PROTIER

# 36 x 84 SPC Alcove Shower Wall Panels

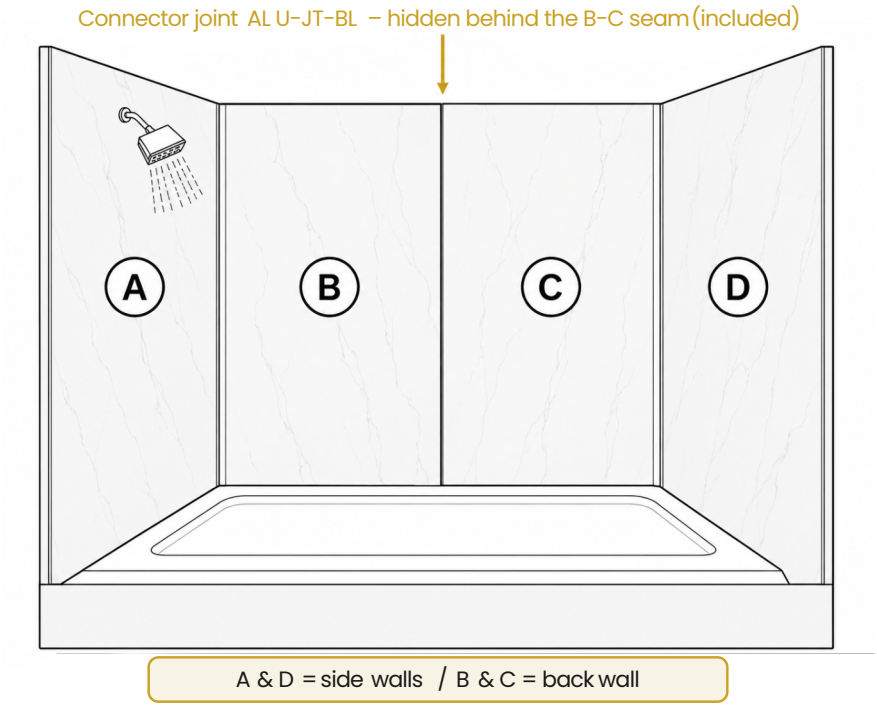
## Owner's Manual & Installation Guide

**Applies to kits**

| | |
|---|---|
| **WPG4-2** Calacatta White Glossy | **WPM4-1** Calacatta White Matte |
| **WPG4-4** Bardiglio Grey | **WPG4-6** Calacatta Gold |

all **36 in × 84 in** SPC wall panels

**Fig. 1** **Finished 4-piece alcove layout**




**READ BEFORE INSTALLING**

**Decide your wall type and seam method before cutting or gluing any panel. The wrong grout/substrate combination can void your warranty.**

# Before You Begin

**INSTALLATION VIDEO**

Watch the ProTier installation video at protierflooring.com before starting. Read this manual through once before opening adhesive.

## Pre-installation checklist

- Inspect every panel in daylight before installation. Installation implies acceptance; installed panels with visible defects are not covered.
- Acclimate panels for 48 hours in the installation room, stored flat at 59-77 F (15-25 C), ideally 68 F (20 C).
- Complete rough plumbing first and turn off the water supply.
- Plan 48 hours of dry time after installation; no showering during this period. For grout method, count from grouting or the grout manufacturer's longer cure time.
- Damaged or missing parts? Do not install. Contact customer service before installing.

## Safety essentials

- Use a two-person lift.
- Wear safety glasses and gloves; use a dust mask when sawing.
- Remove faucet trims, handles, and showerhead before installation.
- Measure your own alcove.
- Never install on bare studs.
- You are responsible for meeting local building and plumbing codes.
- Indoor use only; keep at least 32 in (80 cm) from open flame. Max service temperature: 140 F (60 C).
- Thermal expansion is approximately 0.07 mm/m/C.
- Panels cut with a utility knife (score and snap), circular saw, jigsaw, or hole saw.
- Anchor heavy objects into structure, not panel alone.

**Fig. 2** Safety at a glance




**PROFESSIONAL RECOMMENDATION**

If the wall is damaged, out of plumb, damp, or if plumbing work is incomplete, correct those conditions before installing panels.

# Choose Your Seam Method

**STOP**

Complete this section before cutting panels or opening adhesive. Your seam choice changes panel sizing, dry-fit allowances, and warranty coverage.

## Identify your substrate

The panels install over either waterproof drywall / moisture-rated backer board, or standard drywall / gyprock. Moisture-resistant "green board" gypsum is not waterproof drywall for warranty purposes. If you are not certain which wall you have, treat it as standard drywall.

