

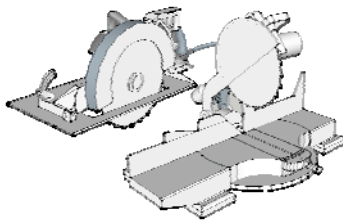


Installation Instructions

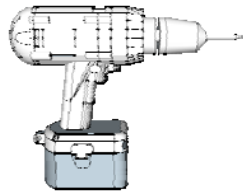
EasyROCK Canada's stone panels and accessories are designed for quick and easy installation. To ensure proper installation and quality appearance, the following instructions must be carefully followed. Always study and follow local Building Codes when applying EasyROCK panels. If architectural drawings are provided, always follow their product installation procedures closely.

Note: Installation Instructions must be closely followed to ensure warranty performance. You can register your purchase online for future reference at www.easyrockcanada.com. We also love feedback so let us know how everything went!

Recommended Tools



Mitre or Circular Saw



Screw Gun

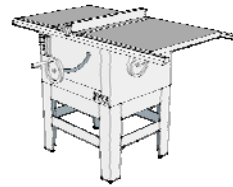
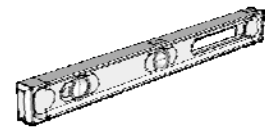


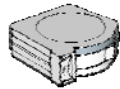
Table Saw



Four foot level



Caulking Gun



Tape Measure



Pencil



Grout Sponge



2.5 gallon bucket

Other tools you may require:

- 3" Decking Screws (3.5" for accessories)
- Chalk Line
- Utility Knife
- Drywall Rasp
- Hammer Drill
- Vapour Barrier
- Work Bench
- Drywall Saw

Safety Gear

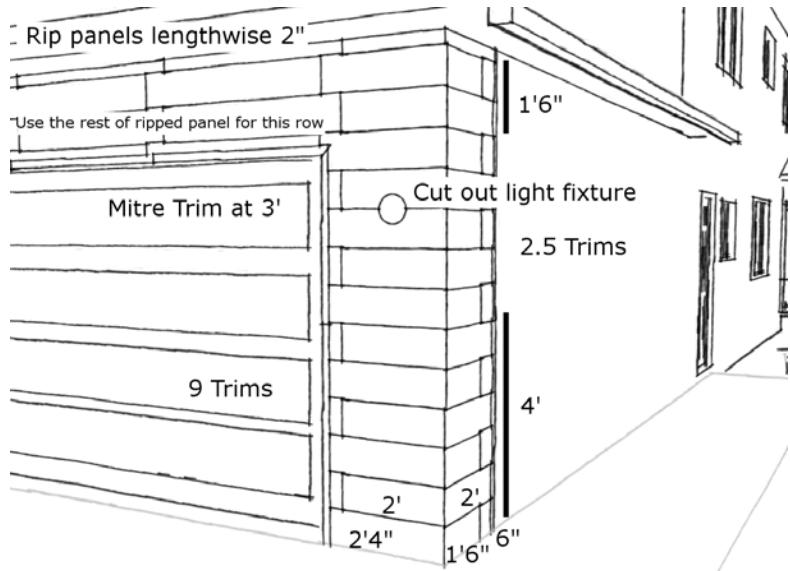
The following safety gear should always be used when working with the products: Safety Glasses, Earplugs (when operating power tools), Dust Mask (when cutting in enclosed areas).

Handling the Products

EasyROCK Canada products are made of polyurethane so they should not be stored on an angle in direct sunlight or they may be susceptible to warping. Keeping the panels flat or in the shipping box is best until installation. Exposed polyurethane will yellow in the sun, so cover any exposed areas with EasyROCK Caulk. Although the panels are highly impact resistant they should be handled carefully, as certain impact can cause severe damage.



