WALL PREPARATION

17.1

WALL PREPARATION

An essential element of any vertical application is that the Corian<sup>®</sup> sheet must conform to the dimensions and angles of the existing wall.

## Ideal supports for dry vertical adhesion are:

- sound, dry gypsum board
- moisture-resistant plywood
- M.D.F. board
- any sound tile surface
- tile backer board
- sound plaster

## Ideal supports for wet applications are:

- moisture resistant gypsum board
- tile backer board
- marine grade plywood
- clean, sound, dry tile surface

STEPS TO COMPLETION:

1. Check that the supporting surface is dry and sound (no moisture is to seep through the wall).

If moisture is evident, find and cure the cause of dampness.

2. Check that the walls are above grade, that is, not below ground level with dirt banked on the outside (thus allowing moisture to seep through).

If this is evident, Corian<sup>®</sup> is not recommended for use.

- 3. Ensure that water or moisture cannot seep behind vertical face paneling, by leaving a <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" (13 mm) gap between wall material and horizontal surface.
- 4. Remove from surface any dust, grease, loose grit, loose tiles or any other obstructions that may prevent Corian<sup>®</sup> from evenly adhering to it.
- 5. Thoroughly clean the wall with clear, denatured alcohol.

## **Helpful Hints:**

If you are covering old tiles, remove any loose tiles and fill the gaps with broken tile and tile adhesive, then clean the old tiles with clear, denatured alcohol.

## **Caution:**

Do not use Corian<sup>®</sup> in saunas, swimming pools, steam rooms or below grade. Corian<sup>®</sup> material used in these applications will warp or crack, which is covered by neither the Product nor Installed Warranty.

SCRIBING · SEAMING

17.2

Because walls tend to be out of square and not plumb, it may be necessary to scribe the wall panels to the wall.

#### SCRIBING

#### STEPS TO COMPLETION:

- 1. Trial-fit all Corian<sup>®</sup> sheets and mark sheets for any required scribing and cutouts.
- 2. Using an electric plane, a belt sander or a router, cut the Corian<sup>®</sup> sheet back to the line.

#### **Helpful Hints:**

Do not attempt to fit any vertical sheeting until a proper scribing job has been done.

Do not attempt to fit any scribed sheet without the edge smoothed free of sharpness, chips and scratches.

In some installations, scribing can be eliminated by covering the seam with trim pieces. This can be a good effect in some installations and minimizes time on site.

There are two types of seams for vertical applications:

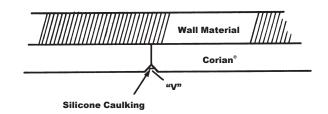
17.3

## Caulked "V" Seam

SEAMING

The caulked "V" seam uses color-matched silicone, and the face edges are chamfered to form a small "V" as illustrated in Figure 17.3.A.

Figure 17.3.A



This seam is easy to fabricate and install; however, it may not be as aesthetically pleasing as a Corian<sup>®</sup> Joint Adhesive butt seam.

A silicone seam must be used at least once in each vertical section in an application where vertical returns create an enclosed shape, such as a three-sided Corian<sup>®</sup> shower recess.

SEAMING

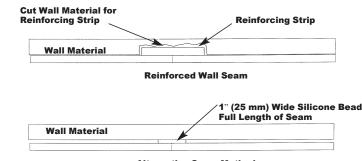
Figure 17.3.B

#### STEPS TO COMPLETION:

- 1. Trial-fit and scribe the sheets to be seamed.
- 2. Using a router, create a  $\frac{1}{16}$  (1.5 mm) chamfered edge of 45 degrees on both faces that are to be seamed.
- 3. Adhere to vertical surface as per instructions, and partially fill the seam with color-matched silicone.
- 4. Clean excess silicone using a rag and denatured alcohol.

## Standard Seamed Corian® Joint Adhesive Seam

The standard seamed Corian<sup>®</sup> Joint Adhesive seam can be used in vertical applications on large faces to create large, one-piece sections.