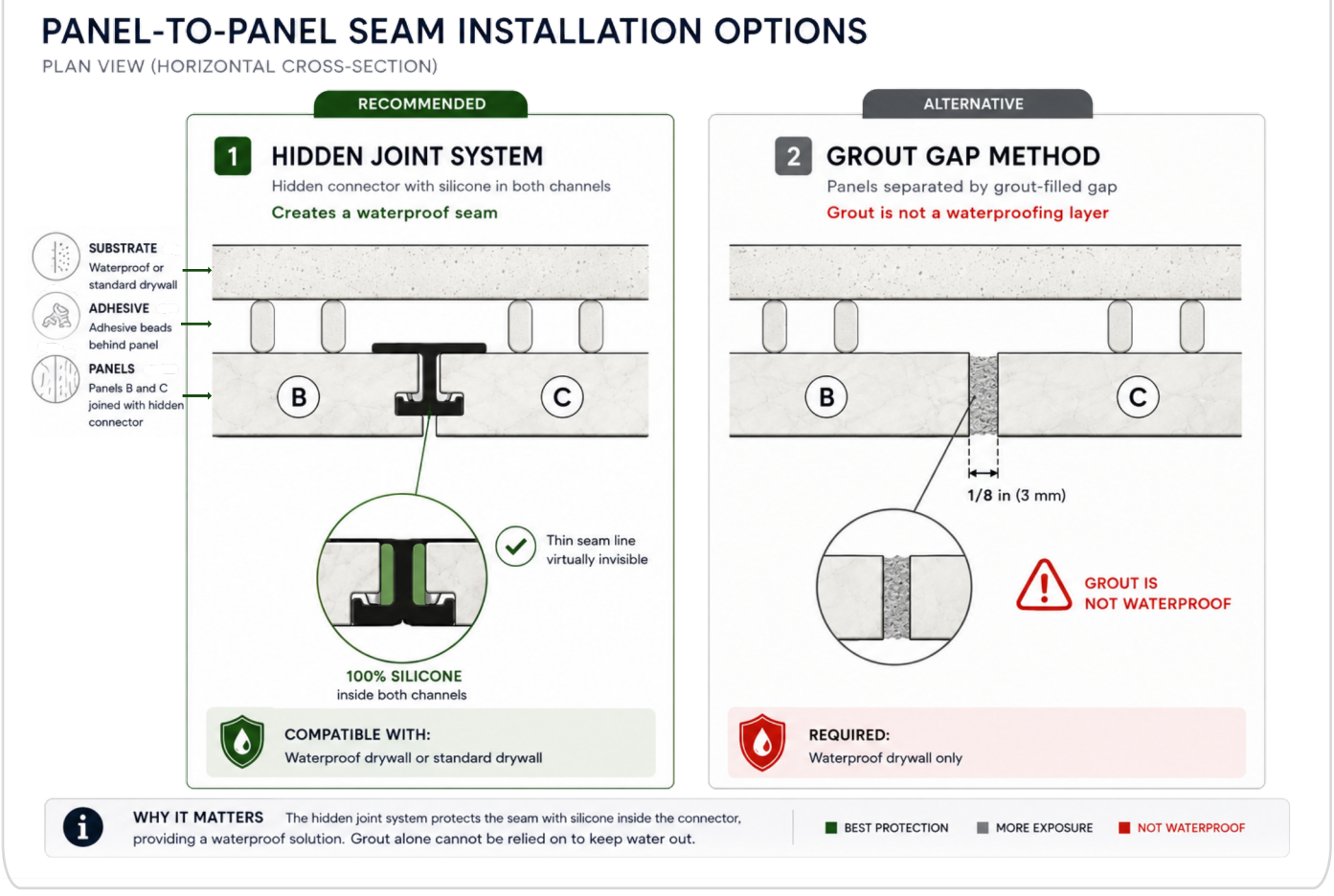
**METHOD 1: JOINT METHOD - RECOMMENDED**

Silicone-sealed trim profiles finish the seams: the black ALU-JT-BL connector at B-C, and inside-corner profiles at A-B and C-D. Warranty is maintained over both waterproof drywall and standard drywall / gyprock.

**METHOD 2: GROUT METHOD**

Grout fills a uniform gap at each seam instead of trim profiles. It is permitted only over waterproof drywall. Grout is not a waterproofing layer; over standard drywall the warranty is void.

**Fig. 3** Seam methods in plan view



# Confirm Your Combination

| Seam Method | Waterproof Drywall | Standard Drywall / Gyprock |
|---|---|---|
| Joint Method | ✔Warranty maintained | ✔Warranty maintained |
| Grout Method | ✔Warranty maintained | ✘ WARRANTY VOID |

## How this affects sizing

Joint method: dry-fit with the connector, inside corners, and end caps installed on the panel edges. Each profile channel swallows part of the edge and offsets the panel from the adjacent wall. Mark where each finished edge must land before cutting.

Grout method: no seam profiles are used at the three vertical seams. Leave a uniform 1/8 in (3 mm) gap at A-B, B-C, and C-D, or use the joint width specified by the grout manufacturer. The end caps are still required on exposed A and D edges.

**DO NOT SKIP DRY-FIT**

Because the seam method changes final panel positions, dry-fit and cut all panels before gluing any panel.

**WARRANTY CONSEQUENCE**

Grout method over standard drywall / gyprock is a warranty-void combination. ProTier does not guarantee waterproofing in that configuration.

# Tools & Materials

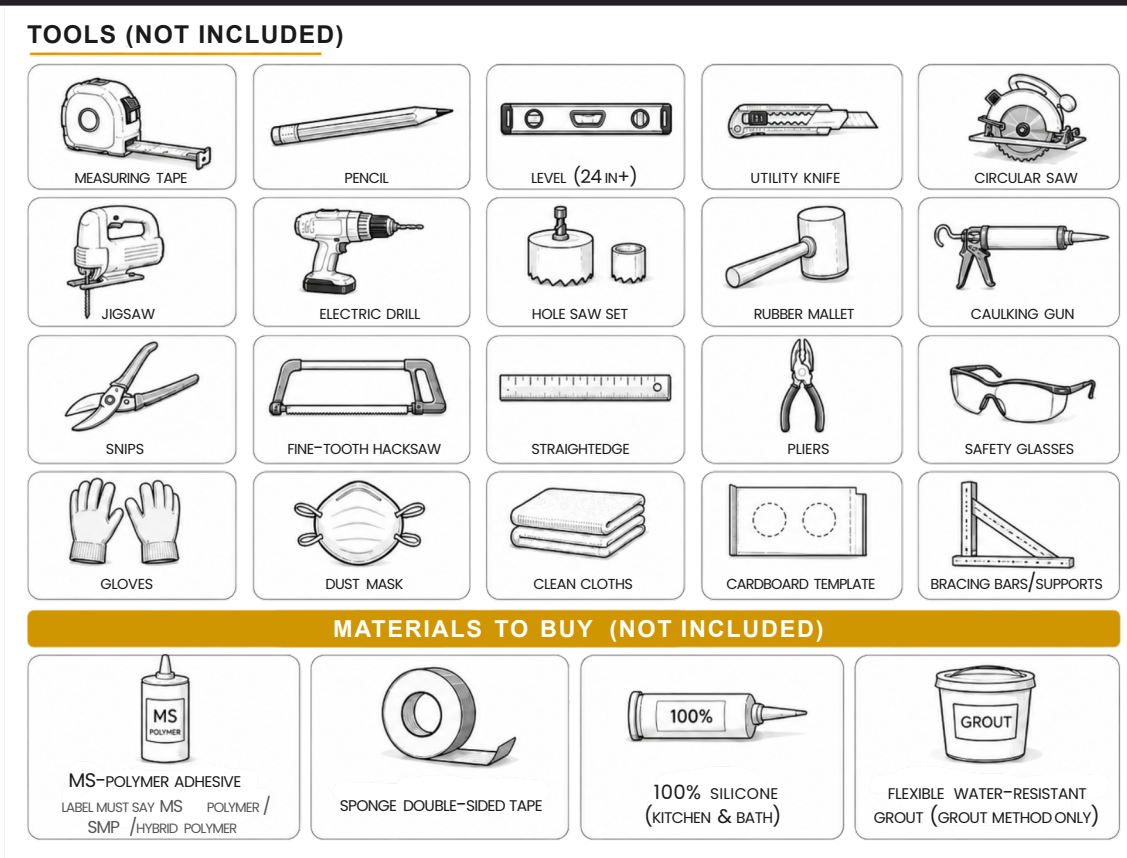
## Tools needed (Not included)