Planning your Project



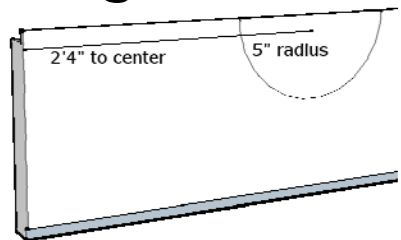
It is always good to plan ahead! Draw out the area you are installing the EasyROCK panels on a piece of paper and work out how you plan on organizing them. This will minimize surprises during installation and will greatly speed up the whole job (less 'problem solving' in the field). Try to be as exact as possible, but do not worry about being an artist as this exercise is meant to be a rough guideline.

This example shows that to apply the panels to the top of the garage

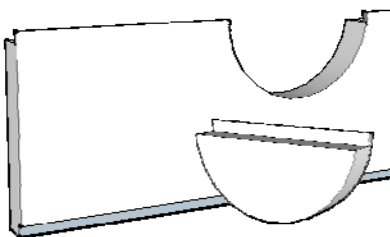
door, we need to rip the top of a panel to be 2" wide. We also discover that the topmost row is only 2" at the bottom, so we can actually use the waste from the first cut on the topmost row! We also find out that the light fixture will be cut into the middle of two panels.

Measuring and Marking

To get a tight and exact fit, measuring is the key. Carefully measure any cut-outs that will be required. Using a measuring tape, mark the backside with a pencil or marker and then use a straight edge to mark a cutting line.



Cutting



Always wear safety glasses and a dust mask when cutting. The panels are easiest cut from the flat backside where a cutting line can be followed. Mitred cuts can be achieved with the same procedure. For ripping panels (cutting panels lengthwise) a table saw may be most effective. Chop saws can also be used for cutting trim and other profiled products. To cut outlet and fixture holes, make accurate markings on the backside of the panel, then use a hole saw to cut the opening—just as you would with other siding materials.

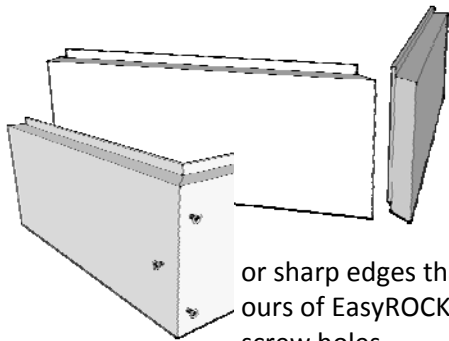
For close trimming, a drywall rasp can be used to reduce the edge. Also, a utility knife or drywall saw can be helpful in making small or detailed cuts.



Start with your Corners

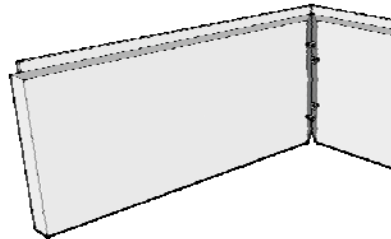
There are a variety of methods of dealing with the corners of your project. If you are handy with a mitre saw, you can form your own inside and outside corners. Otherwise, you can quickly and easily build up your corners with our EZ Corners. Here's how.

Mitring Outside and Inside Corners



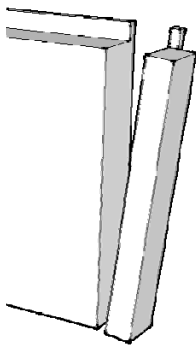
To form an **outside corner**, cut a 45degree angle into the exact spot where the corner will be. Use the back of the panel, if necessary, to mark where this should be. The best practice is to cut right through a stone, not through a "Grout-line", as this will allow that stone to be carried over to the other side. Suck the corner together tightly by applying screws from one face directly into the opposing panel. Use a utility knife and carve any harsh or sharp edges that may have occurred from cutting. Finally, apply the proper colours of EasyROCK Caulking along the edges of the corner and to cover up the screw holes.

With an **inside corner**, cut a ~50degree angle on the exact spot where the corner will form. This allows a gap which you should fill in with EasyROCK Caulk. Fasten the corner together with several screws on each face into the wall.

