

level

Installation Instructions: Real Wood Veneer

Note to Installer Before You Begin

The installation process is very important to the finished quality of real wood veneers wallcovering. Surface preparation, adhesive and primer selection, environmental conditions and quality of workmanship are the key elements for a successful installation. Prior to installation:

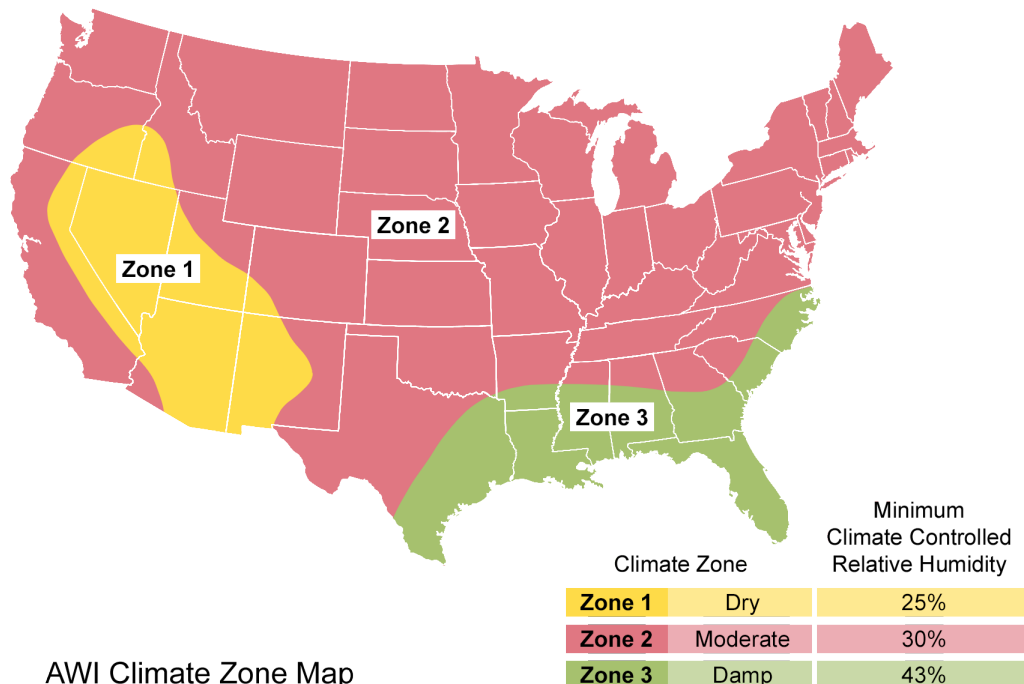
- Inspect for damage before signing acceptance of product. If damage is noted, please advise freight carrier immediately when signing for the product from the freight carrier. Do NOT commence installation if damage is evident as this will negate the warranty.
- Examine all sheets of veneer upon receipt for quality and compliance with the approved specification before storing or starting installation. Any shortage of material must be reported within two (2) days after receipt of material and prior to commencement of installation.
- The installing contractor must verify that the correct specified species of wood veneer wallcovering is present on the job site. Furthermore, the installer must review the installation instructions that accompany each delivery of wallcovering. If there is failure to follow the specifier's supplied wall finish schedule, Level and our distributors assume NO responsibility for any incorrect hanging locations, incorrect wallcovering species numbers and species grains or color stains that are installed in the wrong orientation or out of sequence.
- Follow all instructions carefully. Do not rush the installation.

If no defect is evident before installation, the material should be inspected after three (3) panels are installed. Should you discover any problems at this time (or at any point during installation), STOP IMMEDIATELY and CONTACT LEVEL at (216) 432-1400 X.108. LEVEL WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHARGES OVER THREE (3) PANELS OF MATERIAL.

Environmental Conditions

Areas within which wood veneer will be installed should be environmentally controlled by the permanent HVAC system. Maintain a temperature range of 65 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit, with not more than 55% relative humidity and not less than what is specified for your zone in the AWI Quality Standards Map below, for a period of not less than four (4) days prior to installation and maintained thereafter.

NOTE: Real wood veneer is not recommended to be installed in conditions where the interior Relative Humidity is less than 25%.



AWI Climate Zone Map

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Preparation

ACCLIMATION

Remove the wood veneer sheets from the box and allow the sheets to acclimate to the environment for **approximately 48 hours**. Lay the sheets flat and face down on a table as this will help the sheets relax.

After initial inspection, **arrange the sheets as they are to be installed**; in numerical sequence as labeled on the back of each sheet. Along with the sequence number, each sheet also has a flitch number printed on the back. The printed label is at the **bottom** of the sheet. **All sheets should be installed in sequence order and in the same direction** with all "bottoms" down or all "bottoms" up based on appearance preference. In most cases, the installation should start at the top left descending left to right, on 9' or 10' walls.

Moisture content in the wall substrate should be in a range of 7% to 9% or less. Check with a moisture meter if necessary.

PRIMER

Prime all surfaces with ROMAN PRO-977 Ultra Clear primer manufactured by ROMAN Products, LLC. Prime all surfaces according to manufacturer's directions. The use of ROMAN PRO-977 Ultra Prime primer will prevent the adhesive from being excessively absorbed into the drywall and stop dry pockets. For best results, apply primer with a roller and **allow to dry for at least two (2) days before installing** the veneer wallcovering.

- Any existing wallcovering and residual adhesive should be completely removed.
- If the walls were previously painted or primed, the surface should be lightly sanded to break the seal prior to applying ROMAN PRO-977 Ultra Prime.
- The face of the wall should be brought to a Level 5 finish.
- For walls coated with alkyd or oil finishes, install a 100% cellulose wall liner prior to installation.

