shampoo holders require less cutting.

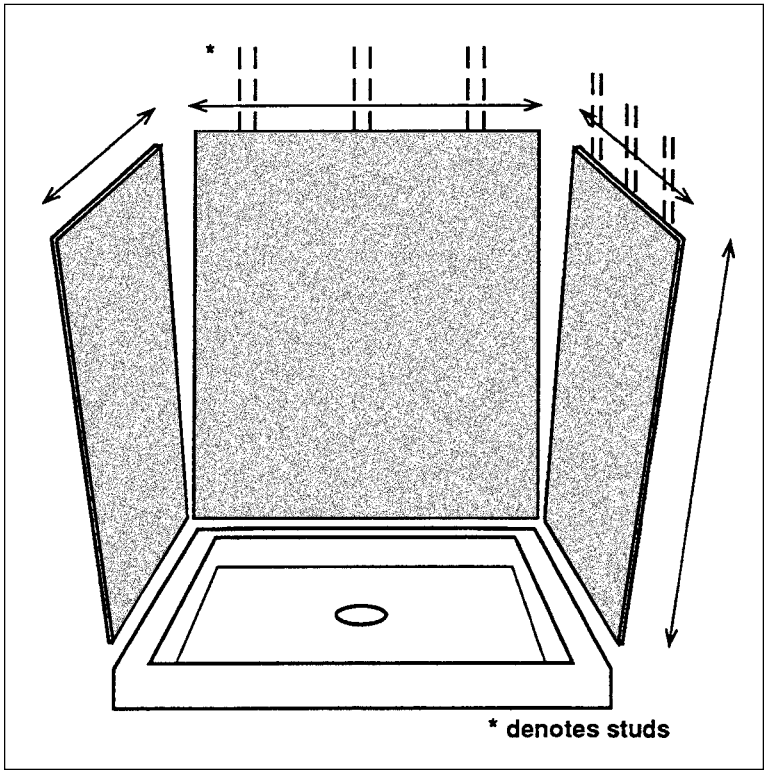
B. Shower walls

1. Installing shower walls to the shower base is very similar to installing the tub surround. The panel should be set in silicone and fit tightly at the bottom against the shower base. The top of the panel should be level. The side panels should meet the back panels evenly at the top. Holes for plumbing should be cut with a hole saw.

2. Installing panels that reach the ceiling is a little harder unless molding or edge trim are provided. Measurements must be more accurate and panels may have to be cut to achieve the same uneven height of the walls.

C. Wainscoting

This is as easy as installing splashes. Simply measure, cut to fit, have finished side up and glue to wall. This can be topped off with a cap or edge trim.



How to install

A Cast Polymer Wall Set

Wall panels can be installed on existing tubs in remodeling jobs, or new construction on cast iron fixtures, enameled steel, and fiberglass tubs. The critical area is the seal between the tub and the wall. This seal is particularly vulnerable in a remodeling job, in which the tub may be sound but the wall has failed, and therefore the replacement could fail rather easily, too, if it is not installed properly.

A. Tub Surrounds at Least Five Feet Above Existing Tub

1. Clean the surface of all dirt, paint, wax, grease or other wall finishes.

2. The wall panels can be installed over existing tile provided the tile is sound. If there are places where the existing tile has failed, you can still install the wall panels, provided those places where you have had tile failure are not more than one square foot, and are separated by at least one foot. The tile should be roughed with a grinder and cleaned thoroughly with a strong solvent.

Removal of existing tile is not difficult to do, and will allow for a nice, clean finish on exposed edges.

NOTE: If you are installing onyx panels, make sure the walls are light-colored because of the translucency of onyx panels. The adhesive used must also be light colored, such as, white silicone.

3. Before you remove the protective film, examine the panel. Determine where the finished edges are to be placed, by noticing the slightly rounded edge versus a very sharp or ground, unfinished

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HOW to install

A Cast Polymer Wall Set

What is Cast Polymer?
Cast polymer is the umbrella term which includes cultured marble, cultured granite, and cultured onyx and solid surface variety products. Cast polymer products are made by chemically bonding mineral fillers with resins to create a matrix, which is molded and hardened to a solid material in a variety of shapes that meet diverse design needs. It is more durable than porcelain, resists mildew and stains and is easily cleaned with non-abrasive cleaning agents.

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