

DAKOTA™ PREFINISHED PANEL INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

WHERE TO INSTALL

DAKOTA™ prefinished panels are for interior use only. Before you begin, allow paneling to acclimate for at least 72 hours in the room it will be installed. Do not store or install DAKOTA™ prefinished panels in environments where drastic, prolonged fluctuations in temperature and/or humidity occur; such as 3-season rooms or garages. In locations where humidity may become a factor, ensure exposed ends of prefinished panel are painted or butt joints are caulked, with paintable caulk, to prevent moisture from being absorbed into your prefinished panel.

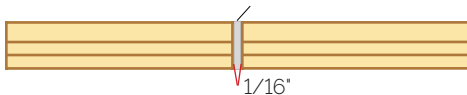
Helpful Tip: If installing in a bathroom, avoid direct contact with water and maintain proper ventilation to avoid prolonged exposures of humidity to the prefinished panel.

CUTTING RECOMMENDATIONS

When cutting, the finished side should be toward the cutting blade. Apply painters tape, and slowly cut with a Laminate/Melamine blade (SKUs 10": 252-6659, 7-1/2": 252-6665) for the smoothest edge

BUTT JOINTS BETWEEN ENDS

Recommended: Paint cut ends with matching latex paint



Paint matches for DAKOTA™ prefinished panels can be found at your local **MENARDS®** store. When prefinished panels are properly acclimated, a 1/16" gap is recommended for all end-to-end butt joints to allow for adequate expansion and contraction of the panel.

PREFINISHED PANELS ARE RECOMMEND FOR:

- Walls
- Cabinetry
- Retail Fixtures
- Hobby and Craft Projects

HOW TO INSTALL

Panels can be installed directly to the studs or wall sheathing. If directly over framing, panel joints should be centered on wall studs. Fasten to the wall every 16".

When installing prefinished panels on exterior or below grade walls, a vapor barrier must be used.

*Helpful Tip: To conceal seams between prefinished panel joints, a color matched satin finish paint can be applied to walls prior to installation. Visit the **MENARDS®** paint department to find color matched paint.*

WALL TO CEILING TRANSITION

Always leave an 1/8" gap between the top of the last panel and the ceiling. Use DAKOTA™ moulding to create a decorative transition between your walls and ceilings.

STEP ONE

For wall installation, begin in one corner of the room. Apply a 3/8" bead of construction adhesive to the back of the panel (SKUs 10 oz: 520-1998, 28 oz: 520-2007). Leave a minimum of an 1/8" gap between the corner and the first panel.

STEP TWO

Secure panels by nailing into each wall stud with 1-1/2" finishing nails. If nailing by hand, pre-drill pilot holes before installing the nail. Use a nail set to sink in nails below the surface.

*Helpful Tip: Fast track your installation by renting or buying a finish nailer and compressor from your local **MENARDS®** store.*

NOT RECOMMENDED FOR:

- Flooring
- Ceiling
- Potential contact with water
- Locations that are not temperature/humidity controlled