# Installation instructions

## BB nuance acrylic

## Inspection

Panels must be thoroughly inspected upon receipt for damage or visible defects. The panels are supplied with a protective clear film to both the decorative face and the painted face, this should be peeled back to check for damage or discrepancies in colour* where necessary then replaced to provide protection during installation.

**Do not install panels that you find to be defective.**

Once the panels or profiles have been cut or installed we regard this as an acceptance of their quality and suitability for purpose and therefore we cannot accept any subsequent claims for faults or damage.

*colour discrepancies should be checked from the face side only as the appearance of 'patching' on the rear face is normal during the painting process.

## Storage

Panels should always be stored flat to avoid bowing.

- Panels should never be stored outside.
- BB Complete Adhesive should be stored in cool dry conditions between 5 - 25°C.

## Handling

Acrylic panels can have extremely sharp edges and we advise that suitable gloves be worn for protection when handling and installing them.

Extra care should be taken when handling, dry jointing and installing larger or shaped panels that have cut-outs in them as excessive flexing can cause cracking around the cut-outs.
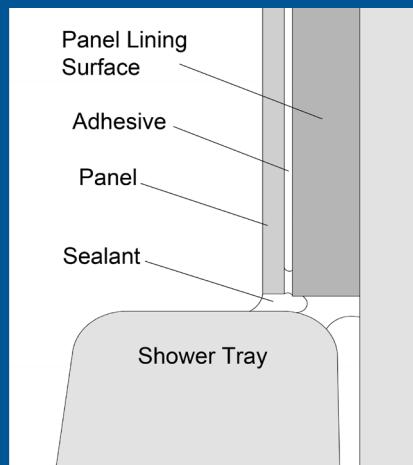
## Planning & Preparation

Before you undertake any type of installation it is always wise to carry out a degree of planning that might save you a lot of time and grief later on. Below are some points that may help.

## Panel Lining Surface

Acrylic panels must be fitted to a continuous surface such as plaster board, existing tiling, chipboard & plywood sheathing and tile backers providing the surface it is sound, plumb and level. Some surfaces do require pre-treatment before installation, tiles should be de-greased and fresh plaster should be sealed with a proprietary PVA sealer.

It is important to ensure that there are no areas of wall to be clad where there are distinct differences in shading such as

tape lines in plaster boarding and grout lines in tiling as these can show through when installing lighter colours.



Panel Lining Surface
Adhesive
Panel
Sealant
Shower Tray

## Services

Necessary pipe work should be fitted and short tails left where they are to pass through panels.

Electrical cabling should be in place and routed to avoid subsequent fixing points. Shower trays and baths should be fitted in position, these should also be sealed in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations.

## Allowances

The Acrylic panels are subject to expansion and contraction during normal use so it is necessary to make allowances for this during installation. A 3mm gap should be left between the edge of the panel and any adjoining surface, this gap should then be sealed with BB Complete coloured sealant.

## Panels

All panels are 4mm thick overall and are supplied with a clear plastic protective film to the face.

## Acrylic panel size and weight
- 2440 x 1200 x 4mm (14.5kg)

## Accessories

Acrylic profiles come in 2440mm lengths and are available either a bright polished silver finish or white. In order to validate the 15 year guarantee you must install and seal acrylic panels with BB Complete Adhesive and coloured sealant.



End Cap    Internal Corner    Eternal Corner
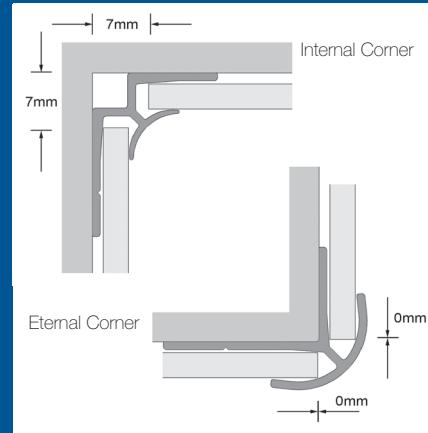
## Tools & Fixings

Tools and fixings that you will need to install the panels include:
- Jigsaw, circular saw or router
- Screwdriver
- Mastic Gun

- Measuring tape & pencil
- Masking Tape
- BB Complete Adhesive and sealant

## Sizing & Cutting

Before cutting you should make sure that you have taken into account any allowances for profiles that are to be used which are shown below.



The acrylic panels can be cut either using a circular saw, jigsaw or router. Whichever method is used, it is essential that the panel is face upwards, well supported and clamped in place to prevent chattering.

**Top Tip:** Applying masking tape to the soul plate of the saw or router can prevent scratching.

## Circular Saw

Tungsten Carbide Tipped (TCT) blades that are designed for metals or plastics should be used as these will be fine toothed and give the best finish, the following recommendations should be followed:

- Clearance angle Y - 15-20°
- Rake angle a - 0-5°
- Cutting speed - 3000m/min
- Circular Pitch t - 10-20mm

## Jig Saw

Jigsaw blades that are specifically designed to cut Acrylic should be used such as the Bosch T101A or Makita A-85721 B-21 if these are not available then a fine toothed blade such as those designed to cut metals should be used. A high speed should be selected and the rotary action switched off.
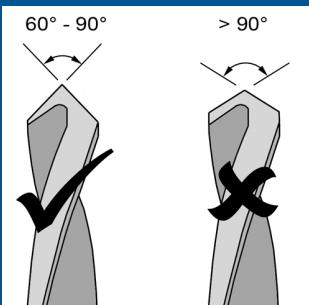
## Router

A straight TCT fluted cutter should be used with a cutting speed of 4500m/min

## Drilling

Twist Drills
HSS twist drills specifically made for metals or plastics can be used and will have a point angle of between 60° - 90°.

