# Splash™
## ACRYLIC

## Easy Follow

### Step-by-Step Guide to Measuring
# Acrylic Shower Panels

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## Welcome to this shower panel measuring guide. We hope that you find it simple enough to follow. If you run into any difficulties, please contact us by phone, email or use the contact form on our site. You can find all the information at the end of this document or on online at https://www.splashacrylic.com/contact.

## Useful Links

**Fixing Kit, including sealant:** https://www.splashacrylic.com/product/wall-panel-fixing-kit/

**Edge & Corner Trims:** https://www.splashacrylic.com/product-category/accessories/trims/

**Acrylic & Colour Samples:** https://www.splashacrylic.com/product-category/colour-samples/

Panel Measuring Templates: https://www.splashacrylic.com/panel-templates/

**Upload Diagrams Here:** https://www.splashacrylic.com/uploads/
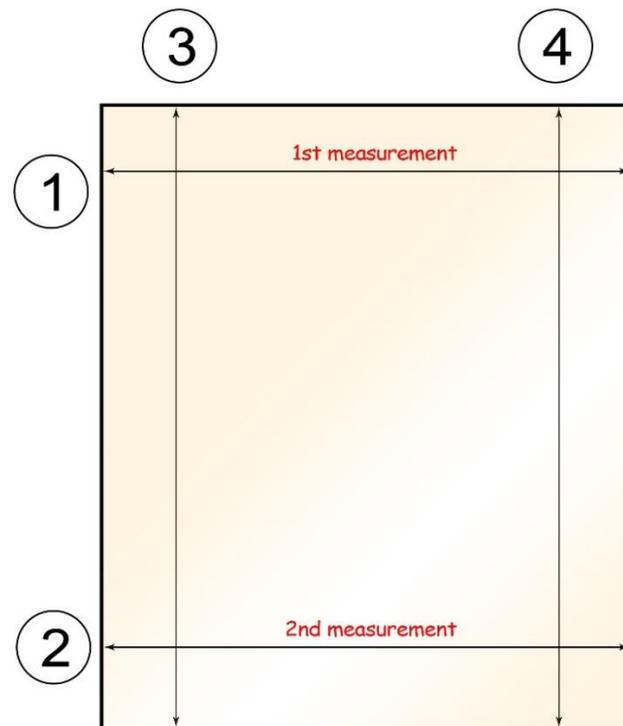
## IMPORTANT TIP: Before you get started

Most walls are not built perfectly square or flat, this means that there may well be differences in height and width depending on where you measure along the wall!

Our advice is for you to measure both ends of the shower panel width & both ends of the shower panel height - and to supply us with the longest measurements. Read **Section 1** below for a more complete description.

**Please Note:** Before gluing the panels in place, all wall surfaces must be clean and flat, also remove any loose surface material or dust. Next **all surfaces must be primed and sealed with a PVA solution prior to installation**

# Section 1: Measuring for a single shower panel



Single Splashback

Let's get started. The first thing to do is take the measurements.

Because walls are rarely aligned completely vertical or perfectly at right angles, it is important to take measurements correctly.

To do this, measure the walls where you want to fit the shower panels – width wise, measure them near the top and near the bottom (ensuring your measurement is taken perfectly level using a spirit level as a guide) as in positions 1 & 2 in our diagram above. Note these two measurements down.

Next do the same in the other direction for the height measurement positions 3 & 4.

Finally, If you are able to trim the panels on site yourself (or have a professional fitter do this for you), supply us with the longest measurement from each site.

**TIP:** If the panels are unable to be trimmed on site, supply the shortest measurement from each side. If you use this option, beware as you may need to use fillers or a slightly wider bead of silicone sealant along the area which has the larger gap.
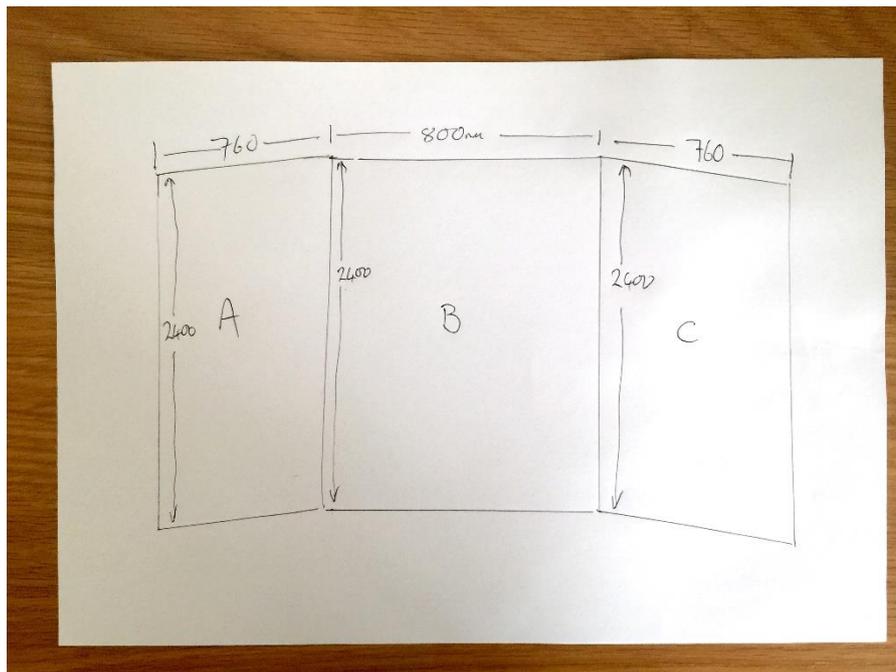
**Allowing for shower panel expansion:**