- Measuring tape, pencil, 24 in or longer level, and straightedge.
- Utility knife, circular saw or jigsaw, electric drill, and hole saw set.
- Rubber mallet, caulking gun, snips, and fine-tooth hacksaw for trim profiles.
- Pliers, safety glasses, gloves, dust mask, clean cloths, cardboard plumbing template, and bracing bars / supports.

## Materials to buy

- High-strength MS-polymer construction adhesive rated for prolonged moisture exposure. Label or TDS must say MS polymer, SMP, or hybrid polymer.
- Sponge double-sided construction tape, high-tack.
- 100% silicone sealant, kitchen and bath grade, mold-resistant.
- Grout method only: flexible, water-resistant grout.

**Fig. 4** Tools and materials




**ADHESIVE LABEL TEST**

The tube or technical data sheet must itself say "MS polymer," "silyl-modified polymer (SMP)," or "hybrid polymer." A label that says only "polyurethane," with no MS-polymer statement, does not qualify and voids the warranty.

# Included Parts & Trim Profiles

| Item | Qty | Use |
|---|---|---|
| SPC wall panels A, B, C, D | 4 | A/D side walls; B/C back wall |
| Black aluminum connector ALU-JT-BL | 1 | Hidden B-C back-wall seam |
| Inside corners ALU-CR-WT or SPC | 2 | Joint method only: A-B and C-D |
| End caps ALU-EC-WT or SPC | 2 | Required for both methods on exposed A/D edges |

# Panel Layout, Sizing & Profile Notes

## Panel positions and book-match

- A and D are the side walls. B and C together form the back wall of the alcove.
- The panels are book-match designs: the pattern continues from panel to panel across the alcove, flowing through the center B-C seam.
- Arrange panels in the labeled A-B-C-D positions around the alcove, right side up. The panels are not interchangeable.
- The gluing sequence is different from the visual layout: install B first, then C, then A and D.

## Other alcove sizes

- The kit is sized for a standard 36 in x 72 in x 36 in alcove (side x back x side).
- Smaller alcoves are supported because panels cut cleanly, for example in the 30-36 in x 48-72 in x 30-36 in range.
- Final edge positions always come from the dry-fit step. Hairline corner-side trims may be needed even at standard size.
- When narrowing the back wall, trim B and C by equal amounts from their corner-side edges only. Never cut the center B-C seam edges.
- Trim A and D from their corner-side edges. Keep their factory front edges for the end caps.

**BOOK-MATCHED PATTERN**

Arrange panels in labeled A-B-C-D positions, right side up. When narrowing the back wall, trim B and C equally from their corner-side edges only. Never cut the center B-C factory edges.

**PROFILE FINISH**

The profile finish, white aluminum or color-matched SPC, depends on the kit version purchased. The function is identical. Calacatta White Glossy kits may include white aluminum or White Matte SPC profiles; no glossy SPC profile exists.

**NEED A SPARE?**

For spare or replacement parts, contact customer service before installing.

