

# Nudo Utilite™ Wall and Ceilings

Rev. 06 09/17

## Please Read Disclaimers:

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION.

These guidelines are provided in good faith to help prevent any problems caused by common errors in installation. The manufacturer and/or distributor of this product shall not be held responsible for installation actions taken or not taken. There are many details of installation that are assumed to be general construction knowledge to experienced installers which are not included in these instructions. These installation guidelines are intended to be strictly recommendations and are NOT to serve as a step-by-step, fail-safe installation checklist. It is the project owner's responsibility to ensure product is in compliance with local building codes. Selection of an experienced installer is the sole responsibility of the project owner and architect.

Nudo Products, Inc. does not accept any responsibility for job failure resulting from or associated with improper site environmental conditions and installation failure due to expansion and contraction issues. The warranty on Utilite is void if not installed according to installation guidelines.

NOTE: Use extreme caution when power washing near Utilite, as the high pressure generated by these machines can damage the panels.

### Safety Instructions

When cutting or drilling, always wear protective glasses or goggles and a face mask which covers the face and mouth. Itching due to fibers may be avoided by the use of barrier creams on exposed skin areas.

### Tools Needed

- Circular saw with fine tooth carbide tipped saw blade
- Power drill with carbide bits
- Trim Cutter

### Materials Needed

- Utilite Panels
- Personal protection equipment (goggles & mask)
- Poly Vapor Barrier sheeting
- Fasteners (Masonry, Metal or Wood Frame Screws)
- Nail-In Anchors
- Seam Finishing: PVC Inside Corner (IC), Outside Corner (OC), J-Cap (J)
- Silicone Sealant (for installation in high moisture areas)
- Non-abrasive cleaner, soap and water, mineral spirits, for use in clean-up
- Rags
- Tape measure
- Saw horses
- Painter's tape
- 1' -2x4 Wood

### Note

- DO NOT USE Power Nail Gun or Staples



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## Pre-Installation Inspection

Panels should be inspected upon receipt. Nudo Products, Inc. inspects composite panels for physical and cosmetic abnormalities prior to shipment; however it is the installer's responsibility to fully inspect all panels for defects prior to installation. If the panels are not acceptable, please contact Nudo Products, Inc. Customer Service immediately. **DO NOT INSTALL QUESTIONABLE PANELS!** Nudo Corporation will NOT be responsible for installation or removal cost of unacceptable panels.

## Storage



Remove shipping packaging and banding material immediately upon delivery to the job, as it can affect the acclimation of the panels. All Utilite panels should be stored indoors on a solid, flat, dry surface. Do not stand panels on edge or stack on fresh concrete floor or any other surface that emits moisture. Lay panels flat with proper support on the ends of panels. Optimum storage conditions are 60°F (16°C) to 75°F (24°C) and 35% to 55% relative humidity.

## Environmental Conditions

Temperature is always a factor when working with composite vinyl materials. In *warm temperature conditions*, above 70°F (21°C) cool panels to a minimum of 60°F (16°C) overnight. In *cold temperature conditions*, below 40°F (4°C) warm panels to a minimum of 60°F (16°C) overnight. When installation conditions of under 60°F (16°) is unavoidable, insert penny between panels. When below 32°F (0°C), insert a nickel between panels to allow spacing for expansion in hot weather. Use a silicone and adhesive recommended for low temperatures, following the manufacturer's application guidelines. Check with the local building codes for specific requirements. Do NOT use Utilite panels in high temperature conditions; PVC has a heat distortion threshold in temperatures exceeding 120° F (55°C). Please discuss with your HVAC contractor prior to installation. Ceiling fans and blowers may need to be installed, along with shielded Tube Radiant Heaters with a maintained clearance of 24" to distribute heat uniformly throughout facility. Prolonged exposure to direct sunlight MAY CAUSE the panels to fade and/or rapid expansion. Use extreme caution when installing panels in these types of environments. Nudo will not warranty any panels distorted because of excessive heat exposure due to improper installation and operation of heaters and furnaces in areas where Utilite has been installed.

