

An Introduction to home elegance.

The ELEGANT TRAY CEILING SYSTEM (ETCS) is designed to give elegance to the rooms in your home at an affordable price. It has been researched, tested and proven to be one of the best home improvement values in the market. The tray ceiling panel is available in a 12" (144") section. It is made of foam PVC and the length, fit and size can be customized just as traditional framing and drywall ceilings, without the installation mess and time involved and at a fraction of the cost.

Tools and materials necessary for installation.

- Electric trim finishing saw, circular table saw or hand held finishing saw.
- Putty knife blade for seam finishing.
- 2 1/2" drywall screws for securing the furring strips to the walls and ceiling.
- Drill and 1/4" bit.
- Regular hammer or pneumatic finishing nailer.
- Small nail punch to countersink the nail heads.
- Straight edge ruler for depth & width measuring and marking.
- Chalk line.
- 25' metal measuring tape.
- Acrylic adhesive and 1 1/2" finishing nails for installation of the panels and molding (not included) with a regular hammer.
- 1" X 2" wood furring strips to attach to the walls and ceiling so that the panels can be held in place.
- Elastomeric Custom Patch smooth for seaming plus siding and trim acrylic urethane for filling panel wall and ceiling gaps.
- Carpenters pencil.
- Small saber saw for creating electrical wiring holes at the ends of the panels.
- Safety Glasses

Products that can help give the project seams a smooth finish.

- Elastomeric Custom Patch by Custom Building Products. *This product expands and contracts while holding a smooth seam and should not be sanded.*
- High Performance Spackling Paste. *May require sanding.*
- Acrylic paintable caulk.

Recommendations for accomodating various ceiling heights.

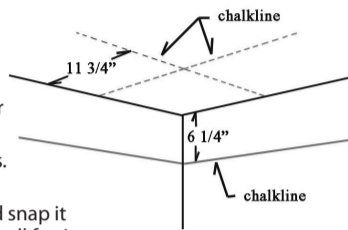
- 7 1/2' ceilings: Trim the "L" panels from 6 1/2" X 12" to 4 1/4" X 9". This size is optimal for inclusion of recessed lighting fixtures and audio system speakers. The addition of architectural molding (not included) on the 6 1/2" vertical side of the panel will augment the visual appeal of the room and give the impression of a higher ceiling.
- 8' ceilings: Install the 6 1/2" X 12" "L" panels, depth and width as is. Average-to-larger architectural molding applications on the 6 1/2" vertical surface at the ceiling provide a strong visual anchor, while smaller sized architectural moldings placed at the wall against the 12" horizontal surface complement and accent the beauty of the room.
- 9'+ ceilings: Use the 6 1/2" X 12" "L" panels, depth and width as is. Architectural molding applications of your choice can be placed on the 6 1/2" vertical side and in any size on the 12" horizontal side against the wall for a dramatic look, particularly when accented with recessed lighting.

Each package contains one L-panel, part number ECL 144 (6 1/2" deep X 12" wide X 144" long)

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. MEASURING AND MARKING ROOM WALLS.

- Wall #1 furring strip locations should be measured and marked on the wall exactly 6 1/4" from the ceiling. Measure and mark for the furring strips on the wall at the corners of the room.
- Secure a nail at each room corner of the marked wall positions.
- Attach the end of a chalk line from one nail at 6 1/4" mark and stretch it to the one at the opposite end, pull the line tight and snap it against the wall for a straight sight line identifying where the wall furring strip should be affixed. USE THIS SAME PROCEDURE FOR SIGHT MARKING ALL 4 WALLS.



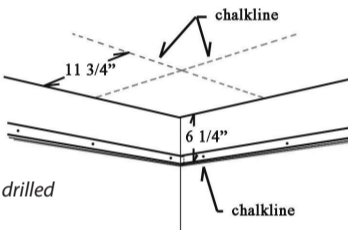
• MITERING IS ONLY NECESSARY FOR OUTSIDE CORNERS AND ROOM CORNERS THAT VARY FROM 90 DEGREES.