**Fig. 5** Accessory locations - Plan View (Seen from above)

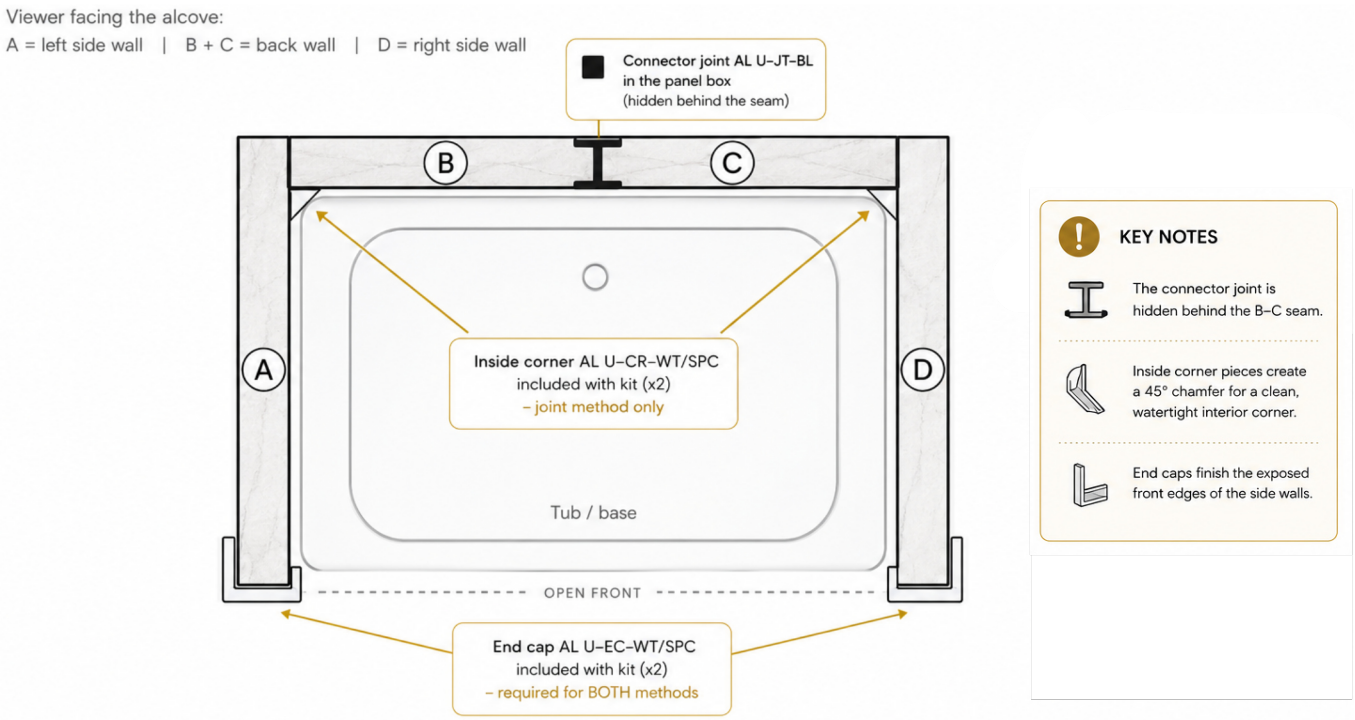
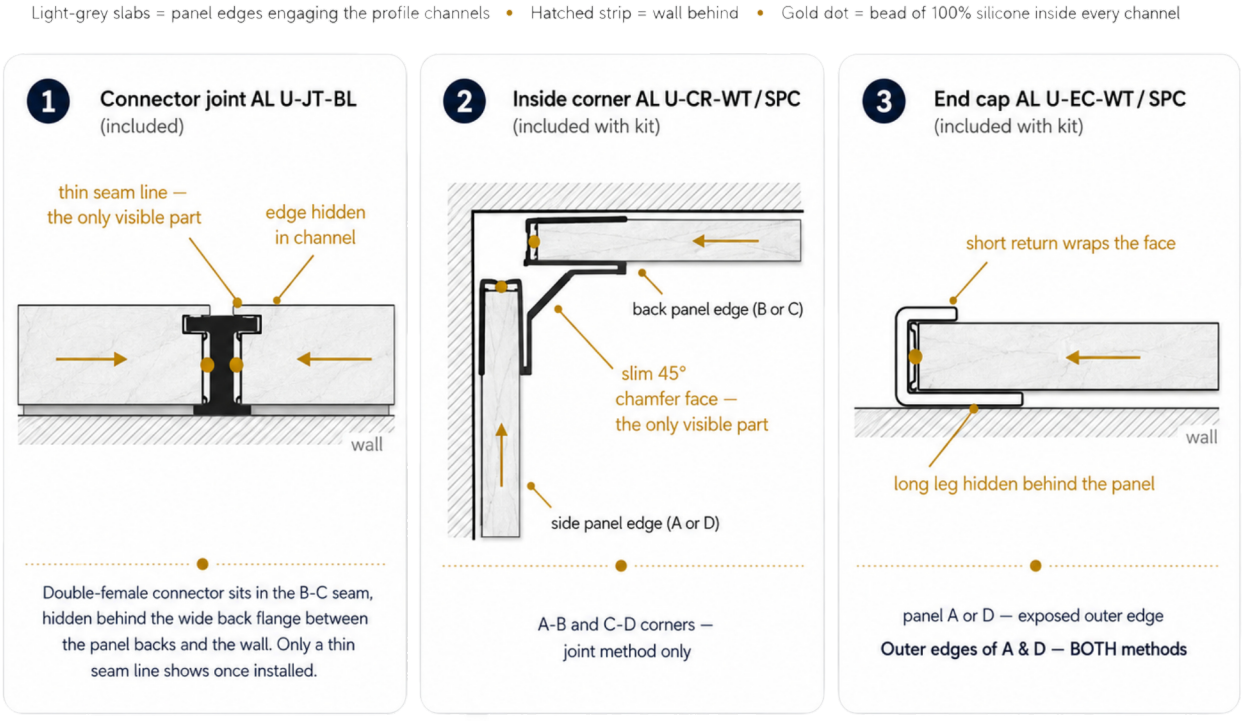



**Fig. 6** Trim profile cross-sections - Plan View (Seen from above)



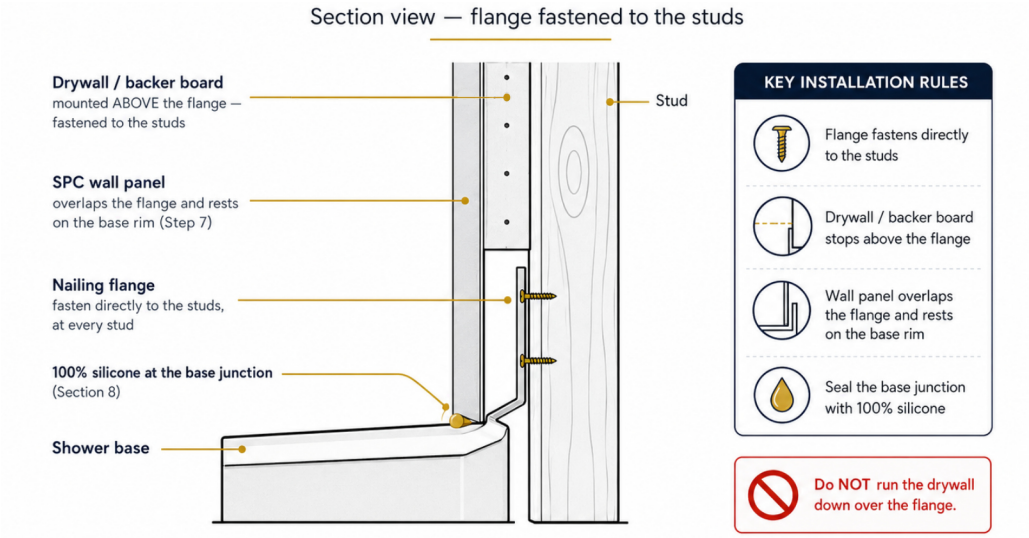

each channel swallows part of the panel edge — allow for the offset when sizing (Step 3)

# Wall Preparation

## Base or tub first

Whether the walls will be wall panels or ceramic tile, the shower base or tub goes in first. Set it level and fasten its nailing flange directly to the wall studs at every stud. The drywall or backer board is mounted above the flange, not over it. The panels later overlap the flange and rest on the base rim.

**Fig. 7** Shower base flange section



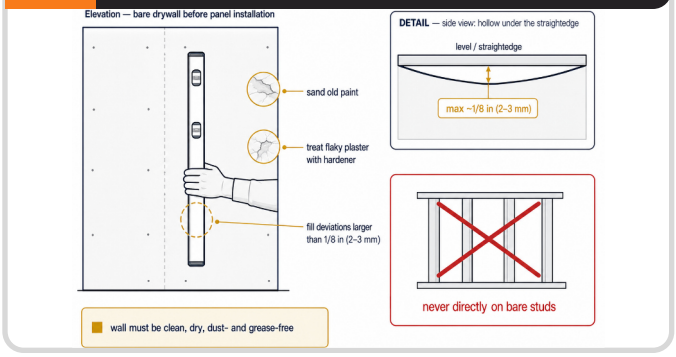

## Renovation over finished walls

If you cannot see the flange, you do not need to open the wall to check it. Proceed only if the base is solidly anchored, with no movement or flex at the rim, and the wall near the base is sound, dry, and flat. If the wall is loose, crumbling, or water-damaged near the base, repair that area first.

