

# Installation Guide for your Acrylic Splash Back

## You will need:

- Measuring tape
- Soft pencil or felt tip
- Carpenter's square
- Circular saw with a minimum 60 tooth blade
- Battery drill with slightly blunt twist drills or step drills
- 120 grit, 180 grit and 240 grit sand paper sheets
- Safety glasses, closed shoes, hearing and hand protection
- Silicon caulking gun with translucent silicon
- 12mm x 1.6mm thick double coated polyethylene foam tape with synthetic rubber adhesive such as 3M tape
- Liquid Nails
- Plastic Spatula (soft)

## Preparation

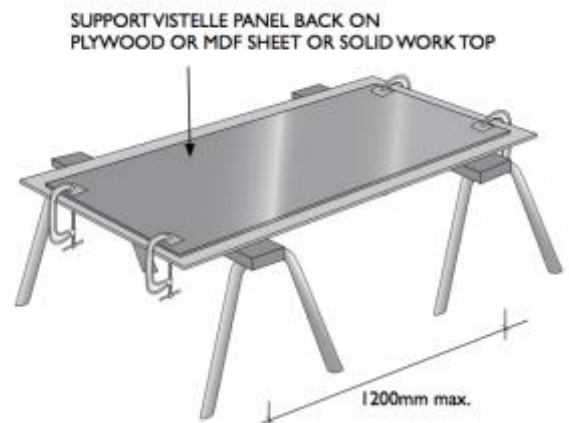
1. First ensure the wall(s) you wish to install your splash back on are clean and dry. Make sure it is also flat. If you have MDF or plasterboard seal it before proceeding.
2. Acrylic splash backs can be installed on tiled walls as long as you ensure the tiles are clean, dry and flush.
3. Measure your wall area so you know what size to cut your splash back down to. Try to avoid any large cut outs in your splash back i.e. windows etc.
4. Allow 4mm for any joins that you will have between panels.
5. Check the area is square; if not, make a template of the area and check that it fits. Then cut your splash back to this template.

## Marking

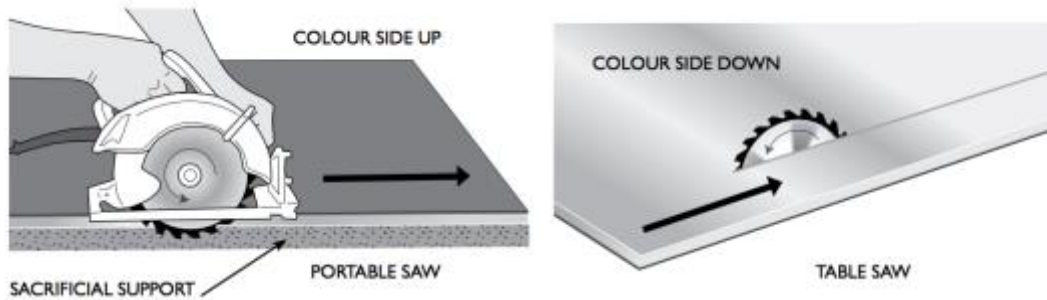
6. Mark on your sheet all the cut outs you will need to make, make sure the protective covering is still attached.
7. Clamp your acrylic sheet securely in a clean, open area, ready to cut it to your desired size. To avoid scratching put some fabric or other soft material between the clamp and the acrylic sheet. You do not want the sheet to be able to vibrate etc as chipping and other damage can occur.

## Cutting

8. The circular saw will give the best cut, and having a piece of wood underneath that you do not mind cutting into will allow for optimum cutting. Use a fine toothed blade for your electric saw that is recommended for cutting plastics etc. Ensure your blade is sharp to avoid chipping and keep the blade cool or you run the risk of it melting the acrylic.