2. MEASURING AND MARKING ROOM CEILINGS.

- Ceiling furring strip locations should be measured and marked on the ceiling exactly 11 3/4" out from the walls. Measure and mark from the corners of the room.
- Secure a nail at each of the marked room corner ceiling positions.
- Attach the end of the chalk line from one nail at each ceiling mark to the other. Pull the chalk line tight and snap it against the ceiling for a straight sight line identifying where the ceiling furring strip should be affixed. USE THIS SAME PROCEDURE TO SIGHT MARK ALL 4 CEILING POSITIONS.

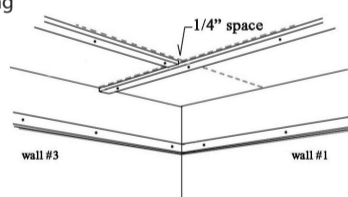
3. WALL MEASUREMENT: MARKING, CUTTING AND INSTALLING THE FURRING STRIPS FOR LONGEST WALLS #1 AND #2.

- Place the tape measure at wall #1 corner chalk line, and extend it along the chalk line to the opposite end of the wall. Note the measurement, then extend the tape measure along a furring strip, mark the measure, and cut it for wall #1.
- When installing the furring strip, place the bottom edge on the chalk line and attach it to the wall about every 10" to 12" with drywall screws or nails. *TIP: It will be easier to attach furring strips with drywall screws if 1/8" screw holes are drilled every 10" to 12" before installation.*
- Repeat this process for installing longest wall #2 directly across from wall #1.



4. WALL MEASUREMENT: MARKING, CUTTING AND INSTALLING THE FURRING STRIPS FOR SHORTEST WALLS #3 AND #4.

- Place the tape measure at the edge of the installed 1 X 2 furring strip on wall #1 and extend the tape measure along the chalk line of wall #3 to the edge of the furring strip on wall #2. This will give you the measurement for the furring strip for wall #3. Note the measure, then extend the tape measure along a lose furring strip, mark the measure and cut it for wall #3.
- When installing the furring strip, place the bottom edge evenly along the length of the chalk line and attach about every 10" to 12" with drywall screws or nails.
- Repeat this process for installing shortest wall #4 directly across from wall #3.

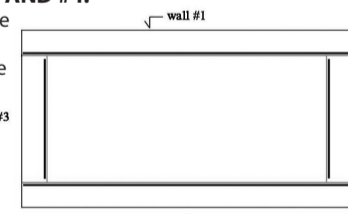


5. CEILING MEASUREMENTS: MARKING, CUTTING AND INSTALLING THE FURRING STRIPS FOR THE CEILING PARALLEL TO WALLS #1 AND #2.

- Place the end of the tape measure at the 11 3/4" ceiling chalk line mark, adjust to wall #1. Extend the tape to the opposite end of the chalk line. Note the measure, mark it on a lose furring strip and cut to the measure.
- When installing the furring strip, place the broad side against the wall, bottom edge evenly along the length of the ceiling chalk line, wall-to-wall and attach about every 10" to 12" with drywall screws or nails.
- Repeat this process for installing the ceiling furring strip adjacent to wall #2.

6. CEILING MEASUREMENT: MARKING, CUTTING AND INSTALLING THE FURRING STRIPS FOR THE CEILING PARALLEL TO SHORTEST WALLS #3 AND #4.

- Measure for wall #3 furring strip by placing one end of the tape measure at the ceiling chalk line beginning at the ceiling furring strip that is parallel to wall #1. Extend the tape measure along the chalk line to the ceiling furring strip parallel to wall #2. Note the measurement.

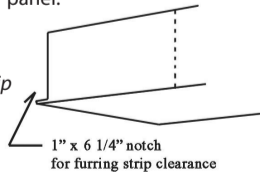


IMPORTANT: Whatever your initial measurement is, subtract 1/2" from it for a final measurement. The subtracted length will allow for a 1/4" or greater space at either end of the furring strip, so that the ceiling panels of wall #1 and #2 can be installed flush against the ceiling. Note the final measurement, extend the tape measure across a furring strip, mark the length and cut to measure.