## Flatness and surface condition

- Do not install directly onto bare studs.
- Both waterproof backer and standard drywall / gyprock are acceptable, subject to the seam-method rule.
- Flatness tolerance is about 1/8 in (2-3 mm). Fill larger deviations first.
- Wall must be clean, dry, and free of dust, grease, soap residue, glue, wallpaper, and flaking paint or varnish.
- Sand old paint and treat flaky plaster with hardener / plaster primer. Never install on a wet or damp wall.

**Fig. 8** Wall flatness and prep




**WATERPROOFING PRINCIPLE**

The panels are waterproof. The installed system is waterproof only when seams, profile channels, end caps, and the base junction are sealed correctly with 100% silicone.

# Dry-Fit, Measuring & Cutting

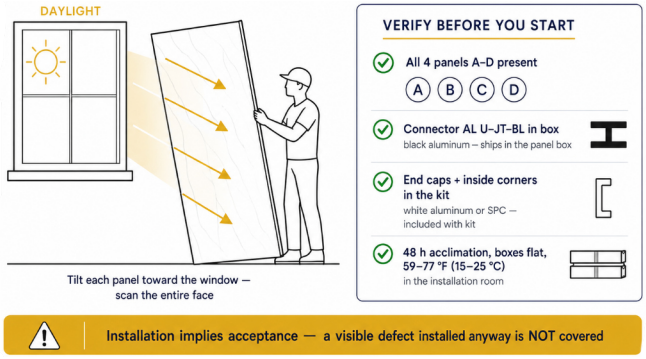
**INSTALLATION ORDER**

Order: B, connector + C, corners + A and D, end caps, curing pressure, then grout only if using the grout method.

## Step 1 - Verify and inspect

- Confirm panels A-D, connector ALU-JT-BL, two end caps, and two inside corners are present.
- Inspect each panel in daylight before installation. Installation implies acceptance.
- Confirm the panels acclimated for 48 hours in the installation room.

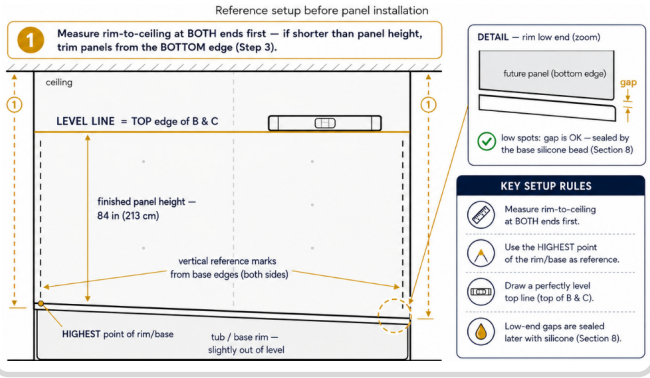
**Fig. 9 Daylight inspection**




## Step 2 - Height and level line

- Measure from the highest point of the tub rim or shower base to the ceiling at both back-wall ends.
- If shorter than 84 in (213 cm), trim panels from the bottom edge. The factory top edge stays visible.
- Draw a level horizontal line across the back wall; it marks the top edge of panels B and C.

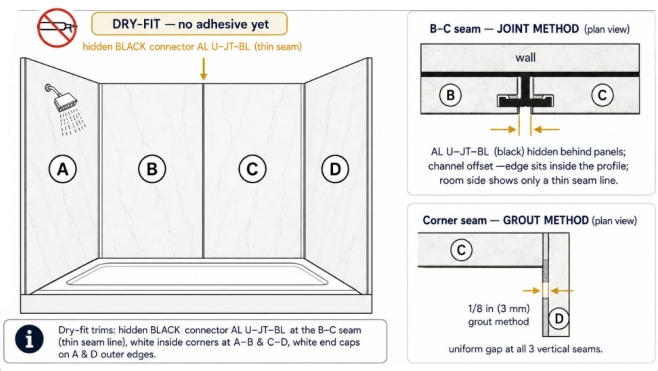
**Fig. 10 Height check and level line**




## Step 3 - Dry-fit all four panels

- Set A-B-C-D in labeled positions, right side up, and confirm the book-matched pattern before cutting.
- Joint method: dry-fit with connector, corners, and end caps in place because channels swallow part of the edge.
- Grout method: include a uniform 1/8 in (3 mm) gap at all three vertical seams.
- When narrowing the back wall, trim B and C by equal amounts from their corner-side edges only; never cut the centre B-C edges.
- Cut profiles to finished height and test-press every profile before opening adhesive.

**Fig. 11 Dry-fit with seam allowances**

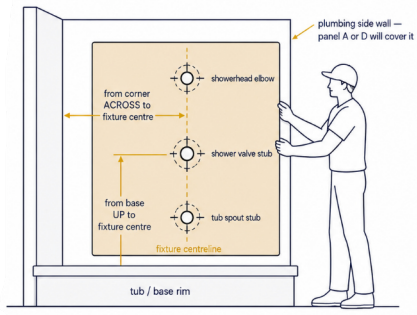


# Plumbing Cutouts & Adhesive

## Step 4 - Mark plumbing cutouts

- Measure from the base and from the corner to each fixture centre on the plumbing panel.
- Make a cardboard template with holes marked. Hold it against the wall and confirm every hole lines up.
- Only transfer marks after the template has been checked.

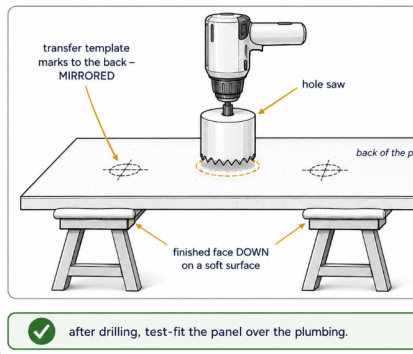
**Fig. 12** Plumbing template




## Step 5 - Drill from the back

- Transfer template marks to the back of the panel, mirrored.
- Place the finished face down on a soft surface.
- Drill each opening with the correct hole saw from the back. Never drill from the finished face.
- Test-fit the panel over the plumbing.

