



Installation Guide

PVC Ceiling Cladding

Application	Internal ceilings in domestic and commercial settings, including wet rooms and bathrooms
Fixing Method	Battens with staples or screws, or adhesive direct to a sound, flat ceiling
Batten Centres	Maximum 400 mm, perpendicular to the panel direction
Expansion Gap	5 mm minimum at all perimeter edges and fixtures
Acclimatisation	Minimum 24 hours flat in the installation room

1. Before You Start

Read this guide in full before beginning. Installation must follow this guide for the product warranty to remain valid. If in doubt at any stage, contact GretaGrove for advice before proceeding.

- Check all panels on delivery. Do not install damaged or defective panels. Claims for visible defects cannot be accepted once a panel has been installed.
- Store panels flat, indoors, fully supported along their length, and away from heat sources and direct sunlight.
- Allow panels to acclimatise in the installation room for a minimum of 24 hours before fitting.
- Panels are for internal use only. The ambient temperature during and after installation should remain within the ideal range.
- Where panels from more than one carton are used in the same room, check batch numbers and dry lay a selection to confirm colour consistency before installation.

2. Tools and Materials

- Tape measure, pencil, and spirit level or laser level
- Fine tooth handsaw, or a circular saw or jigsaw with a fine tooth blade
- Sharp trimming knife for scoring and detail cuts
- Staple gun with stainless steel staples, or drill with corrosion resistant screws
- Treated timber battens (typically 25 mm x 50 mm) if battening out
- A solvent free panel adhesive suitable for PVC, such as Froggit Adhesives, if bonding direct
- Matching GretaGrove trims
- Silicone sealant, drill and hole saw for light fittings, safety glasses, and suitable access equipment

3. Preparing the Ceiling

1. Check the existing ceiling. It must be structurally sound and dry. Remove any loose material, flaking paint, or failed plaster.
2. Decide the fixing method. Batten out where the ceiling is uneven, where there is no continuous solid surface, or where services run above. Bond direct with adhesive only where the surface is flat, clean, dry, dust free, and able to take adhesive.
3. If battening, fix treated timber battens at maximum 400 mm centres, running perpendicular to the intended panel direction. Add battens around the full room perimeter and around any light fittings or fixtures. Pack battens as required to achieve a level plane.
4. Plan the layout. Panels normally run along the longest dimension of the room. Measure the ceiling width and calculate the final panel width; if the last panel would be less than 50 mm wide, reduce the width of the first panel to balance the two edges.
5. Isolate the electrical supply before working around any light fittings. Electrical work must be carried out by a qualified electrician.

4. Fitting the Panels

1. Fit the perimeter edge trim or coving to the walls at ceiling level, level and securely fixed, leaving the open channel ready to receive the panel ends.
2. Measure and cut the first panel to length, allowing a 5 mm expansion gap at each end. Cut with the decorative face upwards using a fine tooth blade, supporting the panel close to the cut line.
3. Slide the first panel into the edge trim with the tongue facing out into the room. Check it is straight and square to the room before fixing, as every following panel follows the line of the first.
4. Fix the panel through the exposed fixing flange into each batten using staples or screws. Fix snug but not overtight; the panel must be able to move slightly with temperature changes. If bonding direct, apply adhesive in vertical beads at approximately 300 mm centres across the back of the panel, press firmly into place, then pull away briefly and re press to key the adhesive.
5. Engage the groove of the next panel over the tongue of the fixed panel, ensuring a tight, even joint along the full length, then fix through the flange as before. Continue across the ceiling.
6. Cut around light fittings and other penetrations using a hole saw or jigsaw, allowing a 5 mm clearance gap around the fixture. Cut outs for downlights must comply with the fitting manufacturer's clearance and ventilation requirements. Use fire rated fittings where required.
7. Measure the final panel at both ends, as rooms are rarely square. Cut to width allowing the 5 mm expansion gap, then ease the final panel into the edge trim and clip it onto the previous panel. The last two panels can be sprung into place together where access is tight.
8. Fit any remaining trims and corners. In wet rooms, bathrooms, and other humid rooms, seal the perimeter junction with silicone sealant for a neat, moisture resistant finish.

5. Care and Maintenance

Clean with warm water and a mild detergent using a soft cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners, scouring pads, solvents, or bleach based products at high concentration, as these may damage the panel surface. Remove marks promptly. No painting, sealing, or further decoration is required.

6. Do Not

- Do not install panels externally or in areas of sustained high temperature, such as directly against heat sources or unshielded high output light fittings
- Do not fix rigidly without expansion gaps, and do not seal panels tight to the structure on all sides
- Do not use solvent based adhesives, cleaners, or sealants that are not compatible with PVC
- Do not walk on, stack heavy items on, or drag panels across each other during handling

7. Health and Safety

Wear safety glasses when cutting. Cut in a ventilated area and avoid breathing cutting dust. Use suitable, stable access equipment when working at height and never overreach. Follow the adhesive and sealant manufacturers' instructions at all times. This guide is provided for competent DIY installers and trade professionals; if you are unsure, use a qualified installer.