

# MIDWESTERN WOOD PRODUCTS CO.

1500 West Jefferson, P.O. Box 434 Morton, Illinois 61550

Phone 309/266-9771 FAX 309/263-2696

[www.woodgrid.com](http://www.woodgrid.com)

## **Consider the following before ordering or installing your WOOD GRID Suspended Coffered Ceiling**

1) Room size - Fax a sketch with dimensions accurate to an 1/8 inch. Have you noted any irregularities in the perimeter? If your ceiling is some shape other than square or rectangular (ex. has an angle), the perimeter coffers will have to be shipped after the grid work is hung and may require templates to be made (see page 5).

2) Wood specie - Three standard species of wood are available: Red Oak, Poplar and Cherry. If you wish to paint, use Poplar. When staining Poplar we do not recommend light finishes unless we do the finishing. Medium to dark, fruitwood or cherry colors are OK. We also do Walnut, Knotty Pine and Hickory on special order.

3) Coffer depth - shallow, medium or deep

4) Choice of either 2" grid on 25" centers or 3" grid on 28" or 30" centers (depends on depth of coffer)

5) Color sample for finish (optional)

6) Shipping instructions and cost estimate for freight

7) Determine which way the joists in the ceiling run. The mainrunners will run crossways and hang from the joists. The mainrunners should be suspended no further apart than every 32". Hardware is shipped with each ceiling. If a light fixture is used in the center of a coffer, you must suspend each corner and perhaps reinforce the back of the coffer.

8) Decide if any light fixtures, fans, heat vents or other electrical units will need to be planned into the layout. Lights may need to be moved to accommodate a symmetrical layout. Conversely, the layout can sometimes be adjusted to center around an existing ceiling fan, etc.. It is best for a fan to fall in the middle of a panel. Consider the depth of the fan's mounting fixture when deciding which coffer style is appropriate. Can lights are best with these ceilings. All fans or heavy light fixtures must be secured to a joist, not just the coffer. When running electrical wiring, leave about a 6 foot pigtail (BMX flexible cable) in order to be able to move the cans around. Another option is to install a hardwire outlet above the coffered ceiling which can allow multiple fixtures to be wired and simply plugged in.

9) Will cabinetry be installed that may change the dimensions important in laying out the ceiling?

10) Your ceiling must have at least four walls or some other boundary such as a beam on which to mount the wall angle. If your ceiling flows into another room, install a false beam which is at least deep enough to accommodate the depth of the style of ceiling you are installing. (See 11)

11) What is the ceiling height? Remember that the shallow coffer requires 5-1/2" inches of drop, the medium coffer 6-1/2" and the deep coffer 7-1/2" of drop to the face of the grid or top of the wall angle. Allow an additional 1-1/2 inches down on the wall for the wall angle. If the ceiling is drywalled, add 1-1/2 inches more.

12) If you are using a stained wood ceiling, think about which way you would like to run the grain of the wood on the back of the coffers. If the room is narrow, run the grain parallel to the width to make the room feel wider. The most popular method is to run the grain perpendicular to the wall with the entrance door. In other words, the grain should flow away from you if you are standing in the doorway. However it is really a matter of personal preference.

13) If you are also using the Panel Trim Full Wall System or some other wall covering, be sure to account for the amount of space it will take off your ceiling dimensions.

14) As for acoustics, we have found that the irregular surface of the WOOD GRID Coffered Ceiling is ideal for areas such as home theatres. For greater soundproofing, homosote board can be used on the back of the coffer rather than veneered plywood.