

# Classic Style Backsplash

Decorative Thermoplastic Panels

**Easy-to-Follow Instructions**

## Tools and items you will need:

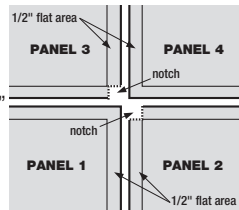


## Preparation BEFORE INSTALLATION BEGINS

**1) Clean surfaces:** Before starting make sure all surfaces are clean, dry, smooth, and free from dust, grease, wax, etc.

**2) Understand the overlap feature:** prior to fabrication, it is important to understand the overlap feature of each panel. Each panel has two 1/2" flat edges (the longer flat edge is the top of the panel and shorter flat edge is the right side of the panel). Arrange ALL panels this way so additional panels can be added to the top or right side of any panel.

**3) When installing two or more panels vertically:** when overlapping 4 panels, it is necessary to cut a 1/2" notch in panel numbers 2 and 3 (the middle panels) to avoid an overlap buildup that causes a "bump."  
(see drawing to right)



**4) Work from bottom left:** start from the left side bottom and work either upwards or to the right. An exception to this rule would be designing layout of panels to be centered at a focal point, such as behind a sink or stove area, then build out from both sides of the focal point.

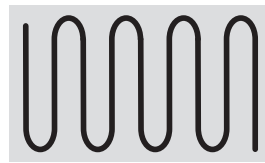
**5) Cutting the panels:** cut the backsplash panels to size using a utility knife with fresh blades or a good pair of scissors or tin snips. When using a utility knife, score the finished side of the panel using a steel straight edge as a guide. Apply light pressure on the first pass with the blade and then gradually increase the pressure on a few more passes, there is no need to try to cut through the panel. Then bend back and snap like a sheet of glass.

**6) Allow for expansion space:** before installing, cut all pieces to size and check to make sure they all fit perfectly in place and overlap properly. When overlapping, leave a 1/16" space for expansion.

## Installation using Tube Adhesive

**1) Installing your first panel:** once it has been determined that all cut pieces fit properly, start at the far left, and apply adhesive to the back. The recommended adhesive to use is ACP's Backsplash tube adhesive or 100% polyurethane construction adhesive. Apply panel adhesive according to drawing to right, using approximately 1/4" bead. If your panels have protective film on the decorative side, it must be removed NOW – prior to adding additional panels – so the adhesive will bond properly at the overlaps. (Adhesive 10.5 oz. size covers approximately 4 backsplash panels. Carefully read instructions on adhesive package before beginning installation.)

### Tube Adhesive Application



Back side of panel showing adhesive pattern. Apply 1" from edges so excess clean up is not necessary.

**2) Squeeze out trapped air:** place panel and press against substrate, using a soft cloth to apply pressure evenly across the panel and squeezing out the excess air.

**3) Wipe off excess adhesive:** with a damp sponge or cloth, clean off any adhesive residue that is visible while it is still wet. Do not allow this residue to dry as it will be very hard to clean up when dry.

**4) Finish installing your panels:** add additional panels in the same fashion.

**5) Finish the edges:** if the area to be covered ends on a flat wall, and you desire to finish the cut edge of the last panel, it can be done so by using a piece of matching Edge J-Trim. This trim piece slides onto the cut edge of the panel. Also, if you have an inside corner, it is recommended to use a piece of matching Inside Corner Trim. See Trim drawing below.

### Edge J-Trim Length 18"



### Inside Corner Trim Length 18"



## Installation using Tape

**1) Apply adhesive strips:** start by applying three horizontal strips tape the length of the wall on the top, middle and bottom of the wall where each panel will be installed. Note: Carefully locate each panel location prior to installation as the adhesive tape is very aggressive.

**2) Squeeze out air bubbles:** press all the applied strips firmly onto the wall (use adhesive roll to squeeze out all air bubbles).

**3) Remove protective covering:** remove protective covering from top layer of strips to expose the sticky adhesive surface.

**4) Install first panel:** apply first panel and press firmly into place when alignment is correct.

**5) Bond overlap areas:** add a few 1" x 1" squares to the overlap area of each panel to get the seams to bond tightly. Make sure all protective film (if any) on the face of the panel is removed prior to adding adhesive squares.

**6) Finish installation:** continue to add panels in this fashion until complete.

**7) Finish the edges:** if the area to be covered ends on a flat wall, and you desire to finish the cut edge of the last panel, it can be done so by using a piece of matching Edge J-Trim. This trim piece slides onto the cut edge of the panel. Also, if you have an inside corner, it is recommended to use a piece of matching Inside Corner Trim. See Trim drawing below.

### Edge J-Trim Length 18"



### Inside Corner Trim Length 18"

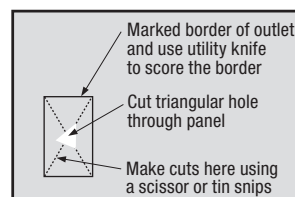


## INSTALLATION TIPS

**Tip 1) Leave protective film on panels until installation:** the protective film can serve several helpful uses. Use film surface to place cut marks or notes using a fine tip marker. Also, adds additional protection to panel finish while handling it during preparation.

**Tip 2) Finishing edge under cabinets:** before installation paint the wall area just under the cabinet to match the darkest color in the panel finish. This will hide any areas where a small thin area of wall is exposed due to the panel not fitting perfectly along the entire cabinet's bottom edges. Or use Edge J-Trim along the top edge of the panels where it meets the bottom of the cabinets. Here the trim can be adjusted to butt perfectly along the bottom edge of the cabinets.

**Tip 3) Cutting for outlets and light switches:** measure and mark the border of where the opening has to be with a marker on the protective film. Score along the entire border using a utility knife, make a few passes with a bit more pressure each pass. Then in the center area to be removed, cut a 1/2" to 1" sided triangle hole all the way through the panel. Next using a good scissor or tin snips cut angled cuts from the edges of the cut triangle to the corners of the border scores. Final step is to then carefully bend each corner area along the scores until they break free. See drawing below.



**Tip 4) Care and Cleaning:** clean only with warm soapy water. **Never use abrasive cleaners.** Using a high quality auto polish can help protect the finish.

**CAUTION:** Even though these panels are fire retardant, they can be deformed with excessive heat. Never expose to heat over 140°F. Keep toaster ovens, cooking ranges, etc. 2-3 inches away from the panel's surface.

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