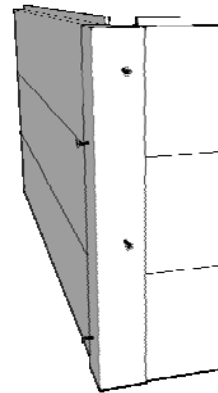


TIP: Use backing rod to fill in deep cavities, and then colour the surface with the EasyROCK Caulking.

Applying EZ Corners



Start by evening out the edge of the panels that are going to join at the corner. This way you can butt the panels up close to the corner piece. It is recommended that you cover up the edges of the panel with some EasyROCK Caulk to avoid showing the polyurethane on the cut. Fasten the EZ Corner to the wall first, by applying two screws into each face of the corner (always aim for the "Grout-lines"). After the corners are all fastened up the edge, you can start your wall, row by row. Try to fit the panels as close to the corner as possible.



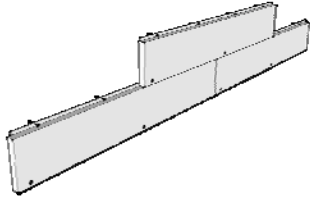
Remember to stagger your panels so that no straight seams are formed on the wall itself.

Each corner is stacked one on top of the other. At the top of the corner, cut the last EZ Corner to the right size. For example, if the corner is 9' high, you will have 10' worth of corners (since they are each 2' long). Simply cut 1' off the top EZ Corner and apply EasyROCK Caulking on the polyurethane to finish.

Note: At this time, we do not produce an EZ Inside Corner, you will have to either mitre a panel, or have the rows butt up against each other.



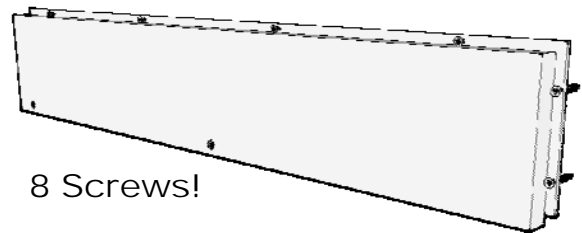
Fastening the Panels



Always stagger the panels so that a straight seam is never formed. The amount of staggering may vary depending on the size of the wall you are covering. Typically, 6" to 2' of staggering is recommended. Plan ahead and always remember to account for any corners your project may have in advance. Install from bottom to top. Take note of the panel numbers on the top lap of each panel and install the panels in sequence.

Soft Substrate

To install the panels into wood, or other soft substrates, use 2.5" non-corrosive screws (such as decking screws). You want to penetrate at least 1" into the substrate. Countersink the screw about 1/8" into the panel and then cover it with EasyROCK Caulking. A full panel will require eight screws to be securely fastened. Apply four at the top lap, two on the side lap, and two into the bottom left and bottom middle of the panel. Always try to aim for a grout-line so that you can hide the caulking. Most exterior wood applications will require a vapour barrier, if so be sure to apply this first. Adhesive can be used but is generally not recommended for wood substrates.



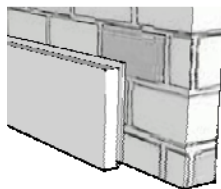
8 Screws!

Hard Substrate

There are several ways to apply the panels to existing masonry, concrete, or other hard surfaces.

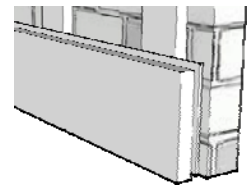
Adhesive

All surface areas must be clean, dry and free of oily and loose materials. All efforts should be taken to ensure uneven or loose materials are removed. It may be necessary to use a solvent such as denatured alcohol for cleaning the surface to insure proper adhesion. Use PL300, PLUltimate, or CHEMTRON VersaBOND Structural Adhesive. Apply the adhesive to the backside of the panels. Apply the adhesive with a 3/8" bead in a vertical line every 16" along the full surface of the panel (do not apply the adhesive horizontally). For corners, apply a vertical line to the inside and outside edge. All Trim and profiled parts have a solid edge on the backside for applying adhesive.



