

# LAMINATE

## Shaw Laminate - Wall Installation Quick Guide

Horizontal Floor to Ceiling Installation & Wainscot Installation



### **Recommended Spaces**

Interior walls

Low moisture rooms

Walls less than 10' tall x 40' wide

Walls without anchored objects (such as a TV)

Vertical walls only

Flat walls without wallpaper

# Welcome!

This guide will help you install your new laminate wall planks via two methods- horizontal floor to ceiling installation and wainscoting installation. Here are a few quick tips before getting started:

## HELPFUL TIPS:

- Do not install on walls that are greater than 10 feet tall and 40 feet long, and do not install on ceilings or other overhead surfaces.
- Installation on walls located in wet areas, i.e., back splash, bathrooms etc., is not recommended.
- Do not install the laminate directly on walls that have wallpaper or paneling. The wall surface must be a painted or primed drywall, properly fastened to a wood framed wall. Metal stud framing is not approved for laminate to wall installation.
- The laminate wall installation should only be installed in climate-controlled areas (not recommended on exterior walls or in unacclimated rooms). The conditions of the areas should be maintained between 65-85 degrees F and 35-55% relative humidity.
- Do not install on walls that are below grade exterior walls (basements).
- Do not install the laminate from floor to ceiling vertically. For this type of installation the laminate must run in the horizontal direction.
- Vertical installations are only recommended for a wainscot style application – single plank length only.
- Make sure to check the wall for flatness. The wall should be flat within 3/16 inch in 10 ft.
- Do not fasten any decorative objects, TVs or heavy objects directly to the laminate. Make sure to fasten any hanging objects to the wall studs.
- Installation Guidelines are for wood frame construction only.

\*The above requirements are not intended to supersede federal, state or local building codes, but as with many other interior finish products, may require modifying existing structural components for successful installation. Owner assumes responsibility for compliance with all building codes.



### CAUTION: WOOD DUST

**The International Agency for Research on Cancer has classified wood dust as a nasal carcinogen. The sawing, sanding, and/ or machining of wood products can produce wood dust that can cause respiratory, eye, and skin irritations.** Equipment should be equipped with a dust collector to reduce airborne wood dust. Wear an appropriate NIOSH designated dust mask to reduce exposure to airborne wood dust. Avoid contact with eyes and skin. In case of irritation, flush eyes or skin with water for at least 15 minutes. In cases of severe irritation; seek immediate medical attention. For further technical or installation questions or to request a Product Specification Data Sheet contact the manufacturer. 1-800-441-7429

#### Attention California Installers & Consumers

#### WARNING

Installation of this product and wood product may create wood dust, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer



# METHOD A

Horizontal Floor to Ceiling Installation



## Tools and Material

- Caulk gun
- General construction adhesive
- Tape measure
- 1 ½ -1 ¾ inch brad nails
- Stud finder
- Ladder
- Appropriate saw for cutting and ripping laminate
- 18 gauge brad/staple gun
- Dust mask
- Safety glasses
- Gloves
- Chalk line
- Pry bar
- Screw driver (flat & Phillip's head)
- Hammer

## METHOD A - Floor to Ceiling Installation

---



### STEP 1

Remove existing baseboards on the wall that will be receiving the laminate.



### STEP 2

Remove any electric outlet and light switch covers. Take care not to touch any exposed wiring. Make sure to turn off the power supply while working around exposed power outlets or light switches.



### STEP 3

Mark all studs using a stud finder and then using a chalk line from top to bottom mark the wall studs.



### STEP 4

Determine if the installation will start at the ceiling working down or from the floor working up. Starting from the top down is best when there is existing crown molding. When working from the ceiling down, the installation will start from the top left hand corner of the wall, the tongue of the product will be next to the ceiling.



## METHOD A - Floor to Ceiling Installation (cont.)

---



### STEP 5

Measure the wall to determine if the first row of planks will need to be cut down to avoid a small piece on the finish row. Remember to leave the laminate ½ inch away from the finish floor/subfloor. When working from the floor up, the installation will start at the bottom right hand corner of the wall, the tongue of the product should be closest to the floor.



### STEP 6

Using a tape measure, pencil and chalk line, establish a starting line. If you are starting at the floor, you can measure from the floor up the point where the first row will end (remember to allow for the ½ inch expansion gap at the floor), if you are starting from the ceiling you will need to measure from the ceiling down. Do this on both ends of the wall. Using a chalk line, pop a line using these two marks to establish a starting line.



