

level

Installation Instructions: SanFoot Wood Veneer

Note to Installer Before You Begin

The installation process is very important to the finished quality of real wood veneers wallcovering. Surface preparation, adhesive and primer selection, environmental conditions and quality of workmanship are the key elements for a successful installation. Prior to installation:

- Inspect for damage before signing acceptance of product. If damage is noted, please advise freight carrier immediately when signing for the product from the freight carrier. Do NOT commence installation if damage is evident as this will negate the warranty.
- Examine all sheets of veneer upon receipt for quality and compliance with the approved specification before storing or starting installation. Any shortage of material must be reported within two (2) days after receipt of material and prior to commencement of installation.
- The installing contractor must verify that the correct specified species of wood veneer wallcovering is present on the job site. Furthermore, the installer must review the installation instructions that accompany each delivery of wallcovering. If there is failure to follow the specifier's supplied wall finish schedule, Level and our distributors assume NO responsibility for any incorrect hanging locations, incorrect wallcovering species numbers and species grains or color stains that are installed in the wrong orientation or out of sequence.
- Follow all instructions carefully. Do not rush the installation.

If no defect is evident before installation, the material should be inspected after three (3) panels are installed. Should you discover any problems at this time (or at any point during installation), STOP IMMEDIATELY and CONTACT LEVEL at (216) 432-1400 X.108. LEVEL WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHARGES OVER THREE (3) PANELS OF MATERIAL.

Storage

SanFoot should be kept in the manufacturer's packaging until 24 to 48 hours before installation. Store in a clean, dry, secure area that has low humidity and a stable temperature range of 45 to 85 degrees Fahrenheit.

Environmental Conditions

Areas to receive SanFoot should be environmentally controlled by the permanent HVAC system. Maintain a temperature range of 65 to 85 degrees Fahrenheit, with not more than 50% relative humidity and not less than what is specified for your area in the AWI Quality Standards Section 1700-T-19, for a period of not less than 4 days prior to installation and maintained thereafter.

Installation Diagram

Depending on the type of design printed (if any) on your veneer, an Installation Diagram illustrating the appropriate sequence of panel installation may be included with the finished goods. This primarily applies to mural-style designs in which the image spans multiple panels that must be sequenced properly during installation.

In these cases, the veneer **must be installed in strict accordance with this diagram**. If the Installation Diagram is missing, stop and contact Level at (216) 432-1400 x.108 for immediate assistance.

Test Area for Approval

Install three (3) full-width sheets of each pattern specified, in an area designated by the Architect, Designer, or Owner. The test installation area shall be reviewed for conformance to the manufacturer's standard installation instructions. Only the Architect, Designer, or Owner shall approve the test installation. The Contractor shall replace any unsatisfactory sheets as directed and until the test area is accepted by the Architect, Designer, or Owner. Failure to follow this procedure will **void** the manufacturer's warranty.

Use of an unspecified adhesive, primer or any additional finishes will **void** the manufacturer's warranty at time of installation. Future problems that may occur as a result of incorrect installation procedures are not the responsibility of Level or its distributors.

The approved test area shall remain as part of the finished installation work and as a standard of comparison for the installation throughout the project. The Contractor shall not install specified material beyond the test area prior to the approval of the test area, by the Architect, Designer or Owner. Proceeding beyond this point will be done at the installer's risk and will absolve Level, its distributors, and Jacaranda, Inc (SanFoot) of any and all responsibility.

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Preparation

ACCLIMATION

Remove the wood veneer sheets from the box and allow the sheets to acclimate to the environment for **approximately 24 - 48 hours**. If the air is dry, or if the sheets must remain out of the box for an extended period of time, cover with a sheet of vinyl to prevent the veneer from drying out. It is best to lay the sheets face down, during this period, and not directly on the floor..

After preliminary inspection, **arrange SanFoot sheets in numerical sequence** as labeled on the back of each. Along with the sequence number, each sheet also has a flitch number and the word "bottom" printed on the back. **All sheets should be installed in sequence order and in the same direction** with all "bottoms" down or all "bottoms" up based upon appearance preference. In most cases the installation should start at the top left descending left to right, on 9' or 10' walls. When walls are taller, first sheet installation should start at top left descending top to bottom then left to right.