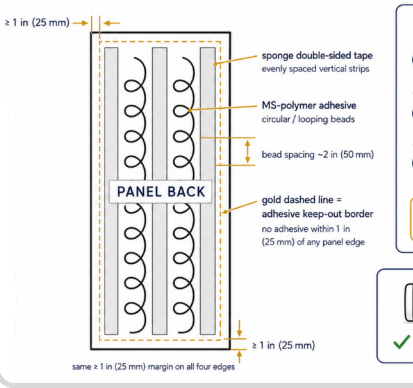
**Fig. 13** Drill from the back




## Step 6 - Tape and adhesive

- Glue one panel at a time, immediately before installing it.
- Wipe the panel back and wall clean; let both surfaces dry.
- Apply sponge tape in vertical strips and MS-polymer adhesive in looping beads.
- Keep adhesive at least 1" from all edges; bead spacing about 2".

**Fig. 14** Tape and adhesive layout

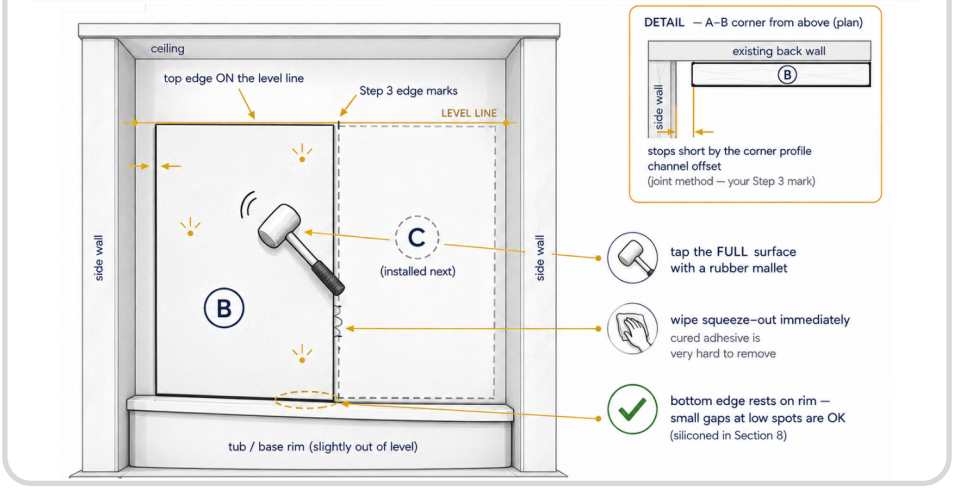


# Back Wall Installation

## Step 7 - Install panel B

- Joint method: decide before gluing whether to pre-fit the silicone-charged connector and corner profile onto B.
- Apply the Step 6 tape/adhesive pattern. Align B's top edge with the level line and match Step 3 edge marks.
- The bottom edge rests on the tub rim or base. Small gaps at low spots are sealed later.
- Press firmly, tap the full surface with a rubber mallet, and wipe squeeze-out immediately.

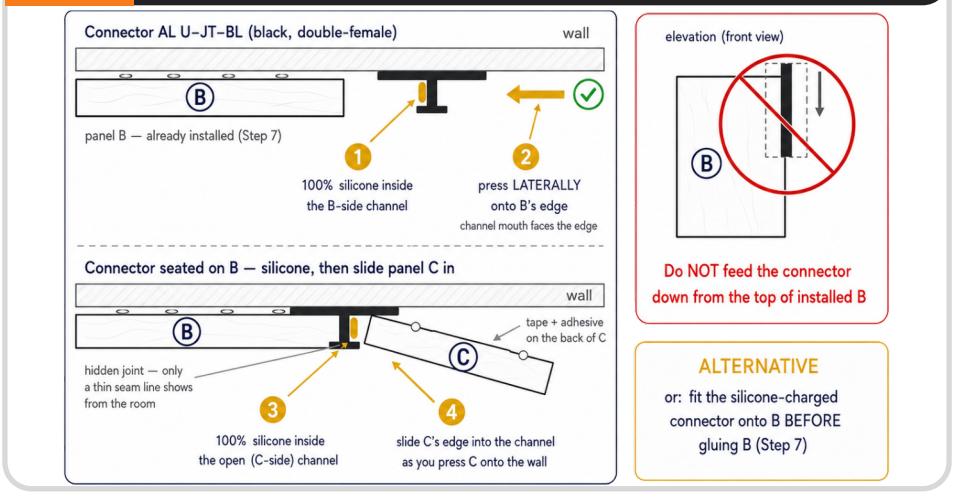
**Fig. 15 Install panel B**




## Step 8 - Connector joint, then panel C

- Run 100% silicone inside the connector channel that receives panel B.
- Press ALU-JT-BL laterally onto B's open edge until fully seated. Do not feed it down from the top.
- Silicone the open channel, then slide C's edge into it while pressing C onto the wall.
- Grout method: omit seam profiles and install C with the 1/8 in gap from dry-fit.

**Fig. 16 Connector joint and panel C**




**CLEAN AS YOU GO**

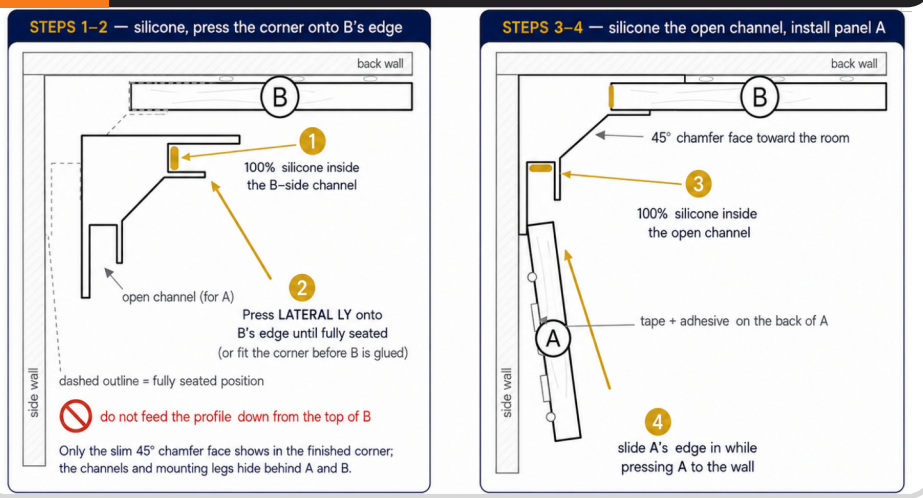
Seat panels with a rubber mallet and wipe adhesive or silicone squeeze-out immediately. Cured adhesive is very hard to remove.