Standard drill bits which generally have a much flatter point angle can cause the acrylic to crack these drill bits can be re-sharpened to achieve this angle. When drilling a slow speed should be selected and the acrylic panel must be supported below.
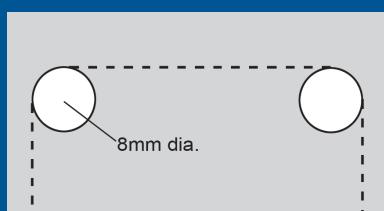


60° - 90° ✔    > 90° ✘

## Hole Saws
Hole saws can be used to cut the Acrylic panels but must be the type designed to cut metal sheet and the pilot drill must have a point angle of between 60° - 90° as above.

The panel must be supported from behind and It is recommended to drill half way through the panel then turn over and finish the hole from the other side, this will prevent the edge from shattering. The edges of the hole should then be de-burred with 100 grit paper.

## Cut-Outs
Shaped cut-outs can be formed by drilling 8mm diameter holes in the corners of the required shape and then cutting between using a jigsaw with an acrylic blade. It is important that the panel is supported at all times. With all cut outs a radius of at least 4mm must be left in the corners failure to do this can lead to the acrylic cracking.



8mm dia.

## Edge Polishing
If the panel edge is to be left exposed, it can easily be finished to a polished glass like quality.

Always peel back the protective film 25mm from the edge while polishing. Remove any sanding dust between grades immediately using a soft cloth. Start with a 180 grit paper to remove any cutter marks from the machined edge, then process with a 240 grit paper and then finally a 320 grit. Chamfer any burrs or marks from the corners with a Scotchbrite pad.

## Adhesive application
BB Complete adhesive should be used. Dry fitting should always be carried out before adhesive application.

Apply the adhesive in a minimum of 5mm diameter beads in vertical lines 100mm apart to the wall surface also ensure that beads applied around cut outs. Wipe the back face using a clean, damp cloth and allow to dry.

## Masking
Preparing the panels with masking tape before sealing can save a lot of time cleaning off excess sealant later on in the installation, especially at the bottom joints where a larger coved seal will be formed.

## Sealing at the bottom
A 3-4mm gap must be left between the bottom of the panel and top of the shower tray or bath, this can be achieved by using packers when fixing panels. The gaps should then be sealed ensuring that BB Complete coloured sealant is forced into the void.

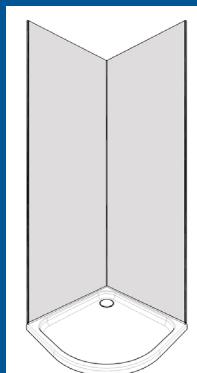## Sealing at apertures & cut-outs
A clearance gap of 2-3mm all around should be allowed where pipes or fittings come through the panel even where collars are to be fitted. The gap should then be filled with sealant.

## Fitting through Acrylic Panels
Fittings such as shower attachments, screens, towel rails, etc. can be fixed directly through the panels using suitable fixings. Heavy items will need solid fixing points behind the panels to provide the necessary support, these should be considered when planning your installation.
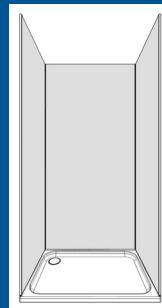
## Two Sided Shower Installation
The following steps assume that the panel lining surface has been prepared and the panels and trims have been cut to the required size and that they have been dry fitted to check assembly.



1.  Peel back the protective film about 25mm from the front edge.

2.  Apply a bead of BB Complete coloured sealant into one side of the internal corner profile and fit onto the exposed edge of the first panel.
3.  Repeat this on the opposite edge if an End Cap profile is required and fit the End Cap to the edge of the panel using a bead of BB Complete coloured sealant.
4.  A 3-4mm gap should be left between the bottom of the panel and the top of the shower tray or bath, this can be achieved by using packers which will be removed before sealing.
5.  Apply BB Complete adhesive to the wall as detailed in Fitting Tips then position the panel against the wall applying even pressure over the surface to ensure a good bond.
6.  Repeat steps 2-5 for the second panel.
7.  Seal the bottom of the panels and any apetures required as detailed in the fitting tips section.

## Three Sided Shower Installation



1.  As step 1 (2 sided shower)
2.  Fit both of the internal corner profiles to the edge of the panel by applying a bead of sealant into one channel of each of the profiles.
3.  As Step 4 above.
4.  As Step 5 above.
5.  Peel back the protective film about 25mm from the vertical edge of the side panel.
6.  Repeat this on the opposite edge if an End Cap profile is required and fit the End Cap to the edge of the panel using a bead of BB Complete coloured sealant.
7.  Apply BB Complete adhesive to the side wall as detailed in Fitting Tips.
8.  Apply a bead of BB Complete coloured sealant into the remaining channel of the Internal Corner profile.
9.  Insert the exposed edge of the side panel into the internal corner at an angle ensuring that a good seal is achieved then swing the panel back into place against the side wall applying even pressure over the surface to ensure a good bond.
10. Repeat steps 5-9 for the remaining side panel.
11. Seal the bottom of the panels and any apertures required as detailed in the fitting tips section.

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tel: 01933 232 272 email: help@bushboard.co.uk or log onto www.bushboard.co.uk

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