Alternative Seam Method

To achieve an acceptable vertical seam, note that if using full Corian<sup>®</sup> sheets, it is not possible to seam sheet to sheet directly from the pallet, as the Corian<sup>®</sup> sheet will not be straight enough to achieve an acceptable glue line.

Always size and mirror-cut sheets to be seamed together, and always reinforce the seam with a second piece of Corian<sup>®</sup> with the same thickness as the sheet being used.

STEPS TO COMPLETION:

- 1. Trial-fit and scribe the sheets to be seamed.
- 2. Seam the sheets using Corian<sup>®</sup> Joint Adhesive on the horizontal plane as per standard seaming procedures.
- 3. Allow Corian® Joint Adhesive to set, and clean smooth both sides of the seam.

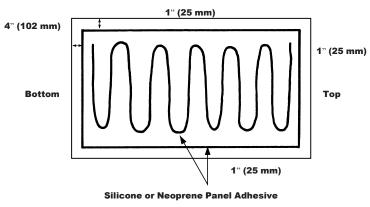
It is important to clean up the rear side of the seam to prevent potential stresses when butted against the wall on the vertical plane.

4. Once seam is complete, glue in place as per instructions.

SEAMING • ADHERING CORIAN® TO SURFACES

1

	Helpful Hints:
	Follow all standard recommendations for seaming Corian <sup>®</sup> .
	Follow all standard recommendations for seaming Cortan <sup>°</sup> .
	When using Corian <sup>®</sup> that is Venaro, be sure to explain to customers before installation the unique pattern and its effect on color-match in the seams.
	Face-applied accessories must allow for expansion and contraction.
	Drill all holes for accessories $1/8$ " (3 mm) larger than the mounting screw to be used; don't overtighten.
	To help with alignment, rout edge of sheets with tongue & groove cutters or a wavy edge seam bit.
	Note:
	Do not use joint adhesive in an inside corner to seam two wall panels together. This limits expansion and contraction and can cause failures.
17.4	Once all the parts are scribed and seamed, the critical stage of glueing the Corian <sup>®</sup> to the wall begins.
ADHERING CORIAN <sup>®</sup> TO SURFACES	Use silicone or neoprene panel adhesive to glue Corian <sup>®</sup> to the wall.
	STEPS TO COMPLETION:
	1. Clean all dust and grease off the walls to be covered.
	2. Lay the Corian <sup>®</sup> parts facedown and remove any dust, grease, pencil marks and labels.
	3. Using silicone or neoprene panel adhesive, make a large "S" pattern on the back of the sheet, and a perimeter bead about 1" (25 mm) from the edges of the sheet and about 4" (100 mm) from the bottom.



4. Within two minutes, place panel in position and press firmly against wall to spread adhesive.

UPDATE 4/03

# Figure 17.4.A

ADHERING CORIAN® TO SURFACES • BASEBOARDS

#### Note:

Some panel adhesives require "venting." Carefully read and follow instructions on tube. Do not write words, names or dates on wall or panel as they may show through.

- 5. Pull back top of panel and apply a dab of hot-melt adhesive to each corner against wall.
- 6. Push the Corian<sup>®</sup> back against the wall and bump into position with shoulder or heel of hand.
- 7. Repeat this procedure for all parts.
- 8. Caulk all seams with color-matched silicone. Use clear, denatured alcohol and a clean, white cloth to remove the excess silicone.

## Helpful Hints:

When working with 1/4" (6 mm) Corian<sup>®</sup>, especially in large sheets as is usual for vertical applications, be especially careful with handling.

Glazers' suction cups are helpful for handling large sheets.

## 17.5

#### BASEBOARDS

Corian<sup>®</sup> can be used effectively as a baseboard because of its workability and durability.

#### Note:

Do not install an inappropriate thickness of Corian<sup>®</sup> for the impact to which the vertical application is to be subjected.