# Corners & End Caps

## Step 9 - Inside corners and side panels

- At A-B, silicone both channels of the inside-corner profile: first the channel that receives panel B, then the open channel for panel A.
- Press the inside corner laterally onto B until fully seated, then silicone the open channel.
- Apply tape and adhesive to panel A and slide its edge into the open channel while pressing to the wall.
- Repeat at C-D for panel D. Grout method: install A and D with the same 1/8 in corner gap.

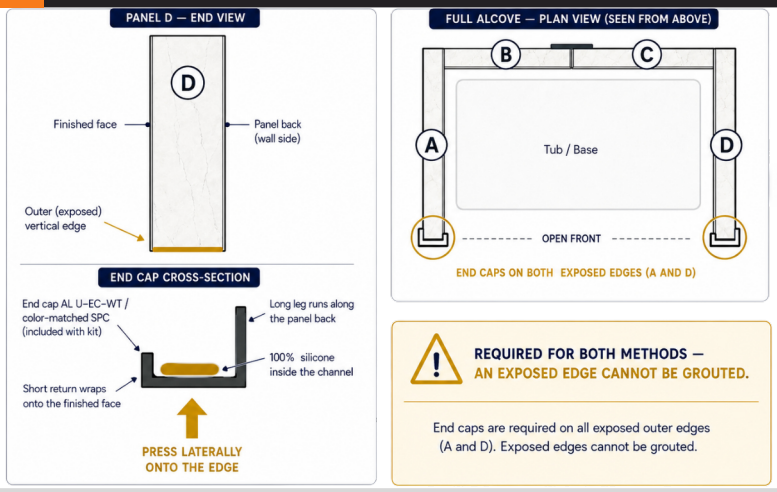
**Fig. 17** Inside corner and panel A




## Step 10 - End caps

- Finish the exposed outer vertical edges of panels A and D with end caps.
- End caps are required for both joint and grout methods; an exposed edge cannot be grouted.
- Run 100% silicone into each end cap's single channel and press it laterally onto the edge.

**Fig. 18** End cap on exposed edge

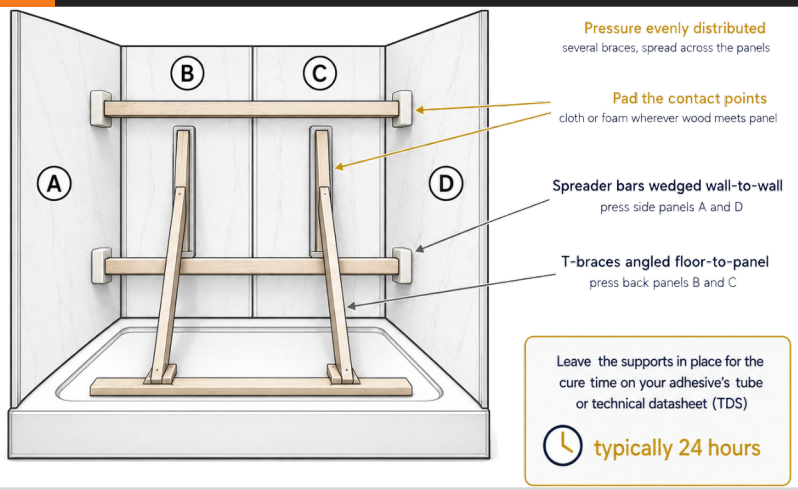


# Cure, Bracing & Grout

## Step 11 - Apply curing pressure

- Brace each panel with bars or wooden supports while adhesive cures.
- Distribute pressure evenly across panels A-D and pad every contact point.
- Use spreader bars wall-to-wall for side panels and T-braces angled floor-to-panel for back panels.
- Leave supports for the adhesive cure time stated on the tube or TDS, typically 24 hours.

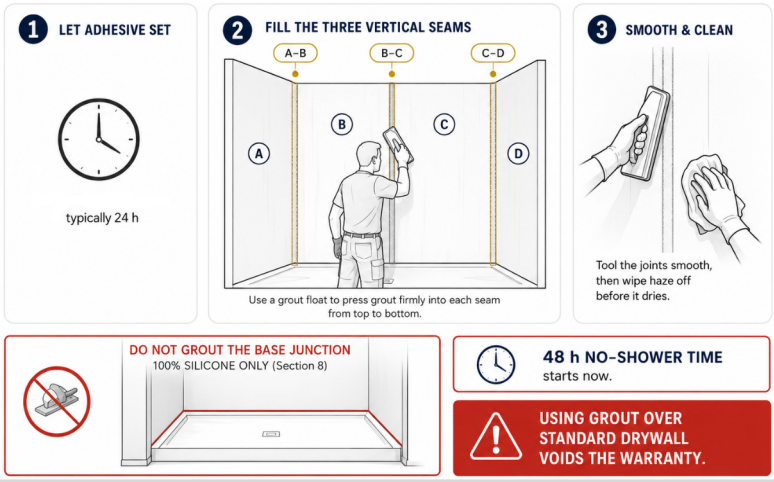
**Fig. 19 Curing pressure / bracing**




## Step 12 - Grout method only

- Wait for the adhesive set time, typically 24 hours, before grouting.
- Fill the three vertical seams A-B, B-C, and C-D with flexible, water-resistant grout.
- Do not grout the tub/base junction; it must be sealed with 100% silicone.
- Tool the joints smooth and wipe haze before it dries. No-shower time starts after grouting.