Strapping

Alternatively, you may apply strapping to the surface. Before applying the boards, ensure uneven or loose materials are removed. Using a hammer drill and concrete screws, or adhesive, apply the boards no more than 16" apart. Now you can use non-corrosive decking screws to apply the product into the strapping. As above, remember to secure the bottom left and bottom middle of the panel with a screw (aim inside the grout-lines).



Sometimes it will be better to apply plywood or OSB sheets to the masonry first. This way you can apply housewrap and you wont have to aim for the studs.

Direct You may also consider directly applying the panels with a hammer drill and concrete screws. If you combine this approach with adhesive, less drilling may be required.



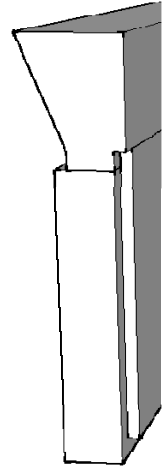
Fastening the Accessories

Ledgers

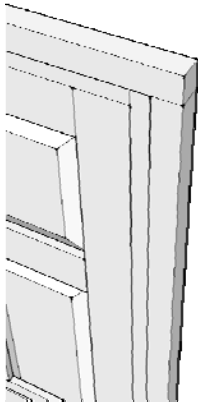
Ledgers are an ideal way of separating your new EasyROCK from whatever siding may be above it. Ledgers have a unique lip on the bottom of the piece that sits along the top shiplap of a panel. If a panel was ripped lengthwise and no longer has a top shiplap, then sit the Ledger as close to the top as possible.

To apply, use a 3.5" non-corrosive screw (decking screw) every 12-16" through the face of the Ledger. Countersink each screw then hide the screw-hole with EasyROCK Caulk.

The Ledger is angled so that rain will run off it and away from the panels, but sometimes you may want to apply regular flashing to the top of the Ledger as well.



Trims



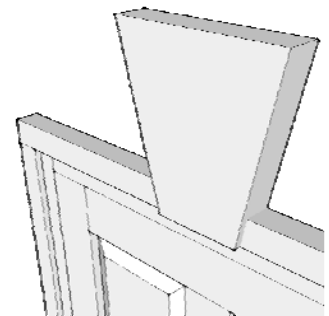
Trims are typically used to frame around windows and doors, but many other applications are certainly possible. You can either have the trims butt up against each other at the joint, or mitre a 45degree cut and join them together.

To apply, use a 3.5" non-corrosive screw (decking screw) every 12-16" through the face of the Ledger. Countersink each screw then hide the screw-hole with EasyROCK Caulk.

Keystones

Keystones are a great touch on top of windows or doors or anywhere else that needs an accent. Measure out exactly where you want to place the keystone and apply it prior to any panels or other accessories. This is because you will have to cut the panels to match the angle of the keystone that is already in place.

To apply, use two 3.5" screws at the top and bottom of the keystone. Countersink each screw then hide the screw-hole with EasyROCK Caulk.





Proper Caulking Technique

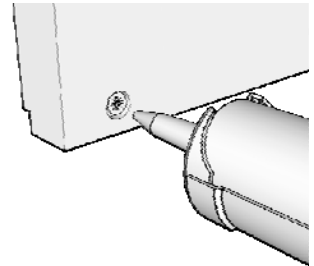
Only EasyROCK Caulk should be used for caulking applications. Make sure the area is clean prior to caulking.

Colour Mixing

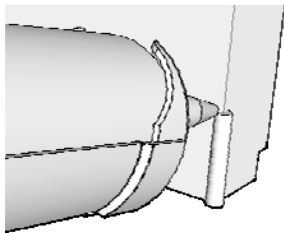
Depending on the colour of your panels, you will need to experiment with different mixtures of EasyROCK Caulk colours before finding the perfect tone for each stone. Find a disposable, yet sturdy, surface to use as a mixing board (you can even rip off part of the box), squeeze out dabs of each colour of grout, then start mixing the colours in the center. Be careful when mixing the white, as it is very potent, use only a bit at a time to brighten up the tone.

