



**SOUTHERN
PINE PRODUCTS**

Panelling DIY Guide

Creating green building solutions



Tools Required:

The basic tools needed are: hammer, nails (panel pins are best), wall board adhesive, measuring tape, straight edge, spirit level, plumb line, either panel or tenon saw for cross-grain, or ripsaw for ripping and a drill.

ESTIMATE QUANTITY

VERTICAL ASSEMBLY:

Determine the height of the wall and select packs of the appropriate length. Pack width coverage is indicated on the packaging. Measure the width of the wall to determine how many packs you require.

HORIZONTAL ASSEMBLY:

Measure the height of the wall in metres. Determine the number of packs you will need to cover this 'width'. Then measure the length of the wall and estimate the most economical pack length that will cover the wall. This number, multiplied by the number of packs required to cover floor to ceiling, is the total quantity required.

DIAGONAL ASSEMBLY:

As for vertical assembly, except that pack length should match the length of the diagonal. Allow for the extra wastage with the diagonal pattern.

BEFORE ASSEMBLY

Panelling is kiln dried to match normal ambient room temperatures, but it is nevertheless important to open the packs and the prop the timber against the wall in the room to be paneled for at least 24 hours prior to assembly. This is an ideal time to select the colour and grain mix that will work best.

EXTREME ENVIRONMENTS

Special precautions should be taken where panelling is to be installed in either a damp environment (kitchen, bathroom or laundry) or high heat area (close to a fireplace or wood-burner stove). Seal the panelling both sides and, if possible, apply at least two finishing coats before installation (see "finishing"). Apply sealants only lightly to the tongue and grooves. Allow to dry before fixing. Alternatively, the finish applied after fixing should be a stain or oil so that the boards are not "glued" together. This will permit each board to move independently and prevent splitting.

In some areas with very extreme temperature variations (spa room and conservatory) not all species of panelling are suitable. Sometimes as well as taking the above precautions it is necessary to use thicker panelling. Refer to your nearest Southern Pine Products Ltd sales office for advice.

In most areas where panelling is to be applied horizontally or diagonally, ensure that it is installed 'tongue up' to avoid any water droplets settling in the groove.

SAWING PANELLING

Because panelling is made in set length, minimum cutting is needed. However, to ensure a clean finish when sawing, always cut with the finished face upwards.

Christchurch Office: 635 Halswell Junction Road, P.O. Box 16-200 Christchurch 8025, New Zealand.

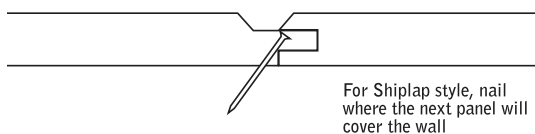
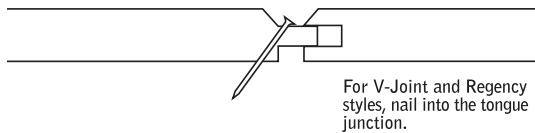
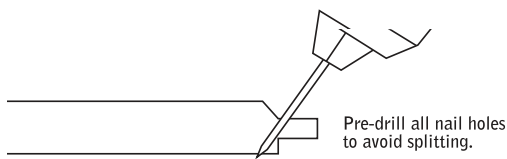
Tel: +64-3-349-9175

Fax: +64-3-349-9180

Auckland Office: Unit 8/99 Carbine Road, Mt. Wellington, Auckland 1060, New Zealand

Tel: +64-9-573-0484

Fax: +64-9-573-0191



NAILING

Panelling can be face nailed, but the recommended method is secret nailing (see diagram) using 25mm x 1.6 gauge panel pins. Be sure to drive pins flush with timber surface. When nailing, pre drilling is recommended to avoid splitting the tongues. Use a 1.5mm drill bit, drilling only through the board, not into the wall. Since the finer the nails used, the easier it is to hide the fixing, it is recommended that boards should be fixed with a wall board adhesive and panel pins.

FIXING TO WALLS

When fixing panelling, it is best to apply the boards direct to studs. If you are panelling an existing room, carefully locate all the studs and dwangs behind the existing cladding and mark them clearly. On uneven walls, first apply battens, no more than 450mm apart. True them with thin strips of wood. Apply beads of adhesive to the framing, battens, or your marks on the wall then follow the secret nailing technique described in the next section.

VERTICAL ASSEMBLY:

Plumb a line two-thirds the width of a single board away from one corner. Saw the first board down its length to match top and bottom measurement from plumb line to corner.

The tongue should sit on the plumb line. Nail the board securely at the corner and secret nail along the tongue. If the wall is true, trimming the first board may not be necessary. Apply all of the other boards using secret nailing.

Check progress with a spirit level every few boards. You will need to trim the last board – it's a good idea to do this before you have fixed the last three – and face nail it close to the corner.

HORIZONTAL ASSEMBLY:

Start at floor level and, if the floor isn't 'true' mark a level two-thirds of the width of a single board. Proceed as above, making sure that the tongue always points to the ceiling.

If more than one board is required to span the length, alternate the short lengths to make a more pleasing pattern.

DIAGONAL ASSEMBLY:

Carefully measure and mark the line of the vertical at 500mm intervals. Begin at the bottom corner and make sure the tongue is uppermost. Continue as above.

MASONRY WALLS:

Battens are essential. Fix them to walls either by nailing into wood blocks set in mortar joints, by wall plugs, or by special masonry nails.

CEILINGS:

Fix panelling directly to rafters or joists, or to battens. If exposed rafters are required, fit the panelling above the rafters. Butt joints can be positioned so as to be hidden by the exposed rafters. When using 10mm or 12mm profiles, battens or rafters should be no more than 450mm apart, otherwise a thicker profile is required.

FINISHING

CLEAR FINISHES are usually preferred for interior panelling. They may be applied directly to panelling, but a light sanding is advisable to remove finger marks.

Plastic finishes such as polyurethanes, acrylics, urea formaldehydes and epoxy resins are particularly durable. They are available in matt, satin or gloss.

THE GLOSS finish is ideal for small areas but is not recommended for whole walls, as it creates too much glare.

A WAX FINISH can also be given. If desired, a floor sealer can be used before waxing. Liming is an alternative method of finishing. A white undercoat, diluted with turpentine, is brushed on and then lightly wiped off.

STAIN can be applied before varnishing or it can be mixed with the first coat of varnish. Experiment with off-cuts to obtain the desired effect before applying to panelling proper.

MOULDINGS

A range of matching Mouldings are available.