## Cutting Instructions

Always use proper personal protection equipment when cutting Utilite panels. Read and follow manufacturer's guidelines for use of cutting tools.

Panels can be cut using a power miter saw with fine tooth blade, utility knife with guiding straight edge (cutting panel 5-7 times to score and cut through panel), and table saw with fine tooth carbide blade. **DO NOT RUSH. CUT THROUGH PANELS SLOW AND STEADY.** A test cut is always recommended to see performance of cutting tool with Utilite panels.

## Prior to Installation

Installation should NOT begin until building is enclosed (windows and doors installed); permanent heating and cooling equipment is in operation, and residual moisture from plaster, concrete, etc. is dissipated. Prior to installation, the installer must determine that the environmental conditions meet or exceed all requirements specified in the installation guidelines. **CEILING SHOULD BE INSTALLED PRIOR TO WALLS.** Before installing remove packaging materials. Allow the panels to acclimate to the room temperature and humidity for 48 hours before installing. Acclimation temperature range should be 60° to 75°F (16°C to 24°) and relative humidity should be 35% to 55%. Maximum temperature exposure during installation 32°-120°. Ideally, the room temperature and humidity during acclimation and installation should be the same as the final operation conditions. **DO NOT** install panels tight when cold (below 60°); panels will expand in warmer temperatures (above 70°). Allow room for expansion and contraction between each panel.



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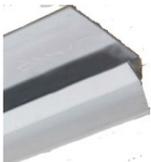
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## Ceiling Pre-Install Planning

CEILING PANELS SHOULD BE INSTALLED PRIOR TO WALLS (if possible). Take proper measurements. The panels should NOT SPAN LONGER than 24" between ceiling trusses. If building is insulated, PRIOR TO INSTALLING PANELS, use 3mm poly sheeting to create a vapor barrier on walls and ceilings. A 24" clearance shield should be maintained between panels and Radiant Tube Heaters and ceiling furnaces. The panels have a 120° F (55°C) heat distortion threshold. Installing ceiling fans and blowers around heating devices to circulate hot air throughout facility is highly recommended. It is the installer responsibility to select the proper fasteners for the application.

### Ceiling Installation Method

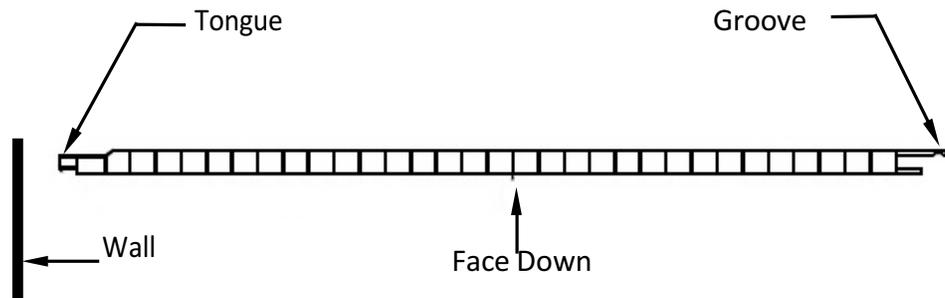
#### Walls and Ceiling Inside Corner Flange Up



#### Walls Only Inside Corner Flange Down



- Panel installed should run 90° to the ceiling trusses or furring strips.
- When installing wall and ceilings place inside corner around the perimeter of the ceiling with the wide flange up.
- When installing walls only, fasten inside corner around the perimeter of building wall flush with the ceiling panels, wide flange down or with J-Cap creating a channel to terminate wall panel.
- To accommodate expansion and contraction, cut panel  $\frac{1}{2}$  shorter, leaving a  $\frac{1}{4}$  on each end for movement when installed.
- Take first panel and place face down (shiny side) at one end of the ceiling with the tongue facing wall and the groove flange facing the direction you are installing panels (parallel with outside wall). The perimeter trim must be able to cover fasteners, keep within 1" of wall.



