



WOVEN PANELS

INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE MANUAL

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I&M MANUAL



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INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE MANUAL

1. IMPORTANT PRE-INSTALLATION INFORMATION

Handmade & Natural Material

House of Bamboo® woven panels are handcrafted from natural bamboo fibres. Variations in tone, weave density, fibre width and texture are inherent characteristics and should be celebrated as part of the product's authenticity.

Batching / Dry-Laying

Before installation, panels must be dry-laid and batched on the floor or against a wall to ensure an even and visually balanced distribution of colour and pattern. Once installed, natural variations will not be considered defects.

Acclimatisation

Panels must be acclimatised flat in the installation environment for 48-72 hours before installation. Ideal conditions are 40-60% relative humidity and stable temperatures. Failure to acclimatise may result in movement, distortion or joint separation after installation.

Environment Suitability

Woven panels are recommended for interior applications or undercover outdoor areas protected from rain * (refer to section 7), unless otherwise specified. Avoid areas exposed to direct weather, excessive moisture, or uncontrolled humidity.

Open Weave Designs

For open or semi-open weaves, ensure the substrate or backing surface is painted a dark or complementary colour before installation to prevent the background from being visible through the weave.

2. PANEL THICKNESS & HANDLING REQUIREMENTS

1.0-2.5mm Panels (Flexible Weaves)

- Highly flexible and lightweight
- Must be fully supported over the entire surface
- Recommended to adhere to 4-6mm plywood, MDF or an existing flat plasterboard surface before ceiling installation

3.0-6.0mm Panels (Semi-Rigid)

- Can be fixed directly to battens or solid substrates
- Suitable for walls, ceilings and joinery linings when adequately supported

8.0mm Ply-Backed Panels

- Structural lining panels
- Can be fixed directly to framing or battens
- Suitable for higher-traffic wall applications

3. SUBSTRATE & FRAMING PREPARATION

Flat Substrate Installation

- Surface must be clean, dry, flat and free of dust, oil or contaminants
- Ensure substrate is structurally sound and suitable for adhesive bonding

Battened Installation

- Install battens at 450mm–600mm centres
- For ceilings, 450mm-600mm centres are recommended to prevent long-term sagging
- Battens must be level and aligned using a laser or spirit level

Framed Panels (Joinery / Cabinetry)

Suitable as inserts into cabinetry.

4. CUTTING & EDGE STABILISATION – WOVEN PANELS

Woven panels can be cut to size. The panel's ability to hold together after cutting will depend on the weave pattern, openness, and thickness of the material.

To achieve a clean, sharp cut with minimal fraying, the weave must be stabilised before cutting, particularly for open or loosely woven panels.

Front-Face Tape Application (Recommended)

To preserve the integrity of the weave and prevent fraying:

- Apply a low-tack, non-residue tape (such as painter's tape) to the front (visible) face of the panel along the proposed cut line.
- Ensure the tape is firmly pressed down to hold the weave in place during cutting.
- Remove the tape carefully after cutting is complete.

This method is recommended to ensure a clean edge and sharp finish with minimal disruption to the weave.

Back-Face Tape Application (Optional Support)

Where additional support is required, or where the back face will not be visible after installation:

- Apply a high-tack tape (such as gaffer tape) to the back face of the panel along the cut line.
- This tape may remain in place after installation, provided it is not visible.

If tape may be visible after installation, use a transparent tape.

The more open the weave, the more critical it is to stabilise the panel with tape before cutting.

Cutting Method

- If the panel has no defined reverse side, ensure a removable, non-residue tape is applied to the visible face before cutting.
- Failure to stabilise the weave before cutting may result in fraying or separation and is not considered a product fault.
- Use a fine-tooth saw blade (high TPI) for clean edges
- For thin weaves, a sharp utility knife may be used with multiple light passes

5. FIXING & ADHESION

Adhesive Fixing

- Use a high-quality construction adhesive suitable for natural materials
- For open weaves, ensure adhesive dries clear to avoid visible residue
- Apply adhesive in continuous beads along battens or in a grid pattern on flat substrates

Mechanical Fixing (Temporary Support)

- While adhesive cures, lightly tack panels every 300mm along edges and supports
- Use stainless steel staples, brads or finishing pins
- Fixings should be discreet and removed or concealed once cured if required

6. EXPANSION, JOINTS & FINISHING

Expansion Allowance

Bamboo is a natural material and will respond to environmental changes.

- Allow minimum 10mm perimeter clearance at walls, ceilings and floors

Trims & Finishing

Conceal joints and perimeter gaps using House of Bamboo® trims

- Bamboo slats
- Engineered bamboo trims

These provide a clean, professional finish while allowing for natural movement.

