

PLEASE READ BEFORE PROCEEDING

OVERVIEW OF STANDARD INSTALLATION METHOD FOR 3" WIDE GRID

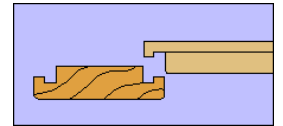
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WALL ANGLE

The first step is to install the Wall Angle (PT 219 Panel Mld.) around the perimeter of the room. Use a laser level to ensure a level guideline. Make sure the top edge of the Wall Angle is at the appropriate distance from the joists for the depth of coffer to be used. (See components page and coffer depth page.)

MAINRUNNERS

The mainrunners will usually run crossways of the joists. If you need mainrunners longer than 12' or 14', you will need to splice the ends together. In most cases, we provide a pre-spliced system for this, or you can use a scarf joint (angled cut on ends), and glue the ends and screw a block of wood to the back of the joint. Hang the first mainrunner(s) according to the layout. This will be either in the center of the room, or the center of the room will be split evenly between two mains. We suggest suspending the mains from every other joist, or maximum 32" apart. Attach the provided metal hanging brackets to the back of the grid with the 4 screws and suspend with wire from the lag screws that go into the joists. The ends of the mainrunners will rest on top of the wall angle. Work your way towards the walls by using cross tees to space yourself to the next mainrunner. The cross tee ends have a special "key-lock" joint that snaps into the mains to hold them in place. Do not nail anything yet. Check the mains in several places to make sure they are level, and adjust the wires accordingly.



CROSS TEES

Once the mains are all up, put cross tees in place starting from the center or splitting the center of the room according to the layout. You can also use cross tees to space yourself to the next cross tee. Try a couple of the standard center coffers in the grid to make sure everything is fitting correctly. Nail the cross tees at both ends while using cross tees as spacers (tight up against the mainrunners to ensure everything is squared up). When you reach the wall, the cross tees will need to be cut to length, so they can also rest on top of the wall angle as the mainrunners do. Standard cross tees are 24" to 30" long with the key-lock on both ends. If you are shipped some cross tees that are longer and have the key-lock on one end only, these are to be used as the cross tees that go to the wall where the standard cross tees would not be long enough. Do not nail these cross tees until the cove band is in place.

COVE BAND

The cove band, which is basically a wider cross tee, is used around the perimeter of the ceiling on top of the wall angle. This fills in the gap between the edge of the coffer and the wall. The cove band allows the installer to adjust to the walls if they are out-of-square. This can be done by starting the cove band at the end of the room that is wider. Hold the cove band out away from the wall until it fits the appropriate coffer for that spot. Then continue down the wall towards the end that is narrower. At this point it may be necessary to trim off the back side of the cove band to make it fit. Be sure that the visible edge of the cove band lines up down the wall. Let the reveal of the cove band on the wall angle vary. Standard cove band cross tees are also 24" to 30". The longer cove band cross tees are to be used in corners where a standard cross tee will not reach. They should be mitered into the corners. We recommend reinforcing this joint with a biscuit joint or a scab on the back to join both pieces. Do not nail the cove band cross tees in place until you have checked each one with its coffer. At this time, nail the mainrunner ends to the wall angle.

STANDARD AND PERIMETER COFFERS

If your ceiling is a rectangle, you should have received all of the perimeter coffers as well as the standard square coffers. Drop the coffers in place according to the layout, making sure the grain is going the right direction. If your ceiling has an odd shape, you should have received all the standard coffers and any rectangular perimeter coffers that we feel can be made in advance. You will need to measure for the remaining coffers and make templates for irregular shapes (triangular, L-shaped, curved). See page 5 for measuring and making templates if necessary.