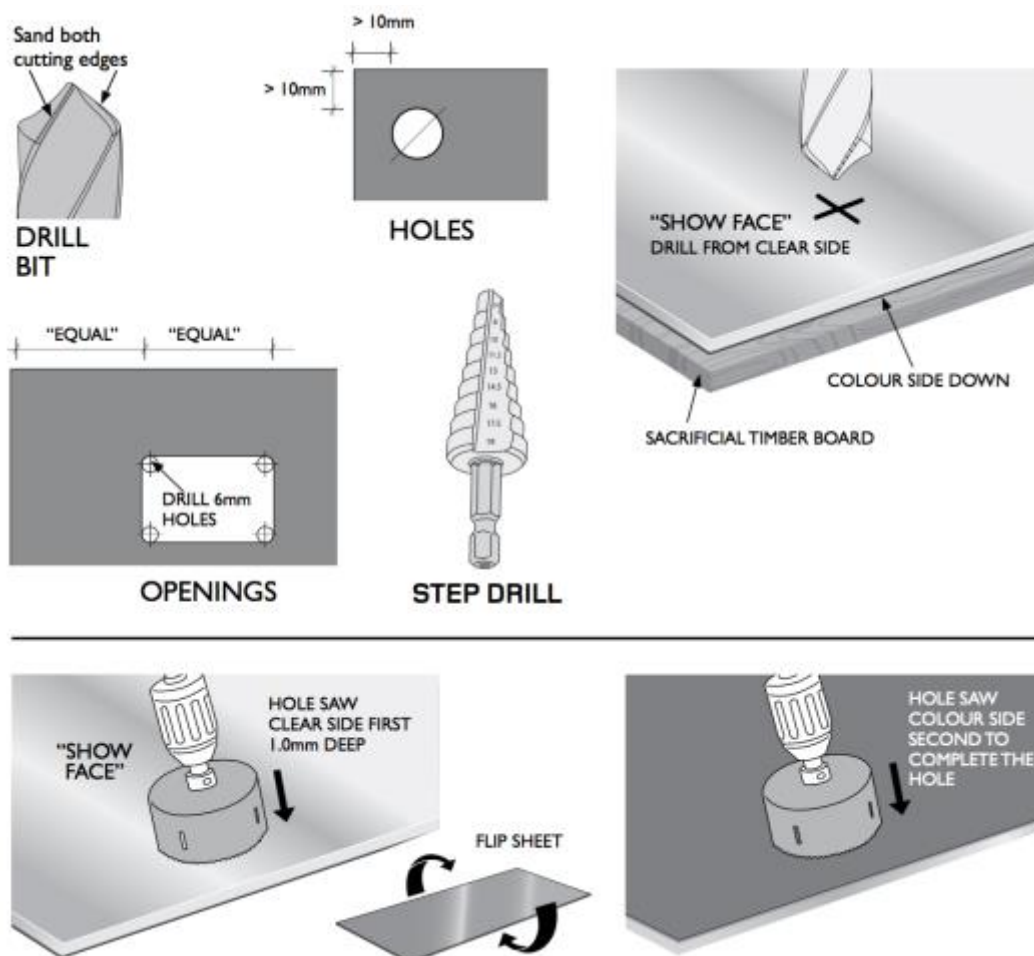
9. If using a hand held saw such as a skill saw then cut with the colour side upwards, if you are using a table saw then cut with the colour side down.



10. A jigsaw can be used for cut outs such as power point holes, however only use a specialized blade for plastics and cut with the colour side facing down. Only use jigsaws for short cuts to reduce the risk of melting or damaging your acrylic sheet.

## Drilled Holes and Openings

11. Drilled holes should have a minimum clearance of 10mm from the edge of the sheet.
12. Always drill a hole at the beginning of any cut out notches and do not create long openings as you will significantly reduce the strength of the sheet.
13. Drill slowly to avoid chipping, a blunt drill bit helps with this. Drill from the clear side of the sheet to further reduce the risk of chipping.
14. **DO NOT SCREW INTO THE ACRYLIC SHEET.** If you are needing to attach something to the wall through the acrylic sheet drill a hole carefully through the sheet that is 1mm larger than your screw to ensure the screw has clearance.