One test strip of the veneer should be installed to assure a strong bond between the existing paint/primer and PRO-977 Ultra Prime before proceeding with the installation. Any failure caused by the existing painted/primed surface is the responsibility of the installing contractor and not of Level or its distributors.

Installation Diagram

Depending on the type of design printed (if any) on your veneer, an Installation Diagram illustrating the appropriate sequence of panel installation may be included with the finished goods. This primarily applies to mural-style designs in which the image spans multiple panels that must be sequenced properly during installation.

In these cases, the veneer **must be installed in strict accordance with this diagram**. If the Installation Diagram is missing, stop and contact Level at (216) 432-1400 x.108 for immediate assistance.

Test Area for Approval

Install three (3) full-width sheets of each pattern specified, in an area designated by the Architect, Designer, or Owner. The test installation area shall be reviewed for conformance to the manufacturer's standard installation instructions. Only the Architect, Designer, or Owner shall approve the test installation. The Contractor shall replace any unsatisfactory sheets as directed and until the test area is accepted by the Architect, Designer, or Owner. Failure to follow this procedure will **void** the manufacturer's warranty.

Use of an unspecified adhesive, primer or any additional finishes will **void** the manufacturer's warranty at time of installation. Future problems that may occur as a result of incorrect installation procedures are not the responsibility of Level or its distributors.

The approved test area shall remain as part of the finished installation work and as a standard of comparison for the installation throughout the project. The Contractor shall not install specified material beyond the test area prior to the approval of the test area, by the Architect, Designer or Owner. Proceeding beyond this point will be done at the installer's risk and will absolve Level, its distributors, and ROMAN Products, LLC. of any and all responsibility.

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Installation

Moisten the back face of 3 sheets of veneer and set aside. **Do not wet the sheets, but instead moisten them** using a non cellulose sponge that has been saturated and then well wrung out.

Apply one (1) coat of **ROMAN Pro-732 Extra Strength Clay Adhesive** to approximately nine (9) feet wide of primed wall. Roll the PRO-732 adhesive onto the primed dry wall using a ½" nap roller. Use a brush to 'cut in' adhesive at the ceiling (or top), the floor (or bottom) and corners. Nine (9) feet is the width of three (3) sheets of veneer wallcovering.

Install sheets in sequence using plastic smoothing tools. **Do not apply adhesive to the back of the veneer sheets.** Overlap and double-cut all seams. **Do not** use a seam roller on seams. When double-cutting, use a fresh blade for each cut. **Do not** cut through the drywall surface.

Do not use clear or clear strippable type adhesives. Use **only** the specified adhesive ROMAN PRO-732 Extra Strength Clay. **Apply adhesive at full strength** - thin to desired consistency by whipping or stirring. **Do not dilute the adhesive.**

Apply a uniform layer of adhesive to the wall, working in widths of no more than nine (9) feet (the width of 3 sheets of veneer.

Apply the sheets to the wall **in sequence**, filling in over doors and windows from consecutive sheets. After applying each sheet on the wall, smooth with an **acrylic smoothing tool, or with smoothing tools which will not harm the finish**, but ensure that all air bubbles are eliminated and there is a secure bond between the veneer and the substrate.

Smooth the entire surface area of the sheet to **ensure all air pockets are eliminated. Air bubbles must be removed, and installation errors corrected, before the adhesive dries.**

Remove excess adhesive from each sheet as you progress prior to installing the next sheet. Use a clean, moist, non-cellulose sponge to remove excess adhesive. Use as little moisture as possible on the face of the veneer.

It is very important to **change water frequently** so as to maintain cleanliness and to avoid "streaking" of the adhesive on the veneer surface. Dry the surface with a lint-free towel.

Factory trimmed edges must not be butt-jointed during installation. **Overlap and double-cut all seams** with a razor blade or snap blade knife. Use a fresh blade for each double-cut. Leaving veneers overlapped at the seams is not acceptable.

Vertical joints should not occur less than three inches (3") from all outside and inside corners, based on the corner being in square. When wrapping an outside corner with wood veneer wallcovering, **lightly moisten the face of the veneer** with clean water and a clean lint-free rag. The moisture added will make the veneer supple and allow the wood to bend around the corner without breaking. Follow these same steps for an inside corner as well. Only wrap corners along the grain. **Do not** try to wrap corners cross grain.

Do not install wood veneer with insufficient temporary lighting. Installation with permanent lighting will enable you to see air pockets or bubbles and other installation problems that may occur.

Do not sand wood face of the veneer with sandpaper even if repairs of scratches are required.

Warranty

Level warrants its finished product to be free of manufacturing defects for a period of 90 days from date that finished product is received by customer. Please inspect all goods immediately upon receipt.

Level is not responsible for labor charges, improper installation, installation of incorrect goods (those not approved or confirmed by the customer), removal of goods, or problems arising from defects in the construction, surface, or preparation of the wall.

If you have any questions regarding the installation procedures herein, contact Level at (216) 432-1400 x.108 before beginning the installation of this product.

Return and sign the following acknowledgement prior to installation. Failure to return the acknowledgement prior to installation will void the warranty.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE OF INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

In order for the warranty to be registered and issued, I confirm that I have fully read, understand, and accept the Real Wood Veneer Installation Instructions contained above. I understand and accept that any deviation from the above installation instructions is my sole responsibility as the Installer and absolve Level and the Distributor of any responsibility.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Company: _____

Date: _____

Project Name: _____

Please Return Your Signed Copy to: 4walls, ATTN: Level Warranty, 4700 Lakeside Avenue East, Third Floor, Cleveland, Ohio 44114. or email to contractsupport@4walls.com