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How to Install Glue-up (Lap Joint) Ceiling and Wall Tiles

Ceilume's lap joint ceiling tiles are mounted directly to a sound installation surface using adhesive. These tile have a unique overlapping edge that allows them to be installed without the use of decorative or smooth strips.

Check building codes as required.

Before You Begin

- Your ceiling or wall needs to provide a flat and sound installation surface. Texturing like popcorn will need to be removed, and taping and bedding, patching, or sanding may be necessary if your surface is excessively damaged, gapped, or uneven.

- Your hands, work surfaces, and installation surface must be smooth, clean, and dry. Dust, oil, grease, and other contaminants can affect the adherence of your ceiling tiles.

- Pre-test your materials before starting to ensure the best results for your specific installation.

- The installation instructions below assume you are installing your new tiles to your ceiling, but are also applicable for wall or other surface installations. Please follow the steps below either way, adapting for your specific situation.

Measure Twice, Glue Once

Map out your ceiling. Measure and mark all of your walls, hallways, closets, and doorways. Locate and draw any lights, heating vents, and ceiling-mount fixtures. Decide and illustrate how to best create an even border around the perimeter of your room.

Using your map and taking into account the variables above, snap two chalk lines along your ceiling's midpoints, forming a cross in the center of your ceiling. Keep in mind that ceilings are rarely square and chalk lines may need to be adjusted.

Break Out the Adhesive

Apply a 1/8 in. bead of adhesive along the perimeter of the backside of your ceiling tile just outside the dot-dash pattern. Add another bead along the dot-dash pattern at the center of the tile going in both directions. Make sure to place this bead to the left or the right of the pattern where the tile will

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make contact with your installation surface once installed.

Finally, add an "X" of adhesive in the center of each major design feature that will make contact with your installation surface once installed. As you are applying your adhesive, remember it isn't how much adhesive you use, but that you use the right amount of adhesive in the right places.

Position your ceiling tile about 1/4 in. offset from your chalk lines and lightly press it to the ceiling. Slide it into place against the chalk lines, allowing the adhesive to spread just a bit. Press and rub firmly over the glued areas, smoothing out any bumps in the glue and seating the tile firmly into place.

Apply adhesive to the back of your second tile then tilt it into place overlapping the dot-dash pattern along the edge of the second tile with that of the first. As you press the tile firmly into place, wiggle it a bit to allow the adhesive to spread and to encourage the tiles to nest together. Press and rub firmly over the glued areas, smoothing out any bumps in the glue and seating the tile firmly into place.

Repeat with your remaining tiles, proceeding from one adjacent tile to the next. Spend an extra 15 seconds or so holding down the dots in the corners of the tile where they overlap to encourage them to lie flat.

Use a soft, damp rag to wipe up any excess adhesive. When your installation is complete, clean tools with warm water and paper towels while the ceiling tile adhesive is still wet. Dried material can be scraped or chipped off if needed.

Ceiling Borders

In all likelihood, your ceiling will have some areas that are smaller than a full-size ceiling tile, usually around the perimeter of your room. For these border areas, simply measure from the edge of an installed tile to the wall and cut your border tiles to size with scissors or snips. Install with the cut edge toward the wall.

When your installation is complete, clean tools with warm water and paper towels while the ceiling tile adhesive is still wet. Dried material can be scraped or chipped off if needed.

Painting

All of our ceiling tiles can be painted before or after installation.

- Be sure that everything is clean and dry before painting.
- Do not use solvent type thinners or cleaners.
- Experiment on a sample with your paint of choice prior to working on your ceiling in its entirety.

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- **Painting voids all ratings, approvals, and certifications.**

Cleaning

Your new ceiling tiles require no special cleaning agents - just wipe them down with a soft, damp rag. Small, stubborn spots can be handled with an all-purpose cleaner.

Panels are 100% waterproof so there is no risk of water damage during cleaning, and there is no need for scheduled professional cleaning and resurfacing to prevent environmental and aesthetic problems.

Do not use cleaners containing organic solvents or other aggressive ingredients as they may affect the surface appearance of your tiles. Examples of these types of cleaners include chlorine bleach, liquid grease remover, strong detergents, and nail polish remover.

Storing

Store any extra boxes of ceiling tiles upright in a single layer (do not stack) in a cool spot out of direct sunlight.