- For the 1st panel only you must fasten both the tongue and groove sides of panel. All other panels, fasten through the groove flange, every 16" - 24" at each rafter with the recommended screw for type of substrate.
- Continue installing panels, by placing the tongue of the second panel into the groove of the first panel. Push and lock panels together loosely and fasten the second panel through flange at every rafter, just like the 1st panel. Periodically, check to make sure you are installing the panel square with the outside wall or the panels will look uneven.
- You may need to trim down last panel to complete install. Measure remaining space distance at the groove edge of panel. Cut panel  $\frac{1}{4}$  short of measurement, allowing 1" wall trim to cover edge. Slide the last panel in to complete ceiling.

## Vertical Wall Preparation

THE CEILINGS SHOULD BE INSTALLED PRIOR TO WALLS. If the ceiling has just been installed use the existing inside corner trim to edge wall panels. Panels can be installed over masonry block, metal and wood framing studs, so make sure you have selected the proper fasteners for the application.

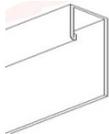
## Pre-Install Planning



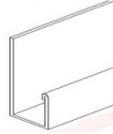
Measure Area. Panels should be pre-fit cut  $\frac{1}{2}$  shorter than actual wall height to allow for expansion and contraction. Cove base molding should not restrict panel, but allow for expansion and contraction. Poured molding should be completed prior to installation of panels. Cut panels  $\frac{1}{4}$ " short of where the base molding will extend.

## Vertical Installation Method

J-Cap  
Open Face-down  
Ceiling

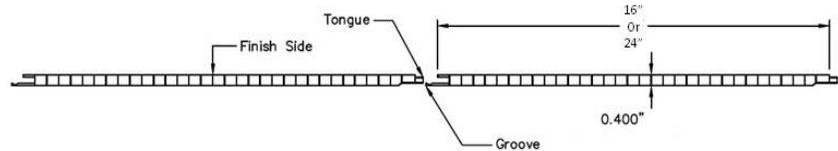


J-Cap  
Open Face-up  
Floor



Start in one corner and lay J-Cap edge, open face-up, along the floor and open face-down along ceiling creating a channel to insert wall panel (unless inside corner is installed at ceiling). Insert a thin bead of clear silicone caulking along the inside of J-Trim to provide a waterproof seal and fasten every 16" or 24" along top and bottom of wall.

- Make a nice clean border around doors and window openings by installing J-Cap or Outside Corner prior to installing wall panels.
- Depending on the application and conditions, you may want to apply adhesive to the back center of the panels from top to bottom and add a small bead of clear silicone caulking on channel opening of trim piece to provide waterproofing.
- Take first wall panel which is  $\frac{1}{2}$ " shorter than actual wall, and place in corner, tongue first and raise up into the ceiling trim (IC or J-Cap) and then bend slightly in the middle as to get the panel to fit into J-Cap channel at base of wall.



- To allow for expansion and contraction, raise the panel  $\frac{1}{4}$ " off the floor and fasten the panels groove flange every 16" - 24". On the first panel you must also fasten the tongue side with screws near the corner, within 1" from the edge allowing the trim piece to cover them.
- Make sure first panel is level in place and proceed to install the remaining panels in the same fashion. You may choose to use a 2x4 wood piece to tap groove flange onto tongue of panels. Continue to add trim pieces to terminate top and bottom of panel in the process.
- To create a water-tight corner at door and window openings insert a small bead of clear silicone caulking on channel opening of trim pieces before installing panels.
- Continue the method working in one direction around the room.
- You may need to trim down last panel to complete install. Measure remaining space distance at the groove edge of panel. Cut panel  $\frac{1}{4}$  short of measurement, allowing 1" wall trim to cover edge. Insert a small bead of clear silicone caulk into edge trim piece, slide the last panel in to terminating trim channel, fasten screws along the cut edge within 1" of the corner, allowing trim to cover screws completing installation.

## **Horizontal Installation**

Review vertical panel installation guidelines above. During horizontal installation, start hanging wall panels from top down to floor. Install first panel, horizontally at ceiling with the groove flange pointing to floor. Insert small clear silicone bead to insure no water will nest in groove of panel. Continue the method working in one direction to the floor terminating in channel edge cap.

## **Finish Work**

Waste materials shall be disposed of in a safe manner and in compliance with site, local, state and/or federal requirements.



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