- When installing this furring strip, place the bottom edge of the strip on the edge of the chalk line. Center it between the ceiling furring strips parallel to walls #1 and #2 allowing a space of 1/4" or greater at each end. Make sure all alignments are even, then attach to the ceiling about every 10" to 12" with drywall screws or nails.
- Repeat this process to install the ceiling furring strip parallel to wall #4.

7. "L" PANEL MEASUREMENT: MARK AND CUT PANELS FOR WALLS #1 AND #2.

- Measure wall #1 by placing the measuring tape along the furring strip of wall #1 and noting the measurement from wall-to-wall. Note the length then mark off on the "L" panel.
- Draw a straight line at the mark on the outside panel. Cut the panel at the measured mark.



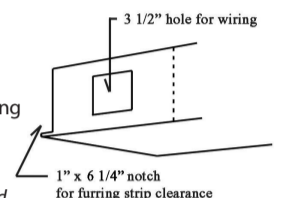
IMPORTANT: Before installing the panel, place it over the Wall #1 furring strip and push the panel to the far left, snug against the furring strip on wall #3. You will find the panel end must be notched so that it can rest flush against the wall. Mark the area to be notched, measure in 1" from the panel edge, mark it on the inner surface of the 6 1/2" side, where it meets the 12" part of the panel. Draw a perpendicular line to the top of the 6 1/2" side. Cut along the marked lines to create a full 1" X 6 1/4" notch. To complete the installation of wall #1, you will have to notch the opposite end of the panel or an additional panel length, needed to cover the entire wall. Whether a single or added panel, place the end of the panel to the far right, snug against the furring strip on wall #4 and mark the area and notch that end as you did the first.

- The panel(s) for wall #2 will require the same end notch for it/them to be installed flush against walls #3 & #4 at opposite ends of the room.

DO NOT INSTALL THE PANELS UNTIL THEY ARE PREPARED FOR SYSTEM WIRING (#8)

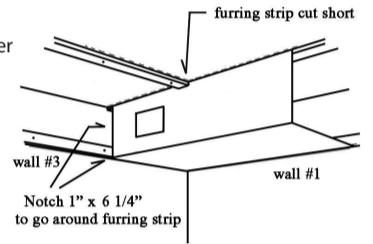
8. PREPARING THE PANEL FOR WIRING.

- Before installing the wall panels for walls #1 and #2, measure in 6" from the vertical panel ends that are to be placed against walls #3 and #4 and center a mark on the tray.
- Using a hole saw or saber saw, cut a 3 1/2" diameter or 3 1/2" square opening centered on the mark you just put on the vertical panel side for walls #1 and #2. This will allow you to run wiring throughout the entire tray ceiling system after the panels are installed. *TIP: It will be necessary to first drill 1/4" + holes at corners when creating a square opening followed by cutting the opening to size using a saber saw.*
- Prepare a single live electrical ceiling wire outlet within 6" of the wall, so that all planned wiring and lighting can be easily attached and hidden in the tray.



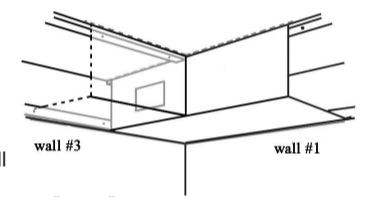
9. INSTALLING THE "L" PANELS FOR WALLS #1 AND #2

- The wall #1 "L" panel can now be installed. Place the panel over the furring strips, push it flush against the walls and begin nailing it to the furring strips using 1 1/2" finishing nails. After securing the panel, take a nail punch and countersink the nail heads, so that the holes can be spackled or caulked.
- Repeat the same procedure for the installation of the "L" panels on wall #2. (DO NOT install walls #3 and #4 until #1 and #2 are completely installed and you have positioned the single electrical/audio wires for system attachment within the panels.)



