

# TERRAMAI

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## PANELING INSTALLATION GUIDELINES FOR WALLS AND CEILINGS

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# INTRODUCTION

TerraMai Paneling is perfect way to add rich color and fantastic texture to ceilings and walls. Installation is fast and easy. Multiple patterns, species, and finishes are available to offer exciting new looks to enhance any space. Customization is also available. Please contact your local TerraMai sales representative for more information.

## MATERIAL INSPECTION & STORAGE

TerraMai Paneling planks are shipped horizontally on a pallet or in a crate. Inspect all planks for visible manufacturing defects, shipping damage or otherwise unsatisfactory appearance. **Do not install damaged or otherwise unsatisfactory material. Installing a plank constitutes acceptance of the plank.** If any damaged or otherwise unsatisfactory planks are found after completing the inspection, immediately contact TerraMai customer service at [customerservice@TerraMai.com](mailto:customerservice@TerraMai.com).

The planks should be stored on the pallet or in the crate in a clean, dry, temperature- and humidity-controlled environment from 55°F (12°C) to 85°F (29°C) and 35% to 55% RH until ready for installation. Never store the planks outside or expose to water or excessive moisture. Never store planks leaning against a wall as warping will occur.

## ACCLIMATION

Paneling may only be installed in spaces with a temperature- and humidity-controlled environment from 55°F (12°C) to 85°F (29°C) and 35% to 55% RH. The planks must be acclimated to site conditions prior to installation. Please follow all directions in the Flooring & Paneling Acclimation Guidelines at [TerraMai.com/acclimation](https://TerraMai.com/acclimation).

## INSTALLATION SUBSTRATES

The surface where the planks will be installed must be clean, flat, dry, and structurally sound. Follow all installation requirements to comply with ceiling or wall system manufacturer requirements and local building code. Proper surface preparation is key to successful installations. Walls must be flat to within 3/16" in 10' (5mm in 3m), and must be free of voids, loose materials, projecting fasteners or other materials, and any substances that may prevent adhesive bond. It is recommended to use 1/2" or thicker plywood sheathing, but it is not required for wall installations. Never install TerraMai Paneling on surfaces that experience water exposure, excessive moisture conditions, or excessive heat. Protect planks from HVAC ducts, otherwise checking, cracking, warping, or cupping may occur.

## PANELING CUTTING & FABRICATION

When cutting planks to size, use a sharp, fine cut carbide blade, minimum 60-tooth, or better. It is recommended to use removable 3M #2080 Blue tape along all cut lines on wood to help prevent tear-out or finish chipping. For cutouts in the paneling for outlets, switches, lighting, etc., the use of a spiral saw is recommended.

Always properly support the planks and wear all appropriate protective equipment, including safety glasses, ear plugs, and approved dust masks.

# WALL INSTALLATION METHODS

Prior to installing planks in wall applications, it is critical to consult with a local engineer to ensure code compliance, especially when planks are to be installed in high areas. It is up to the installer to choose the most suitable method of installation for the planks for the application. Planks may be oriented vertically, horizontally, or at specified angle(s).

Place a chalk line or laser level at the desired base line for the bottom row (or bottom end if installing vertically or at an angle), leaving at least ½” for expansion of the wood with any changes in temperature, humidity and moisture content of the wood. Place a vertical chalk line or laser level perpendicular to the base line on either end of the wall(s) where paneling will be installed, again leaving at least ½” for expansion of the wood.

Use a quality, moisture-curing construction or grab adhesive, such as Bostik’s Climb or Grip-N-Grab. Ensure selected adhesive is appropriate for the application and follow all adhesive manufacturer installation requirements and guidelines. Gun a ¼” minimum bead of adhesive onto the back of the wall plank in an “S” pattern within 1” (2.5cm) of long edges and repeating every 6-8” (15-20cm). Align the bottom edge of the groove side of the paneling plank with the base chalk line or laser level (or vertical line if installing vertically), and press wall plank firmly into place. Secure the row with 18 gauge or thicker brad nails, cleats, or staples at a 45° angle through the base of the tongue. Fasteners must penetrate at least 1.25” (32mm) into the substrate and must be located within 2-3” (50-76mm) of the plank ends and every 6-8” (15-20cm) in between.

Continue installing planks along the base line and cut the final piece flush with the vertical chalk line or laser level (or top line if installed vertically). If permitted by the adhesive manufacturer, subsequent rows of planks may not require nails, but it is still recommended that every 24” (610mm) maximum rows be nailed to prevent shifting prior to the glue curing.

# CEILING INSTALLATION METHODS *GUIDELINES ONLY*

It is critical to consult with an engineer knowledgeable in local building codes to ensure code compliance and a safe installation for local site conditions. It is up to the installer to choose the most suitable method of installation for the planks for the application. The following are TerraMai’s guidelines for a successful installation, and TerraMai accepts no responsibility or liability in respect to installation.

For ceiling installations, ½” or thicker plywood sheathing must be securely fastened to ceiling structural elements per local building code. OSB should not be used because there may be issues with both nail retention and adhesive bonding.

Place a chalk line or laser level at the desired base line for the first row, leaving at least ½” for expansion of the wood with any changes in temperature, humidity and moisture content of the wood. Place a perpendicular chalk line or laser level to the base line on each end of the ceiling where paneling will be installed, again leaving at least ½” for expansion of the wood.

Use a quality, moisture-curing construction or grab adhesive, such as Bostik’s Climb or Grip-N-Grab. Ensure selected adhesive is appropriate for the application and follow all adhesive manufacturer installation requirements and guidelines. Gun a ¼” minimum bead of adhesive onto the back of the ceiling plank in an “S” pattern within 1” (2.5cm) of long edges and repeating every 6-8” (15-20cm). Align the bottom edge of the groove side of the paneling plank with the base chalk line or laser level and press ceiling plank firmly into place.

Secure the ceiling plank with 18 gauge or thicker brad nails, cleats, or staples at a 45° angle through the base of the tongue. Nails must penetrate at least 1.25" (32mm) into the substrate and must be located within 2-3" (50-76mm) of the plank ends and every 6-8" (15-20cm) in between. All planks in all rows must be glued and nailed in this manner. Continue installing planks along the base line and cut the final piece flush with the perpendicular chalk lines or laser levels. Install subsequent rows in the same manner, trimming the planks in the final row allowing at least ½" expansion gap.

## **FINISHING EDGES & CORNERS**

If desired, edges of the installation may be finished with trim pieces. While it is up to the specifier and/or installer to determine the method to trim the installation, there are a couple of common options. Trim may be ordered to specification from TerraMai. Other options are to trim using Schluter profiles (visit [Schluter.com](https://www.schluter.com) for more detail), or various profiles from Frye Reglet (visit [FryeReglet.com](https://www.fryereglet.com) for more detail).

For wrapping planks around internal or external corners, there are 2 common methods. For a seamless transition, the planks may be miter cut at 45° and installed without trim. Otherwise, trim pieces may be used.