PRIMER

Prime all surfaces (including oil-based paint, oil-based primers and latex or oil-based stain-kill coatings) with specified primers listed below. Prime all surfaces according to manufacturer's directions. For best results, apply primer with a roller and **let cure at least 2 days before installing SanFoot** veneer. Consult your Level distributor before proceeding with any unusual conditions.

The use of the primer will prevent the adhesive from being excessively absorbed into the drywall and stop dry pockets plus a primer promotes strippability to SanFoot. **Moisture content in the wall substrate should be in a range of 7% to 9% or less**. Check with a moisture meter if necessary.

If a situation is encountered where the walls were previously painted or primed, the surface should be lightly sanded to break the seal prior to applying an approved primer. One test strip of SanFoot should be hung to assure a strong bond between the existing paint/primer and the primer before proceeding with the installation. Any failure caused by the existing painted/primed surface is the responsibility of the installing contractor and not of Level or its distributors.

The following acrylic primers are **approved for use with SanFoot**:

- Bulls Eye 1-2-3 Primer Sealer by Zinsser Co**Recommended over wood composite board, over painted surfaces, or where primer needs to be tinted.
- Shieldz Universal PLUS Primer by Zinsser Co**Over new or clean drywall or where mold and mildew is a concern.
- Gardz High Performance Sealer by Zinsser Co**Use over damaged drywall, loose paint or chalky surfaces.
- Pro-935 by Roman Decorating Products**.....For use over new or clean drywall.
- Pro-977 by Roman Decorating Products**.....For use over drywall or plaster walls showing loose paint or chalky surfaces.

Do not use alkyd or oil-based primers with SanFoot!

Application of Adhesive

Prepare wall surface as specified before beginning and use **only** one of the approved adhesives. **Apply adhesive at full strength** (whip or stir to thin to desired consistency).

Do not dilute adhesive with water! Apply a uniform layer of adhesive to the back of the SanFoot sheets with standard 3/8" to 3/4" nap paint roller, making sure there are no uncoated areas.

Book the sheets for 10 to 15 minutes before hanging. Allow the proper time for adhesive to tack after it has been applied to the back of the sheets. This is important to prevent bubbling after installation.

Depending on the condition of the primed substrate, the installer may choose to size the wall surface with a thin coating of the specified adhesive and allow it to tack prior to hanging (do not dilute the adhesive). It is suggested that the installer test an area first to determine if an adhesive size is needed.

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Preparation of Wall Surface

NEW DRYWALL

All drywall finishing should comply with Association of Wall and Ceiling Industries-International (AWCI), Painting and Decorating Contractors of America (PDCA) specifications, Level 4 or Level 5. By incorporating the appropriate Level of Finish of the recommended specification into the project documents, the architect, general contractor, and building owner can better anticipate the final appearance of the decorative wall or ceilings covered with SanFoot veneer.

All joints and interior angles shall have tape embedded in joint compound and three separate coats of joint compound applied over all joints, angles, fastener heads, and accessories.

All surfaces shall be clean, smooth and dry prior to applying primer and the application of SanFoot.

PAINTED DRYWALL

Alkyd/Oil Surface:

Sand painted surfaces to break the seal and apply a primer. Alkyd/oil surfaces must be primed with one of the approved primers listed in this document to ensure a strong bond of SanFoot. Allow freshly painted drywall to cure at least 14 days prior to priming and installing SanFoot.

Acrylic/Latex Surface:

Sand painted surfaces to break the seal. All painted surfaces must be primed with Bulls Eye 1-2-3 by Zinsser Co., Inc. or Pro 935 (R35) by Roman Decorating Products to ensure strong bond of SanFoot. Allow freshly painted drywall to cure at least 14 days prior to priming and installing SanFoot.

Damaged Drywall:

Prime damaged areas such as torn drywall facing paper, over skim coat repairs and old adhesive residue with Gardz High Performance Sealer or Pro 977 by Roman Decorating Products.

Plaster Walls:

New Plaster (1/2" to 3/4" thickness) - Ideally new plaster walls should age 60 to 90 days before painting or installing San Foot.