**Fig. 20 Grout method only**



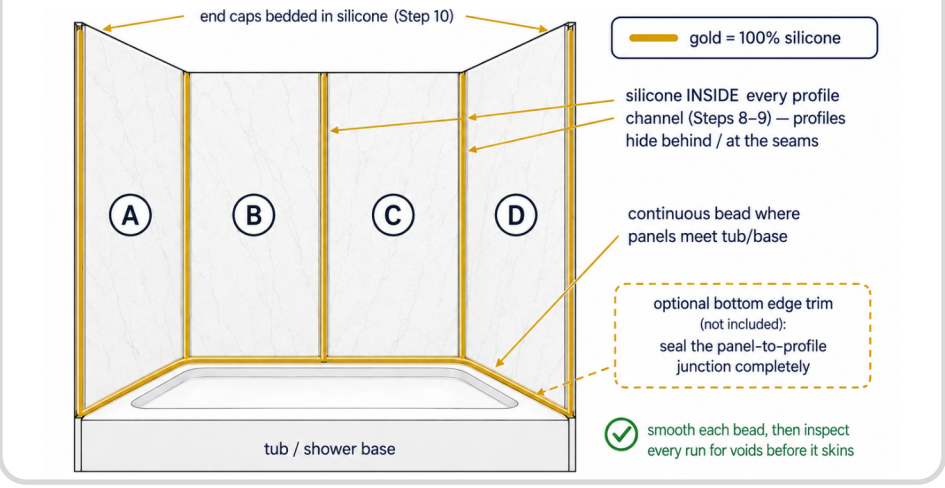

**REMINDER**
Grout method is permitted only over waterproof drywall / moisture-rated backer board.

# Sealing: What Makes the System Waterproof

## Required silicone locations

- Continuous bead where all four panels meet the tub or shower base.
- Inside every profile channel at each splice connection.
- Inside both end caps on A and D.
- If optional bottom edge trim is used, seal the panel-to-profile junction completely.

**Fig. 21** Silicone sealing locations




**missed silicone is the top cause of leaks — smooth every bead and inspect for voids**

## After sealing

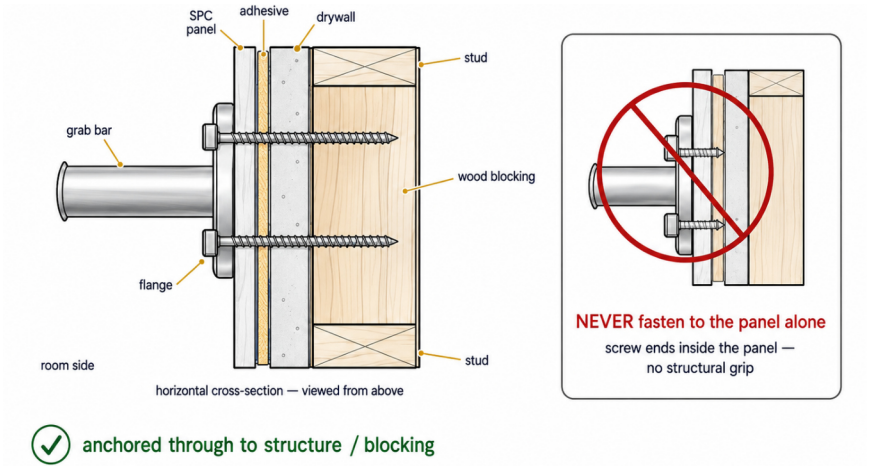
- Smooth each bead and inspect for voids before it skins.
- Missed silicone is the top cause of leaks.
- Keep the room dry for 48 hours after installation. For grout method, count from grouting or follow the grout manufacturer's longer cure time.
- Remove residue with a soft cloth. For stubborn smears, use the adhesive manufacturer's recommended cleaner, never solvents.
- Reinstall trim and showerhead, restore water, and check every connection for leaks.

# After Installation & Care

**HEAVY OBJECTS**

Never fasten grab bars, racks, mirrors, or accessories to panels alone. Drill through the panel and anchor into structure / load-bearing wall with proper screws, plugs, and blocking reinforcement.

**Fig. 22** Anchor heavy objects to structure




## Care and maintenance

- Clean with soapy water and a soft cloth.
- Wipe water spots promptly to prevent limescale.
- Check silicone seals regularly and renew any bead that cracks or pulls away, typically every 12-18 months.
- Ventilate the bathroom with an exhaust fan or open window to limit mildew.
- Never use abrasives, ammonia, solvents, or corrosive cleaners because they dull or damage the finish.

**Fig. 23** Care and maintenance



# 2-Year Limited Warranty

**2**
**YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY**
Against manufacturing defects from the date of purchase

Protier SPC shower wall panels are warranted against manufacturing defects for two (2) years from the date of purchase.
What is covered: replacement of the verified defective panel with wall material of equivalent or similar quality available at the time of the claim.

**Fig. 24** Warranty coverage matrix

| COVERED | | NOT COVERED | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Joint method + Waterproof drywall | Warranty maintained | Grout method + Standard drywall / gyprock | Warranty void |
| Joint method + Standard drywall / gyprock | Warranty maintained | Any adhesive other than MS-polymer | Warranty void |
| Grout method + Waterproof drywall | Warranty maintained | Claims submitted more than 7 days after the defect becomes apparent | May be denied / outside claim window |

**WARRANTY CONDITIONS**

1. MS-polymer adhesive required — any other adhesive voids the warranty
2. Claims must be submitted in writing within 7 days of the defect becoming apparent

# Warranty Details & Installer Notes

## What is not covered

- Removal or reinstallation costs.
- Products not sold in original packaging; promotional or clearance items.
- Appearance or color change from normal aging.
- Circumstantial damage such as fire or water events.
- Any installation using adhesive that does not contain MS polymers.
- Grout-method installations over standard drywall / gyprock.
- Damage from transport or improper handling.
- Outdoor use. These panels are for indoor use only.
- Installation of a panel with a visible defect. Installation implies acceptance.

## Claims and installer notes

Claims must be submitted in writing within 7 days of the defect becoming apparent, with complete details and supporting evidence: photos, PO Number, and proof of purchase. ProTier reserves the right to inspect the affected product. Keep this guide and proof of purchase.

**Installer name** _____

**Date** _____

**Signature** _____

**PO Number** _____

**Notes** _____

**LEGAL NOTE**

This warranty applies only when the product is installed and maintained per this guide, without prejudice to statutory consumer rights under Canadian law. Joint waterproofing is the installer's responsibility; the panels themselves are warranted waterproof.