STEPS TO COMPLETION:

- 1. Precut and finish the routed Corian<sup>®</sup> being used.
- 2. Make any returns, inside or outside corners as needed.
- 3. When you are satisfied that all parts are cut and fitted correctly, glue the pieces to the wall after first removing any loose cement or dust on the surface.
- 4. The recommended adhesive is silicone or neoprene-based panel adhesive. Apply according to manufacturer's instructions.

## **Helpful Hints:**

If the walls are curved, the Corian $^{\mbox{\tiny B}}$  can be thermoformed to fit to the wall. A site pattern should be made.

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

17.6 CORIAN<sup>®</sup> TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS This section contains important information to enable you to install your Corian<sup>®</sup> Tub & Shower Surround Kits.

Please carefully follow all the components information and installation instructions.

Note:

Please refer to Corian® Product Catalogs for proper size of kits.

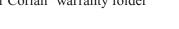
17.6.1

**KIT COMPONENTS** 

**3-Wall Tub Surround** 

Each tub surround kit contains:

2 back wall panels (A)
2 side wall panels with curved corner edges (B)
1 soap shelf (C)
1 shampoo shelf (D)
2 sponge corner inserts
1 tube color-matched sealant for DuPont Corian<sup>®</sup>
1 adhesive for installing soap/shampoo shelves
1 installation guide
1 installation video
1 packet of cardboard shims
1 Corian<sup>®</sup> warranty folder



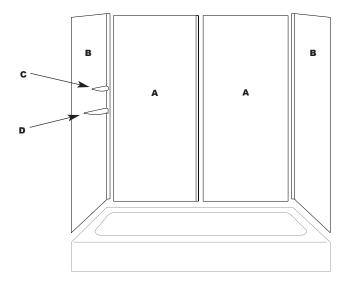


Figure 17.6.1.A

CHAPTER 17

UPDATE 4/03

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

## **3-Wall Shower Surround**

Each 3-wall shower surround kit contains:

1 back wall panel\* (A)

2 side wall panels with curved corner edges (B)

1 soap shelf(C)

1 shampoo shelf (D)

2 sponge corner inserts

1 tube color-matched sealant for DuPont Corian®

1 adhesive for installing soap/shampoo shelves

1 installation guide

1 installation video

1 packet of cardboard shims

1 Corian<sup>®</sup> warranty folder

\*36" x 60" kits contain 2 back wall panels

#### Note:

For a 60" wide, 3-wall shower surround kit, follow the installation instructions for the 3-wall tub surround kit.

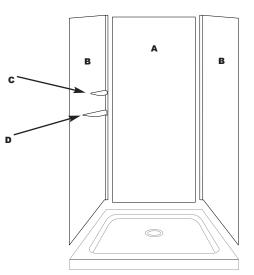


Figure 17.6.1.B

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

#### 2-Wall Shower Surround

Each 2-wall shower surround kit contains:

wall panel with flat corner edge (A)
 wall panel with curved corner edge (B)
 soap shelf (C)
 shampoo shelf (D)
 sponge corner insert
 tube color-matched sealant for DuPont Corian<sup>®</sup>
 adhesive for installing soap/shampoo shelves
 installation guide
 installation video
 packet of cardboard shims
 Corian<sup>®</sup> warranty folder

#### Note:

The way you install a two-wall corner shower kit may vary, depending on the bathroom layout and the dimensions of the shower base. In this example, we describe installation over a square, neo-angle shower base with the flat-edge panel on the wall with the plumbing cutouts and the curved-edge panel on the blank wall (see Figure 17.6.1.C).

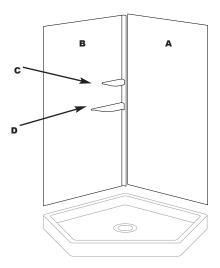


Figure 17.6.1.C

UPDATE 4/03

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

**Tools and Supplies Required:** 

17.6.2

REQUIRED

#### .

- TOOLS & SUPPLIES tape measure
  - level
  - straightedge (60" or longer)
  - carpenter's square
  - belt sander (you can use other types of sanders, but a belt sander makes the job go faster)
  - 120-grit sandpaper (for both your belt sander and hand-sanding)
  - compass
  - pencil
  - masking tape
  - utility knife
  - glue gun and hot-melt glue
  - caulking gun
  - panel adhesive (light tan-color, neoprene-based—one tube for each panel you're installing)
  - denatured alcohol
  - clean, lint-free, white cloths (paper towels or colored cloths may leave behind lint or colored fibers that will spoil the appearance of your sealant or Joint Adhesive)
  - safety glasses or protective goggles
  - hearing protection
  - dust mask
  - shop vac
  - sheets of clear poly film (tape over doorways to contain dust)
  - two sawhorses with 2 x 4 rails