deduct 2mm for expansion gap along the top only if required for aligning with other fittings or becasue of a ceiling

**Top**

**Wall**

Measure To Edge Of Area

**Wall**

deduct 2mm for expansion gap along vertical sides and bottom

Edge of finished shower panel

Not to scale!

**Shower Tray**

When measuring and manufacturing shower panels it is necessary to make an allowance for expansion of the shower panels and any fitted materials for when they get hot. If your shower panel is a tight fit when it is installed it will bend or crack if this is not allowed for.

- *To make things easy - a basic point is for any panel that abuts another panel or runs to a corner or up to some other fixture, deduct 2mm from the final size for that particular edge measurement.*
- *This means that if a panel is installed and runs to two corners, you will need to deduct 2mm from each width edge, totaling 4mm. For example an 800mm width panel, order as 796mm.*
- *The same applies if you are running multiple panels together along one wall.*

That's it, the first panel measured!

# Section 2: Measuring for 2 or 3 shower panels in a cubicle arrangement
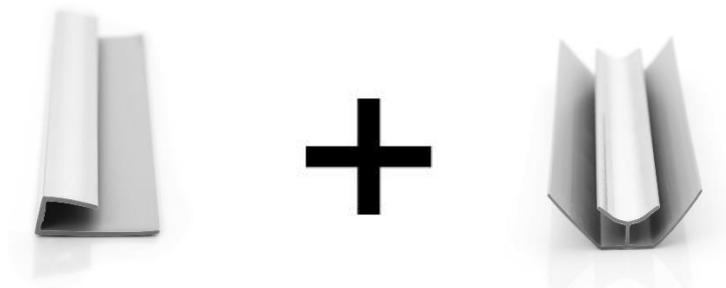
Here's how to do that…

**Step 1:** Make a sketch of your shower area and label the walls A, B & C from left to right as if you are looking at the shower area.

Measure the area of each surface (as described in the **Section 1**), then enter the measurements on your sketch
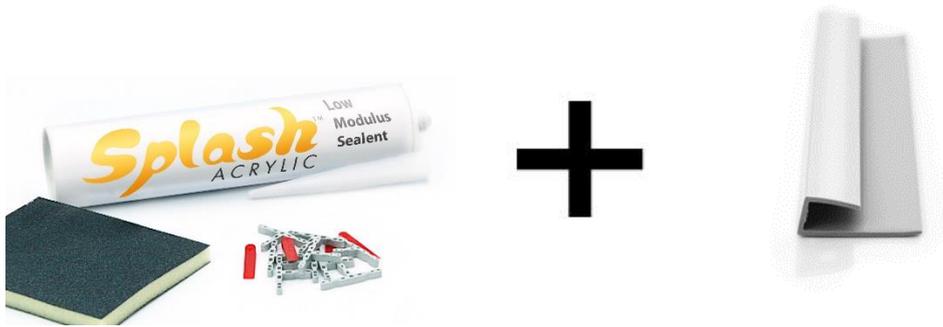


**Step 2.**  Allowing for edge trims and corners. There are three ways to do this step depending on how you are planning the installation. The differentiating factors are:

1.  Using **corner fittings** and **edge trims**:



- *   ***If using corner fittings and edge trims***, *deduct 10mm & 5mm respectively from the overall width size.*

2. Using **sealant** in the vertical corner(s) and then vertical **edge trims:**



- ***If using sealant in the corner(s) and then edge trims***, *deduct the panel thickness (probably 3mm or 5mm), plus deduct a further 2mm for the expansion gap, then deduct 5mm for the edge trim*

3. Using **sealant** in the corners and along the vertical edges:



- ***If using sealant in the corner(s) and along the edges***, *deduct the panel thickness (probably 3mm or 5mm), plus deduct a further 2mm for the expansion gap, then if the panels other edge abuts a wall, tiling or door fitting deduct a further 2mm for the expansion gap*

You can upload a photo or scanned image of your diagram after you have placed your order. You will find the facility for this on the order confirmation page, or at https://www.splashacrylic.com/uploads/

**IMPORTANT: When describing the layout of multiple panels:**

In your sketch, work from left to right as you would see the panels on the wall, labelling them A, B, C, etc. accordingly.