### STEP 8

Make sure to visually inspect each plank for any damage or visual defects.



### STEP 9

Using a construction adhesive put a s-bead of adhesive on the back of the planks.

## METHOD A - Floor to Ceiling Installation (cont.)

---



### STEP 10

Push the plank onto the wall lining it up with the starting line that was established. Using the brad nailer shoot a nail through the groove of the plank into the wall studs. Proper air pressure is important - Make sure that the nail head is seated properly. Take care not to shoot completely through the laminate.



### STEP 11

You may also face nail the first row of planks for added support, and place the nails low enough so that the baseboard or desired trim will cover the nails. Make sure to use a nail that is long enough to go through the laminate, sheetrock and into the wall stud.



### STEP 12

Once the first row is complete you will need to cut the first plank of the second row to create the proper end joint stagger. The end joints should not be closer than 8 inches.



### STEP 13

Once you have cut the plank to the desired length apply a s-bead of adhesive to the back of the plank. You will need to insert the tongue of the plank at an angle into the groove of the plank in the first row applying pressure as you rotate the plank flat against the wall. Using the brad nailer, shoot a nail through the groove of the plank into the wall studs.

## METHOD A - Floor to Ceiling Installation (cont.)

---



### STEP 14

Connect the planks in the following rows by aligning the end seam of each plank directly above the end seam of the preceding plank. Insert the long side seam at a slight angle first and as the top surface meet, rotate the plank down into the locked position. Make sure to apply a s-bead of adhesive to the back of all planks and firmly place the plank to the wall. Then using the brad nailer shoot a nail through the groove edge of every plank into the wall studs.



### STEP 15

The last row of the laminate may need to be cut. Measure the distance between the floor/ceiling to the last row of laminate that was installed and using a table saw or jig saw cut the laminate to the width desired.



## METHOD B

### Wainscot Installation



## Tools and Material

- Caulk gun
- General construction adhesive
- Tape measure
- 1 ½ -1 ¾ inch brad nails
- Stud finder
- Ladder
- Appropriate saw for cutting and ripping laminate
- 18 gauge brad/staple gun
- Dust mask
- Safety glasses
- Gloves
- Chalk line
- Pry bar
- Screw driver (flat & Phillip's head)
- Hammer



## METHOD B - Wainscot Installation

---



### STEP 1

Remove existing baseboards on the wall that will be receiving the laminate.

*Photo of baseboards being removed.*



### STEP 2

Remove any electrical outlet and light switch covers. Take care not to touch any exposed wiring. Make sure to turn off the power supply while working around exposed power outlets or light switches.

*Photo of electric outlet being removed.*



### STEP 3

Mark all studs using a stud finder and then using a chalk line from top to bottom, mark the studs.

*Photo of stud finder being used; photo of chalk line being marked.*



### STEP 4

Measure to determine the desired length of the planks. Make sure to allow for a ½ expansion between the floor and the laminate.

*Photo of plank being measured to standard wainscot length.*

## METHOD B - Wainscot Installation (cont.)

---



### STEP 5

Cut the tongue off of the long side of the board so that the board will fit flush against the existing wall or trim.



### STEP 6

Using a construction adhesive put a s-bead of adhesive on the back of the planks.



### STEP 7

Push the plank against the wall. Using the brad nailer shoot a nail through the groove of the plank into the wall. Make sure that the nail head is seated properly and not sticking up. Take care not to shoot completely through the laminate. You may also face nail the planks at the bottom of the plank into the wall plate. Make sure to use a nail that is long enough to go through the laminate, sheetrock and into the wall plate.



### STEP 8

For the second plank and all other planks you will need to insert the tongue into the exposed groove edge of the first plank at an angle and apply pressure into the joint while you rotate the plank flat against the wall. Using the brad nailer, shoot a nail through the groove of the plank into the wall. Make sure to apply a s-bead of adhesive to the back of all planks. Then using the brad nailer shoot a nail through the groove edge of every plank into the wall.



## METHOD B - Wainscot Installation (cont.)

---



### STEP 9

The last row of the laminate may need to be cut. Measure the distance between the finishing wall to the last row of laminate that was installed and using a table saw or jig saw cut the laminate to the width desired.