To cut plumbing access holes:

• router with straight-cut, carbide-tipped bit **or** power drill with hole-cutter bit or spade bit. **Do not use auger bit.** 

17.6.3

#### PREPARATION

# After gathering necessary tools and supplies, inspect installation area. Be sure:

- Bathtub/shower is secured properly
- Plumbing is installed and tested
- Correct subsurface material is in place (read following subsurface information carefully)
- Bathtub/shower base is protected; pad bottom with a material such as carpeting

#### Note:

Follow all manufacturers' instructions and safety information on panel adhesive, sealant, alcohol and epoxy containers. Ensure adequate ventilation before applying adhesives or caulking materials.



CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

## For installation over regular drywall, plywood or paneling\*

Replace these subsurfaces with one of the following acceptable materials: moisture-resistant drywall, tile backer board or marine-grade plywood.

## For installation on concrete block or masonry

**Above grade**: Stud out these walls with 2 x 4's and install a smooth, dry subsurface of moisture-resistant drywall.

**Below or on grade**: *Never* install Corian<sup>®</sup> directly on exterior or interior masonry, concrete, cinder block, or any other wall construction that is or may become damp. Even the use of studding and moisture-resistant drywall as a subsurface does not provide an effective moisture barrier.

#### For installation over ceramic tile\*

Be sure tile is clean (no dust, mildew or soap scum), dry and sound.

Check for loose tiles and reattach as necessary.

If tile does not cover entire wall area that Corian<sup>®</sup> will cover, build up area without tile to provide uniform support.

If there are gaps in the subsurface, build out under the Corian<sup>®</sup> using either moisture-resistant drywall, tile backer board or marine-grade plywood.

Spread tan-colored panel adhesive over sharply contrasting color tiles. Alternatively, paint the tiles with oil-based paint.

#### Note:

Installation instructions are general in nature. More specific instructions are included in kits. Laminate shims ( $\frac{1}{16}$ " [1.5 mm] thick or material of equal thickness) are required on bathtub/shower deck to provide a caulking gap.

\*Check for signs of moisture in or behind wall. If moisture is present, remove wall. Check for plumbing leaks, making repairs as necessary. Then, install a new subsurface. Any moisture retained in the subsurface can cause Corian<sup>®</sup> to warp or separate from the wall.

#### CHAPTER 17

UPDATE 4/03

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

#### **Installation:**

INSTALLATION

17.6.4

- 1. Locate the cardboard shims in your carton.
- 2. Tape shims along the top ledge of the tub or shower base. See Figure 17.6.4.A.

If panels are to be installed flush to ceiling, they must all be trimmed to size before you begin. See Special Instructions, "Trimming Panels That Go to Ceiling" (17.6.5).

Figure 17.6.4.A



3. Locate side panel for wall without plumbing.

Check labels to make sure the panel is faceup and right-side-up.

- 4. Position panel against wall so that the curved edge is flush against the back wall. (You might ask a helper to hold the panel steady while you check the fit.)
- 5. Check the gap between wall panel and your tub at the bottom edge.

If gap is no wider than  $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm), proceed to step 6.

If the gap is  $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm) or wider at any point, you'll need to scribe the panel to the tub with your compass. See Figure 17.6.4.B. But don't trim it yet!

Figure 17.6.4.B



6. Check front edge of panel.

If panel does not extend past the outer edge of tub, proceed to step 7.