7. SEALING, CARE & MAINTENANCE

Sealing (Optional)

- For high-traffic or lightly humid interior areas, or outside undercover areas, a breathable protective finish may be applied: Clear polyurethane (thin coats)
- For external applications, we recommend coating both sides before installation.

Avoid heavy film-forming coatings that prevent the material from breathing.

Cleaning & Maintenance

- Dust regularly using a soft brush or vacuum with a brush attachment
- Avoid harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners

Minor movement or loosening due to humidity changes is normal and will often self-correct as conditions stabilise.

8. TOOLS & MATERIALS REQUIRED

Recommended Tools

- Tape measure and straight edge
- Sharp utility knife and spare blades
- Fine-tooth saw or circular saw with high-TPI blade
- Gaffer or high-tack tape
- Caulking gun (for construction adhesive)
- Brad nailer or stapler (stainless steel fixings only)
- Drill and drill bits (for pilot holes on thicker panels)
- Spirit level or laser level
- Clean rags and a damp cloth

Materials

- High-quality construction adhesive (clear-drying for open weaves)
- Stainless steel brads, pins or staples
- Timber battens or sheet substrate (if required)
- House of Bamboo® trims or mouldings (optional)

9. COMMON INSTALLATION MISTAKES TO AVOID

- Installing panels without acclimatisation
- Fixing flexible panels directly to battens without full backing
- Cutting panels without taping the reverse side first
- Using adhesives that dry opaque on open weaves
- Over-fixing panels and restricting natural movement
- Installing in uncontrolled humid environments

10. IMPORTANT NOTES, WARRANTY ALIGNMENT & RESPONSIBILITY

- Installation must be carried out by experienced tradespeople familiar with natural materials
 - Panels must be inspected before installation - installation constitutes acceptance
 - Natural variation, tonal differences and weave irregularities are inherent and not defects
 - House of Bamboo® is not responsible for installation methods, site conditions or workmanship beyond our control
- For project-specific advice or complex applications, please contact the House of Bamboo® team before installation.

APPENDIX A – WEBSITE DOWNLOAD INTRODUCTION

Installation Guide – Woven Bamboo Panels

- This document provides best-practice installation guidance for House of Bamboo® woven bamboo panels. It is intended for use by architects, builders and experienced installers.
- Woven bamboo is a natural, handmade material and requires appropriate handling, acclimatisation and fixing methods to achieve optimal performance and longevity. This guide should be read in conjunction with the relevant Product Data Sheet and Warranty documentation.
- Installation of the product constitutes acceptance of the material in its supplied condition.

APPENDIX B – QUICK INSTALLATION CHECKLIST (SITE REFERENCE)

Before Installation

- Panels inspected on delivery (no damage)
- Panels acclimatised flat on site for 48–72 hours
- Substrate or battens installed level and within tolerances
- Background colour prepared for open weave panels
- Correct adhesive selected (clear-drying for open weaves)

During Installation

- Panels dry-laid and batched for colour and weave balance
- Reverse side taped before cutting
- Fine-tooth blade or sharp knife used
- Adhesive applied evenly (beads or grid pattern)
- Temporary mechanical fixings are used only to assist curing
- Expansion gaps maintained between panels and at perimeters

After Installation

- Fixings concealed or removed once adhesive has cured
- Trims installed, allowing for natural movement
- Panels cleaned with a soft, dry or lightly damp cloth
- Area ventilated to allow even curing and stabilisation

APPENDIX C – CEILINGS & OVERHEAD APPLICATIONS (BEST PRACTICE)

Woven bamboo panels used in ceiling and overhead applications require additional consideration due to gravity, humidity and long-term material movement.

Panel Selection

- Flexible panels (1.0–2.5mm) must be fully supported over their entire surface
- Ply-backed or thicker panels are preferred for large ceiling spans

Framing & Support

- Battens must be installed at a maximum 450mm centres
- All battens must be level and securely fixed to structural framing
- Soft or uneven substrates are not suitable for direct fixing

Fixing Method

- Adhesive fixing is mandatory across the full panel surface or along all battens
- Mechanical fixings are temporary only and must not restrict natural movement
- Avoid spot-fixing, which can cause sagging or distortion over time

Environmental Control

- Ceiling installations must be in enclosed spaces with controlled humidity
- Avoid installation before HVAC commissioning or building dry-out

Movement & Joints

- Expansion gaps are critical and must not be filled rigidly
- Trims must allow panels to move independently

Failure to follow these guidelines may result in sagging, deformation or joint separation and is not considered a product fault.

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