

# Fish Block Installation Instructions

These installation recommendations consist of common-sense practices for direct glue tile products. Installers should rely upon their own professional experience and understanding of their unique requirements to be the best guide to a successful installation. Normal variations in the thickness of the felt and acoustic substrate in addition wall surface variation will result in tiles that are at different distances off the wall surface and may result in alignment issues with adjacent tiles. These issues are not considered a defect and planning should be taken to distribute these variations in a manner that is aesthetically pleasing.

## Tools Needed

Bar level or laser level

Carpenter's square or Long, metal straight edge

Heavy-duty construction adhesive (such as Liquid Nails LN-903, LN-FRP, and Loctite Express)

Standard caulking gun or 1/8" v-notch trowel

Utility knife (such as Olfa or similar) with extra blades or Table saw with fine tooth blade (for trimming panels)

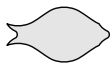
Utility knife (such as Olfa or similar) with extra blades or Oscillating multi-tool with fine tooth blade (for device cut-outs)

Weighted roller

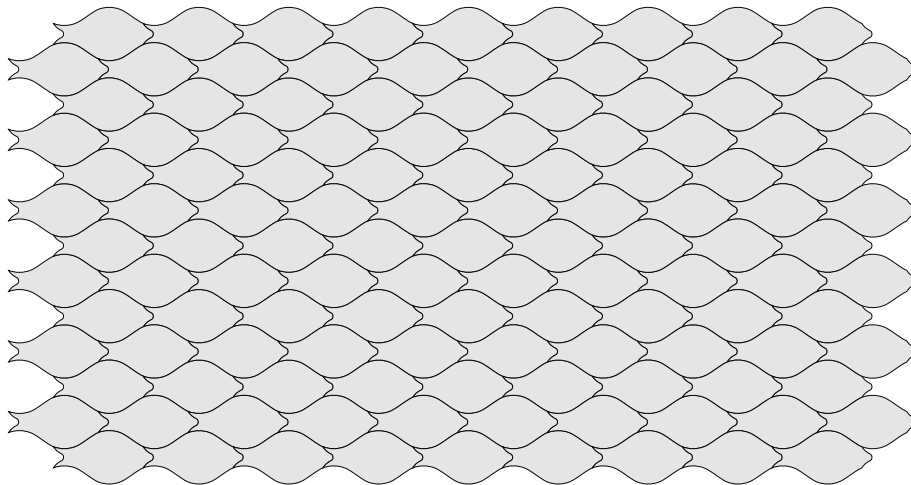
It is recommended that a cleaning solution be available to remove any adhesive that transfers onto the face of the wool felt. Adhesive must be removed with the solution before it has dried.

## Components

Tile (as ordered)



## Standard Pattern



## Installation Instructions

- 1 Handle the Tiles keeping the felt faces together, and the substrate faces together to reduce the possibility of damage during installation.
- 2 Inspect the product. Subtle color and texture variations even within the same Tile are a normal aspect of this product. It is advisable to inspect for these irregularities and plan the layout accordingly, making sure to disperse any minor color variation evenly. In the case of product defect or damage in transit, FilzFelt must be notified within five (5) business days. FilzFelt cannot accept a return or warranty claim on any product that has been installed.
- 3 Allow Tiles to acclimate to the installation environment. After the shipping crates have been opened, the Tiles should be laid out individually on the floor for at least forty-eight (48) hours. Variations in temperature and humidity may affect the size and Tiles may be trimmed with a carpenter's square and sharp utility knife or fine tooth blade (80 plus tooth) and table saw to correct any irregularity or discrepancy between Tiles.

- 4 While the Tiles are becoming acclimatized, clean the work surface. It should be smooth, dry, and dust-free to allow the best possible adhesion. A Level 4 Finish wall preparation is sufficient.
  - 5 Use the bar level or laser level to determine a base level line for the first horizontal course at the bottom. This line will set the level for the entire installation so it is most important to get this right.
  - 6 Tiles are applied according to the pattern specified. Plan out the pattern before adhering the Tiles and make any adjustments to ensure any minor color variation is dispersed throughout the wall.
  - 7 Prepare a cleaning solution to remove any adhesive that transfers onto the face of the wool felt. A mild enzyme-based detergent (such as Tide Free) is recommended. Create a dilute solution by adding three (3) parts water to one (1) part detergent in a clean container. To remove adhesive before it has dried, use a clean paper towel to gently blot the detergent into area. Press and release, press and release. Using a separate container of clear water, use clean, moist paper towels to blot more water into the stain. Press and release, press and release. Finish by blotting firmly with clean, dry paper towels until the area is nearly dry. **IMPORTANT:** Adhesive must be removed before dry. Avoid aggressive rubbing, as this can continue the felting process and change the surface appearance of the felt.
  - 8 Using a standard caulking gun or 1/8" v-notch trowel, apply a thick bead or layer of adhesive around the perimeter of the Tile about 1/2" to 1" (1.3 to 2.5 cm) from the edge. Apply the first four (4) Tiles in sequence edge-to-edge, ensuring that the edges are properly butted up against one another and perfectly level. Gently roll over the Tiles with the weighted roller, taking care not to smear any adhesive. Finally, using clean fingers, press against the Tile to ensure the best adhesion and then check again for level.
  - 9 Repeat the above steps until the first course is completed.
  - 10 To cut custom Tile sizes, use a sharp utility knife and long straight edge or table saw with fine tooth blade. If cutting with a utility knife, make a first pass with light pressure to score the felt. Next, make one (1) to two (2) additional passes using firm pressure and making sure the blade is plumb. **IMPORTANT:** Always use a sharp blade and change blades frequently.
  - 11 To cut device cut-outs, use a sharp utility knife and carpenter's square or oscillating multi-tool with fine tooth blade. If cutting with a utility knife, make a first pass with light pressure to score the felt. Next, make one (1) to two (2) additional passes using firm pressure and making sure the blade is plumb. **IMPORTANT:** Always use a sharp blade and change blades frequently.
- Devices may then be either wall-mounted or panel-mounted as specified by the client. All cutting and finishing of the cut-outs and installation of electrical devices are the responsibility of the purchaser.
- 12 Allow the first row to set up for approximately twenty (20) minutes before installing the row above as the Tiles may slip.
  - 13 Move up to the next row and follow the above procedure, ensuring that the Tiles are butted firmly against one another. Continue checking level throughout the installation. Repeat until complete.

## Cleaning Instructions

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Like any natural fiber, a minimal approach should always be taken to clean wool felt since the cleaning method could potentially do more harm than the soiling or stain. The cleaning approach should be (1) dust with a lint roller, (2) vacuum with a clean, soft brush, (3) clean with water and mild detergent, and (4) clean with chemical spot remover. **IMPORTANT:** Always test any cleaning method in an inconspicuous area before attempting general cleaning.

For complete instructions, refer to the Product Maintenance + Cleaning Guide at [filzfelt.com/cleaning-guide](http://filzfelt.com/cleaning-guide).