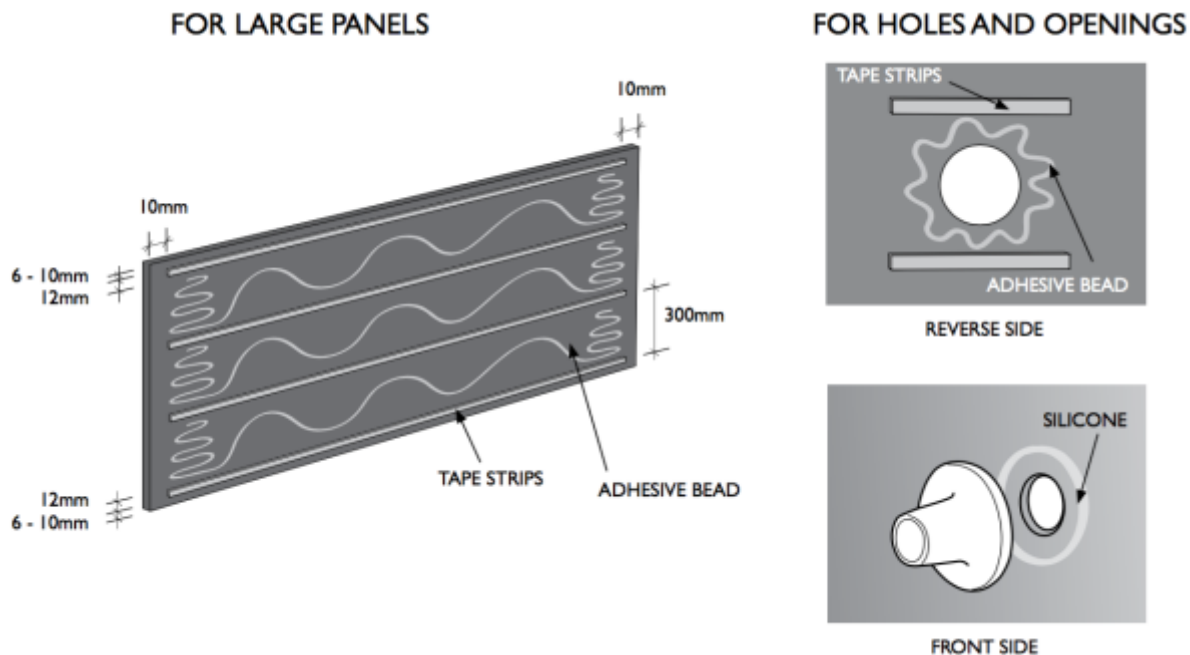


## Edge Finishing

15. All sawn edges must be sanded or planed prior to installation. To sand the edges, first start with a 120 grit, then move onto 180 grit and finally use 240 grit to finish off the edge. If you have an electric planer, a single pass with one of these should achieve the same finish also. Do not use anything containing chemicals to finish the edges as the sheet could get damaged.

## Installation

16. Remove the protective covering from the rear face of the panel and scuff it up with a coarse scouring pad or 120 grit sand paper. Remove all dust with a clean cloth.
17. Once the rear surface is clean apply the 12mm x 1.6mm thick double coated polyethylene foam tape with synthetic rubber adhesive onto it, with approximately 30cm spacing between strips.



18. Once you have applied the foam tape check to ensure it will fit in your desired location.
19. Once you have checked your panel will fit into your space remove it again and apply a 6mm bead of silicone (translucent neutral cure is recommended) in a wavy pattern between each strip as shown above. Near the edges of the panel, increase the waves as seen.
20. Remove the tape liner and install the panel into place, resting it onto removable spacers at the bottom and between panels. Rub the panel down to ensure tape bonds and the adhesive is making contact with the wall.
21. Leave this to dry for 72 hours.
22. Remove the spacers and seal the joins with the translucent silicon for wet areas. If the panel's protective film has been damaged, remove 40mm thick of it from the desired edge and apply 20mm thick masking tape to protect the panel from the silicon. Fill the gaps and then use a rubber spatula to remove the excess silicon.
  - a. To achieve a smooth finish on the silicon mix up a solution of 10% mild dishwashing liquid and water and spray it on the silicon before scraping off the excess silicon.
  - b. **Do not use acetic cure silicon and do not use acrylic sealant as it will not bond to the panels.**
23. Once the silicon has been applied, carefully remove the outer protective covering/masking tape. Attempt to do this in one continuous motion to ensure the best finish possible.

## Cleaning

- Best cleaning results are achieved with the use of a microfiber cloth and a non-abrasive cleaner. Do not rub the acrylic sheet when it is dry as you risk scratching your splash back.