

# **Smith & Fong Company**

## **Durapalm® Woven and Deco paneling installation sheet**

### **General Description:**

Smith & Fong Company's Durapalm Woven and Deco paneling installs easily in a vertical or horizontal direction allowing you to cover any sized wall surface. Each panel measures 6" x 48" and connects together on the ends with a finger locking system. The left side has two fingers and the right has three. When the fingers are joined together they create a seamless connection. The panels also have an overlap along the length. The upside edge is where the backer, along the length, extends beyond the decorative palm face of the panel. There is also an exposed backer edge on both ends. These surfaces allow for the use of a pin-nailer without the need to nail through the decorative surface.

### **Surface Preparation:**

Before installation confirm that your surface is clean, dry, flat and sound, and free of any debris or contamination that may inhibit an adhesive bond. Appropriate surfaces for installation include plywood, OSB, particleboard and MDF. Do not use gypsum board or sheetrock as an installation surface. Next seal your surface with an appropriate sealing material that will not inhibit adhesive bonding when the paneling is installed. Be sure to test compatibility between your surface, sealing product and the referenced adhesive before proceeding with full installation.

### **Tools Needed:**

Tape measurer, snap line, pin-nailer, clean rags, radial arm saw to trim the ends (where finger joints are not desired) and to cut 45 degree angles (if working around the corner of a wall.) Some installers have successfully used Loctite PL Premium Advanced Polyurethane Construction Adhesive for installing the paneling. Other adhesives may also be used, but adhesives with moisture content (water) must be avoided. Thoroughly read the contents component of the product information to confirm this point. Be sure to also test any adhesive for compatibility for your particular application before proceeding with the full installation.

### **Installation:**

Whether installed vertically or horizontally, panels should receive a full trowel of adhesive. This can be initially applied and then trowelled over the full surface. To hold the panel in place while the adhesive sets up, a pin-nailer should be used to fasten the panel to the wall surface. This should be done with pin-nails at 6" intervals and 2" in from the ends along the top edge of the panel. The panel should also be pin-nailed at two points on either end of the paneling between the finger joints.

### **Further Note:**

It is important to note that Durapalm Woven and Deco paneling performs best in environments that remain stable year-round. In environments where the seasonal relative humidity can experience significant swings, where HVAC systems are not sufficiently maintained, or where the product receives direct exposure to intense sunlight, this product will experience dimensional change and may move. Movement can include checking, cracking, cupping, swelling or shrinkage of the panels. Be sure to confirm that the HVAC system is running properly a minimum of 7 days before installation and that the ambient environmental conditions are stable and unaffected by any of the other mentioned issues. Be sure to keep the installation environment between 35% and 65% relative humidity (RH) with a temperature range of 45 to 75 degrees throughout the year.

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