Covering Screw Holes

Now that you have mixed the right colours together, you can apply the EasyROCK Caulk to all visible screw holes. Simply fill the entire hole with the caulking and feather it out with your finger or a brush, this way you won't see dabs or splotches on the panel. **Always avoid screwing directly through a stone** (if possible) as this will require more touch up work to hide the screw. If the screw was applied on a narrow grout-line, use a small painter's brush to apply the caulking.



Covering Cut Edges



If you made a cut to a panel, you will need to cover the exposed polyurethane with EasyROCK Caulk. After you get the right colour mix, apply the caulking along the edge of the panel before you install it to the wall. Cover as much of the edge as you think will possibly be visible. If any caulking seeps out after installing, feather it outwards so it blends in with the panel.

Other Considerations

- Consider using a moist grout sponge (they are more efficient than a regular sponge) to clean the excess caulking from the panels. Clean the sponge frequently in a bucket of water.
- Make sure the weather is good! While the panels can install in any weather, EasyROCK Caulking requires the temperature to be at least +5C and requires 4 hours to cure. We recommend at least 24 hours without rain just to be safe.
- Expansion and contraction occurs by extreme swings in temperature, causing the EasyROCK Caulk to break at joints. Check periodically and reapply if necessary.
- If minor damage occurs on the panel, you can cover up any marks by mixing and applying EasyROCK Caulk to the affected area.



Step by Step

Please review the previous pages before starting your job, as they will explain in more detail how to achieve what is described in this step by step process.

- 1** The wall should be measured and laid out. The panels should be organized by number into piles.
- 2** Chalk a level line before installing the first row. You may want to chalk a line every 8" or 12" to follow all the way up your project.
- 3** Place and fasten the corners.
- 4** Measure the distance left between the last panel and the wall.
- 5** Pay attention to the pattern number indicated on the top lap of each panel. Ensure that you are not placing the same pattern next to or above on another. For example, on the second row, start with panel three, since panel one is already right below it.
- 6** Measure and cut the panel the correct length, then place the panel in its designated position to check the fit. Remember to use the back of the panel to mark any required cuts. Use extreme caution when cutting panels into shape.
- 7** If there is any exposed polyurethane due to cutting, cover this up before installing. If the fit is right, make sure the panels is level and fasten the panel to the wall. Remember to secure the bottom left and bottom middle of the panel to the wall either with screws or adhesive (see "Fastening the Panels" for more on this).
- 8** Apply EasyROCK Caulking to hide any screw-holes or cuts. You can save EasyROCK Caulking by filling any larger cavities with backer rod first. (This step can be done one panel at a time, or you may want to wait till the job is finished then touch it up to complete. If the weather is cold or wet, you should save the touch up for a warm and sunny day.)
- 9** Stagger the next row by cutting a full panel between 6"-24" (depending on the size of the wall being covered). Repeat this every other row. (Be especially careful with the Sandstone panel that each alternating row lines up exactly the same as the rows below it.)

Repeat steps 3 to 9 until finished!



Maintenance

Most loose materials such as dirt and scum can be washed off the product surface with a garden hose. Mild, non-abrasive household cleaners or soap and water can be used with a brush to clean stubborn particles, rust and other stains.

Small scars and gouges in the surface of the panels can be easily repaired using EasyROCK Caulk. Simply apply a small amount to the effected area and work it until achieving a blended appearance.

Cutting out the damaged area can repair severely damaged areas. Then you may replace the damaged piece with a similar piece.

Due to the Hardcoat, no UV Guard application or reapplication is necessary.

Thank you!

We hope you enjoy your EasyROCK as much as we enjoyed making it for you! Please let us know any thoughts you had about the product or the installation process by giving us feedback on our website. You may also register your product online so that we have a record of your purchase.

Only thing left to do now is show off, and tell your friends!

Thank you for your purchase.