If you cannot wait, then wash newly plastered walls with zinc sulfate solution to neutralize the lime (2-4 pounds of zinc sulfate crystals per gallon of water). If new plaster surface is chalky, prime with Gardz High Performance Sealer by Zinsser Co., Inc. or Pro 977 by Roman Decorating Products.

Painted Plaster:

All efflorescence crystals should be removed before starting the installation. All undulations in the plaster must be smoothed to a fiat finish. Installation over previously painted plaster surfaces must be installed with attention to the type of paint applied to the surface and the number of coats it has received over time.

If the painted surface can not be broken by sanding then a wall liner must be installed before applying SanFoot over painted plaster to allow the moisture to be wicked away.

MDF Board, Particleboard, other Wood Composite Products or Hardwood Plywood:

All surfaces should be free of all excess dust, oils or other foreign matter and be maintained as smooth as possible. All seam joints should be mudded and sanded to fill all gaps for a smooth surface. All surface areas will need to be primed with Bulls Eye 1-2-3 Primer Sealer from the Zinsser Co., Inc. or Pro 935 by Roman Decorating Products before starting the installation of SanFoot. Keep in mind that your substrate will not allow a lot of moisture to be absorbed, therefore, you will use a little less adhesive in this application than over drywall.

Contact Adhesive over Non-Porous Surfaces:

Substrates that may require the use of contact adhesive are: painted metal, stainless steel, plastic laminate and other non-porous surfaces. Never use contact adhesive on drywall or plaster.

Contact your Level sales representative for all other applications.

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Installation

Apply the sheets to the wall in **sequence**, filling in over doors and windows from consecutive sheets.

After applying each sheet on the wall, **smooth with an acrylic smoothing tool**, or with smoothing tools which **will not mar the finish**, but **ensure that all air bubbles are eliminated** and there is a good bond between the SanFoot and the substrate. Smooth entire surface area of the sheet to ensure all air pockets are eliminated. **Air bubbles must be removed and installation errors corrected before the adhesive dries.**

Use a **clean, moist, natural sponge to remove excess adhesive** from each sheet as you go along prior to installing the next sheet. **Dry the surface with a lint free towel.** It is very important to change water frequently in order to maintain cleanliness and not streak the appearance. Wipe clean in the grain direction of the wood veneer. **Do not wipe across grain** as this might push the adhesive into the grain.

Do not install SanFoot with temporary lighting! **Installation with permanent lighting is recommended.** Sufficient lighting will greatly enable to see air pockets or bubbles and other installation problems that may occur.

Overlap and double cut seams with a clean sharp razor blade. Change blade after each cut. For installation of SanFoot sheets that are ten (10') and longer, consult your Level distributor for proper installation techniques. Vertical joints should not occur less than 2-1/2 inches (2-1/2") from all outside and inside corners, if at all possible, based on the corner being in square. Leaving SanFoot overlapped at the seams is not acceptable.

On all corners (inside or outside) that are square, wrapping the corner with SanFoot is done in the same manner as heavy-duty vinyl wallcovering with one exception: Wet the face of the SanFoot panel with clean water and a clean lint-free rag. The moisture added will allow the wood to bend around the corner without breaking. If the corner is not straight and true, please consult your Level distributor for proper installation techniques.

Warranty

Level warrants its finished product to be free of manufacturing defects for a period of 90 days from date that finished product is received by customer. Please inspect all goods immediately upon receipt.

Level is not responsible for labor charges, improper installation, installation of incorrect goods (those not approved or confirmed by the customer), removal of goods, or problems arising from defects in the construction, surface, or preparation of the wall.

If you have any questions regarding the installation procedures herein, contact Level at (216) 432-1400 x.108 before beginning the installation of this product.

Return and sign the following acknowledgement prior to installation. Failure to return the acknowledgement prior to installation will void the warranty.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE OF INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

In order for the warranty to be registered and issued, I confirm that I have fully read, understand, and accept the Real Wood Veneer Installation Instructions contained above. I understand and accept that any deviation from the above installation instructions is my sole responsibility as the Installer and absolve Level and the Distributor of any responsibility.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Company: _____

Date: _____

Project Name: _____

Please Return Your Signed Copy to: 4walls, ATTN: Level Warranty, 4700 Lakeside Avenue East, Third Floor, Cleveland, Ohio 44114. or email to contractsupport@4walls.com