

Before installation

Please read these instructions carefully before attempting to install the panel. This leaflet contains aftercare instructions, which must be made available to the end user.

Remember:

- Take care when using electrical appliances near water. The use of a residual current device (RDC) is recommended.
- Use eye protection when drilling.
- Check for any hidden pipes or cables.

The following is a series of guidelines to aid the installation process of this product. They have been developed in order to cope with the majority of installations. It is possible that due to the type of bath or particular conditions on site that they are not suitable for your installation. Please read the instructions carefully and in case of difficulty a suitably qualified person should be consulted. The manufacturer cannot be held responsible for faults or damage caused as a result of the installation process. Please check the panel before fitting, as damage claims cannot be made after it is installed.

Adjusting the height of the panel

A matching plinth is available for the panel. The plinth is fixed to the back of the panel using at least 3 wood screws. Make sure that the screws are positioned so that they screw into the bottom of the panel. To work out the plinth position, simply measure the height of the bath at both ends and fix the plinth to the panel accordingly.

Ensure the bath is level before measuring the required height. If the bath is level but the height at each end is different then the floor is probably not level. Simply adjust the position of the plinth to allow for any slope in the floor.

Cutting the panel to avoid obstructions

Wherever possible, cutting into the panel should be avoided. This is because the panel is polyurethane finished to give maximum water protection. If the seal is broken by cutting the panel, it will ultimately weaken the panel's defence against water

If cuts in the panel are essential (to allow for pipe runs etc.) then the following steps must be taken:

- To prevent surface splinters, score the section to be cut with a sharp knife before cutting.
- Use a fine tooth, cross cut saw.
- It is essential that all freshly exposed timber is re-sealed using a varnish. Failure to re-seal timber may result in water penetrating the panel and damaging it. Failure to re-seal will also invalidate the product warranty.
- If the cut area is in a location that is likely to be regularly splashed then it should also be sealed with silicone to prevent water seeping onto the cut and re varnished surface.

Installing the panel in the correct position

Note: The panels are not intended as a means to support the bath. It is assumed that the bath is installed in a correct and stable manner prior to panel installation.

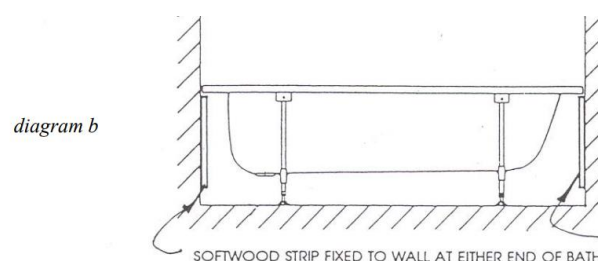
The recommended method of supporting the panel is to use softwood strips that are fixed to the walls at either end of the bath. A complete softwood frame should not be necessary as the panel is stable and rigid enough already.

The dimensions of the softwood strips can vary according to the sizes readily available and the amount of space you have under the bath. A section of 19mm x 38mm should be sufficient. Make sure the softwood strips are fastened securely to the walls using at least 2 screws.

Depending on the type of installation (Front Panel only, Front and End Panel etc.), there are different ways of fitting your panels, as listed below.

Front panel only installations

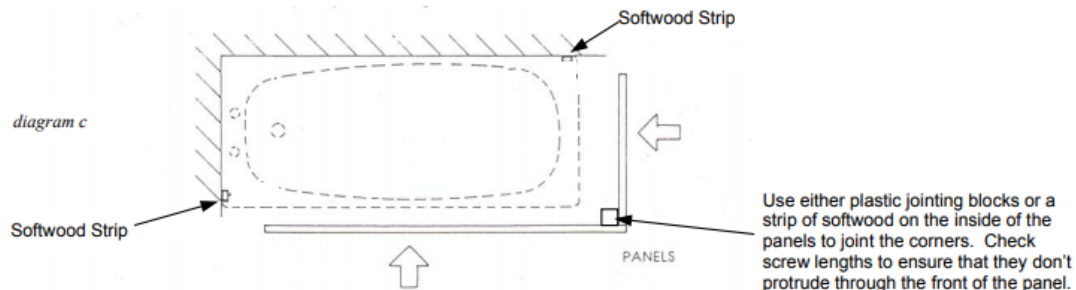
If only a front panel is to be fitted, you simply secure the softwood strips at either end of the bath (see diagram b). If it is necessary to trim the panel to length you must re-seal the timber as described above.



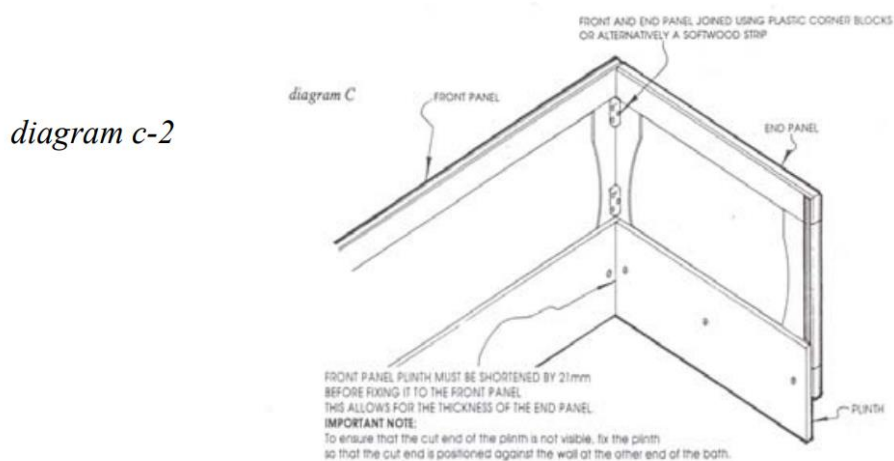
Front and End panel installations

When fitting a front and end panel it is recommended that the panels be joined together before fitting them to the bath. The panels can be joined using standard plastic jointing blocks or an additional strip that is screwed to the back of the panels. The panels are designed so that the end panel sits behind the front panel.

Once the front and end panels are joined together the assembly can be secured at each loose end to the softwood strips attached to the walls. (see diagram c)



Note: It will be necessary to shorten the front panel plinth so that the end panel can be accommodated. (See diagram c-2).



Securing the panel in place

If screwing through the panel the area around the screw will need to be re-sealed with a suitable varnish/sealant.

In addition to the fixing method requiring a tool we recommend using Velcro (or similar). This is secured to the softwood strip and the back edge of the panel and you simply push the panel(s) into place. The Velcro can be plain or adhesive. Plain Velcro can be tacked into position using flat-headed tacks or nails.

Wooden surfaces & product aftercare – make available to the end user

To protect the fine wooden surfaces, we recommend cleaning with a wax free polish and soft cloth. Do not scrub or scour wooden surfaces. Never use bleach or cleaners containing bleach. If cleaning agents must be used, ensure that they are suitable for wooden products. As with all wooden furniture, this panel should be treated with care. Any furniture will deteriorate through exposure to excessive water from spillage or condensation. Mop up any water splashes after use. It is recommended that all bathrooms are well ventilated with a suitable extractor fan.

If the surface finish of the panel is damaged or cut because of the installation process, it is essential that all freshly exposed timber is re-sealed using a varnish. Failure to re-seal timber may result in water penetrating the panel and damaging it. Failure to re-seal will also invalidate the product warranty.