

Surround by Laminex<sup>™</sup> is a range of easy-to-install MDF wall panels that can be simply applied onto prepared brick or block walls. This guide has been developed as a guick reference installation guide. For more comprehensive information, download the Fabrication & Installation Manual at laminex.co.nz

# Step 1: Planning

IMPORTANT: Surround by Laminex is suited for interior applications only. If installing in a Internal Moisture Area (MR E0 MDF only), additional considerations and steps are required. Refer to section 6.9 of the Fabrication & Installation Manual.

#### For installation you will need:

Safety glasses Face mask Ear protection Safety gloves Tape measure Pencil Spirit level/laser level 10mm spacers

Circular saw **Jigsaw** Drill, nail gun or hammer Screws or nails Adhesives (refer to page 3) Putty Putty knife Sanding sponge

Please ensure you wear appropriate PPE and use dusk masks, goggles or safety glasses in accordance with the appropriate AS/NZS standard.



- Measure out the height and length of the wall that the panels will be applied to. These measurements will allow you to calculate how many sheets are required for the installation.
- · When cutting and trimming panels to size, allow for 10mm expansion gaps at the top and bottom of the panels.
- Refer to the Surround by Laminex brochure for panel sizes.

## Step 2: Preparation



- Before installation, Surround by Laminex panels need to acclimatise for a minimum of 48 hours on site.
- Ensure the ongoing moisture content of brick or masonry wall is below 70% (using a hygrometer). A waterproof membrane may be required to prevent ongoing moisture issues.
- For any application where 9mm Surround by Laminex panels are applied to the internal side of an externally facing wall, the back surface of the Surround by Laminex panel must be primed. This is to minimise moisture transfer from external environments.



- To prepare the wall, battens or corrosion resistant furring channels must be employed. The panels cannot be fixed directly to brick, blockwork or masonry. This will not be recognised under warranty.
- · The battens or furring channels should be fitted horizontally at approximately 450 millimetres apart to promote airflow behind the panels. Make sure that the battens or furring channels are straight and true with a spirit level/laser level.

## Step 3: Installation



- To begin installation, start from the corner and work across the wall.
- · Apply a generous amount of adhesive on each batten or furring channel. Recommended adhesives; Sikaflex®-123 MS Bond, Sika® Nailbond Premium, Gorilla 240FC or Gorilla MS Sealant.



- Then position the panel on the wall.
- Use spacers to ensure there is a 10mm expansion gap at the top and bottom of the panel.
- Using a spirit level/laser level, ensure the sheet is accurately positioned.



- When fixing the panel to the frame, space the nails/or screws approximately 500mm apart; 50mm from the side where possible, but not less than 10mm, and no less than 10mm from the top and bottom of the panel.
- Panels can be nailed by hand or nail gun or screwed into place.
- A centre out pattern is recommended. If this is not achievable, fix along one side of the panel and work across.



- The panels join using a tongue and groove system. Do not forcefully hit the sheets together.
- Ensure an allowance of 1mm expansion gap for every metre of horizontal wall covered. For example, a horizontal wall length of 7m will require an expansion gap of 7mm applied to both ends of the wall (3.5mm at the start and 3.5mm at the end of the wall installation).



- Repeat the previous steps to complete the installation of the next panel.
- To finish the installation, cut the final panel using your measurements and fix into position. Once the panels are fixed to the wall, remove the spacers.

# Step 4: Finishing



- Use putty to fill in any nail or screw holes, allow adequate drying time before you sand and paint.
- Lightly sand all surfaces to be coated to obtain a smooth and even finish. Use a sanding sponge or progressively use finer grit sandpaper to achieve a smooth edge free of damage, cracks, dents or notches.
- Care must be taken not to abrade the decorative routered areas as this may result in permanent damage of the surface to be painted.



• Lastly, install skirting boards, cornices and dado rails as necessary.



- Your wall is now ready to paint in your colour of choice.
- Surround by Laminex decorative panels are pre-primed (face only) with a water-based paint.
- Make sure you follow your paint manufacture's preparation and application guidelines including checking if the pre-finished base primer is suitable for the intended painted finish.
- If you are installing Surround by Laminex in a Internal Moisture
  Area, follow the additional sealing / priming and painting
  instructions in section 6.9 of the Fabrication & Installation Manual.

NOTE: Fire Resistant product (E1 MDF FR) is prohibited for use in Internal Moisture Areas.

Watch our simple step by step installation videos at laminex.co.nz

#### Technical and warranty information

All technical information including Fabrication & Installation Manual, Safety Data Sheet, Technical Data Sheet and Limited Product Warranty can be found at **laminex.co.nz** 

Surround by Laminex<sup>™</sup> products have a 7 year limited warranty.

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