10. INSTALL THE "L" PANEL FOR WALLS #3 AND #4.

- Measure wall #3 by placing the measuring tape along the furring strip and noting the measurement from the edge of the tray panel on wall #1 to the edge of the tray panel on wall #2. Mark the measurement on the outside of an "L" panel.
- Using a straight edge, draw a straight line at the mark on the outside panel. Cut the panel at the measured mark and place it over the furring strips. If it is a single panel that covers the full length of the wall, fit it snugly between tray panels #1 and #2 and secure in place by nailing the panel to the furring strip every 10" to 12". If it is a partial panel, slide it to the left fitting it snugly against the installed panel and secure it to the furring strip.
- Measure the remaining opening, mark a panel, cut to measure and fit it over the furring strip, then align it with the first panel, fitting it snugly between the first panel and the end of the panel on wall #2. Nail it to the furring strips. After securing the panels, use a nail punch to countersink all nail heads so that the nail holes can be spackled or caulked over later.
- Repeat this same procedure for the installation of the "L" panel on wall #4.



11. INSTALLING THE ARCHITECTURAL MOLDING.

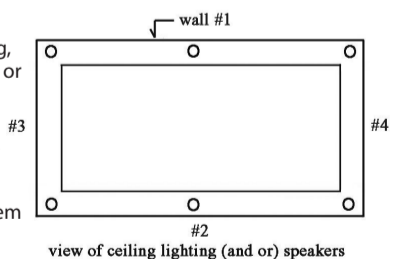
- Decorative architectural molding accents the (ETCS) creating an even more stylish elegance to the room. Once the System is installed, your choice of architectural molding can be applied to its surfaces. FINISHED AND LEFT ON ITS OWN, THE SYSTEM IS AN ATTRACTIVE CONTEMPORARY ROOM MAKEOVER.
- The 6 1/2" vertical side of the tray and the 12" horizontal side allow for the use of the largest and best architectural molding designs available. *TIP: Some manufacturers offer architectural molding that doesn't require mitering, but if your choice requires mitering, remember to measure, mark and miter cut from the back side of the molding for a good fit.*
- Place the molding on the ceiling and 6 1/2" face or on the wall and the 12" face when ready to install.
- Use acrylic adhesive and 1 1/2" brads to attach the molding to the surfaces. Use a nail punch to countersink the nail heads. Hide the holes with spackling or caulk.

12. CAULKING AND SPACKLING THE SEAMS AND HOLES.

- If architectural molding is not to be installed when all the "L" panels are in place, caulk the panel edge where the tray fits against the wall and ceiling. When architectural molding has been installed, merely lay down a light bead of caulk where the molding meets the wall or ceiling.
- After all wall and ceiling caulking and nail hole filling is done, caulk and fill the seams. Smooth and match the surface of the tray. A putty knife is usually a good tool for this job. *TIP: If you use Elastomeric Custom Patch for the initial tray seaming apply carefully to benefit from its no sanding characteristic. If you are unable to hide the seam perfectly just feather the uneven spots and edges with spackling compound after the Elastomeric has completely dried. Allow the spackling to dry and use medium sandpaper on a wooden block and gently sand to a smooth and visibly seamless surface.*
- Next caulk or patch the molding seams as you did the tray seams.
- Finally, carefully fill in all the nail holes you may have missed with spackling or paintable caulk. Sand them smooth if necessary.

ELECTRICAL AND AUDIO APPLICATION

- After the base tray is completely up on all walls and the ceiling, determine where you would like to position recessed lighting or audio speakers. Mark the position with tape.
- Follow the directions in the recessed lighting package or audio speaker package and cut in the holes so that light fixtures or speakers can be positioned exactly where you would like them to be. (Usually a hole saw or saber saw is required.) This is when the wiring should be put in place in the tray system and connected to a single outlet that should be prepared in advance (#8) of the tray ceiling installation.



PAINTING THE ELEGANT TRAY CEILING SYSTEM.

- It is not necessary to prime the new tray ceiling as long as acrylic paint is used. It will cover easily and give the entire project a seamless appearance.
- Small rollers and 3 inch brushes will help you do an excellent job.

LIGHTING AND AUDIO FIXTURE INSTALLATION.

- After painting is complete and dry, the electrical fixtures can be installed.
- MAKE SURE THE ELECTRICITY IS TURNED OFF FOR THAT ROOM BEFORE YOU CONNECT THE FIXTURES.
- Place and attach the fixtures in there assigned places i.e. recessed lights, speakers or other.

Elegant™
TRAY CEILING SYSTEM

The beautiful affordable, one day tray.

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