Also if your shower panel is a printed picture version, the finished article will be made and installed perfectly rather than like a crazy jigsaw!

# Section 3: Cutting & trimming shower panels

You can use standard woodworking tools for cutting your acrylic shower panels, however it is important to avoid damage to the front of the panels when laying them down on any surface for cutting. Also it is important to cut from the correct side.

Please follow these more detailed instructions:

Your **Ultra Gloss Hard Coated Acrylic™, Ultra Gloss Acrylic™ or Perspex™** splashback or shower panels should be cut using only a sharp fine blade suitable for cutting plastic or aluminum. It's important that the blade is SHARP to avoid the edges chipping or burning!

**Using a circular saw** is the best way to achieve straight long cuts. When cutting, a support board should be used under the panel. CUT WITH THE BACKING SIDE DOWN!

**If the panel is being cut on a table saw**, CUT WITH THE BACKING SIDE UP!

**Jigsaws can be used for short cuts** such as pipe apertures, but are not advised for longer straight cuts! Only ever use suitable jigsaw blades for cutting plastic or aluminum. CUT WITH THE BACKING SIDE UP!

**Measuring & cutting holes for shower fittings:**

It is best to measure where the hole cuts will be required for the shower outlets and any other fittings <u>after</u> the piping etc has been fitted in your shower area.

An extra 2mm should added to the hole size where pipes and fittings will come through. The gap should then be filled with our low modulus sealant.

# Section 4: Gluing & fitting the panels to the wall

You can glue the panels to any clean, flat and firm surface. It is important to use only low modulus sealant as other glues and sealants can cause long term damage to the product and invalidate the warranty.

You can fix the panels over existing tiles, just ensure they are secure and degreased.

If you are using corner and edge trims, apply a line of sealant along the length of the trim for the wall panel to bed into.

Apply generous amounts of glue to the rear of the panel. Best applied in a snaking line with lines approximately 15cm apart.

When putting the panel in place ensure you leave a 2mm gap above the shower tray as well as the correct positioning left and right. Use spacers to help achieve this.

Once in place, gently press the panel against the wall so that it is flat an even.

After the panels are in place, apply an even bead of low modulus sealant along all appropriate edges.

## How to fit the panels correctly:

When fitting your panel use 2mm spacers along the bottom of the panel (if necessary along the sides too) to allow for correct positioning while gluing the panel to the wall. After it is secured in place, simply remove the spacers and apply the low modulus sealant along the gap.

If 2 or more panels are being adjoined in a row along the wall then leave a 4mm gap between them when fitting.

Afterwards, fill the gaps with the low modulus sealant.

**VERY USEFUL TIP** **for a professional finish when joining panels:**

You are required to use low modulus sealant when gluing and 'edge sealing' this product. Our sealant dries colourless and is slightly transparent.

Before installing the panels, our suggestion is that by painting it, you make the wall area behind where the edge sealant will be applied a similar colour to that of the panel. If it is a printed picture panel you may wish to use a variety of colours to approximate the colours of the panel(s) in the respective areas.

This is a quick and simple operation which will make for a more professional finish

As suggested before, you can upload a photo or scanned image of any helpful diagrams after you have placed your order.

You can do this one of three ways:

- Use the 'UPLOAD' section near the bottom of your order confirmation page
- Use our https://www.splashacrylic.com/uploads page
- Email us directly - sales@splashacrylic.com , attach the image files, include your name, order number & if possible your telephone.

We sincerely hope that you have found this guide helpful. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to let us know.

Good luck with your installation!

Best wishes,

**The Splash Acrylic Support Team**

CONTACT DETAILS:

**Splash Acrylic**

Unit 26 Parkwood Centre

Aston Road

Waterlooville

Hampshire

PO7 7HT

**tel:** 023 9309 2583

**email:** sales@splashacrylic.com

**site:** https://www.splashacrylic.com

**facebook:** http://facebook.com/splashacrylicuk

**Opening hours:**

**Monday – Friday  09.00 – 18.00**

**Weekends   10.00 – 18.00**