If panel extends past the outer edge of the tub, it must be trimmed. But this should not be done until scribing, trimming or cutting of plumbing access holes is complete. See Special Instructions, "Trimming CHAPTER 17 Front Edge of Panels" (17.6.5).

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

7. Locate panel for wall with plumbing and matching cardboard template.

Check labels to make sure the panel is faceup and right-side-up.

8. Measure and mark template.

Measure the distance from the corner to the center of each plumbing pipe. See Figure 17.6.4.C. Write down your measurement.



#### Figure 17.6.4.D



Measure the distance from the top of a shim on the tub ledge to the center of each pipe. See Figure 17.6.4.D.



Write down your measurements.

Repeat the procedure to double-check measurements.

Transfer measurements to template.

Measure the size of the holes required to adequately clear any stems or valves. These holes need to be big enough to allow future servicing of components, but smaller than the finished trim pieces of your fixtures. Double-check your measurements with the actual fixtures themselves.

Mark holes on template with your compass.

- 9. Cut holes in template with a utility knife. Cut a little inside the lines to make holes a little smaller than you need. If you need to, you can enlarge them after you "test-fit" the template.
- 10. "Test-fit" template on the wall, making sure the template is flush against the corner. Be sure it's faceup and right-side-up.

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

- 11. "Test-fit" fixtures with template in place. Adjust holes in template if necessary.
- 12. Cut holes in panel.

Lay panel **facedown** on sawhorses and rails.

Lay template **facedown** over panel. Make sure the top edge of the template corresponds with the top edge of the panel and that the bottom edges of the panel and the cardboard are flush.

Align the edge of the template  $^{1}/_{4}$ " (6 mm) beyond the curved edge of the panel with your carpenter's square. See Figure 17.6.4.E. This is to compensate for the thickness of back wall panels.



Trace holes from the template onto the panel.

Put on eye protection, hearing protection and dust mask.

Carefully cut out the holes with a router with a straight-cut, carbide-tipped bit (run counterclockwise), **or** with a power drill, with hole saw or spade bit. Provide support directly under the holes when using a power drill. It will get dusty, so you might want to do a quick cleanup with your shop vac after this step.

Lightly sand edge of holes to prevent cutting your hands when handling.

- 13. "Trial-fit" the panel on the wall with the curved edge flush against the back wall and the bottom edge on the shims.
- 14. Check front edge of panel.

If panel does not extend past the outer edge of tub, proceed to step 15.

If panel extends past the outer edge of the tub, it must be trimmed. But this should not be done until any scribing or trimming of the bottom of the panels is complete. See Special Instructions, "Trimming Front Edge of Panels" (17.6.5).

15. Check the gap between the wall panel and your tub at the bottom edge.

If gap is no wider than  $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm), proceed to step 16.

Figure 17.6.4.E

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

If the gap is  $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm) or wider at any point, you'll need to scribe the panel to the tub with your compass. But don't trim it yet!

If you have to do any scribing of the side panels, you'll have to make some adjustments to your back panels, too.

- a. Lay back wall panels **faceup** on your sawhorses, butted together. Use tape to hold them together with their bottom edges flush.
- b. Measure the width of the panels and check it against the back wall measurement you recorded earlier. If the wall panels are too wide, measure and trim as necessary.
- c. Locate left wall end panel. Measure the distance between the bottom edge of the panel and the scribed line. Write it down.
- d. Measure up that same distance from the left bottom edge of the left back wall panel and mark the panel.
- e. Locate your right wall side panel and again measure the distance between the bottom edge of the panel and the scribed line. Write it down.
- f. Measure up that same distance from the right bottom edge of the right back wall panel and mark the panel.
- g. Carefully draw straight lines on the wall panels from mark to mark.

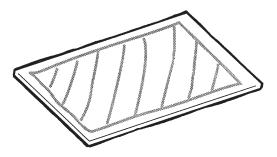
#### To trim the panels you scribe...

- a. Very carefully sand away the bottom edge of each panel with your belt sander until you meet the scribed lines.
- b. "Trial-fit" the back panels against the wall with the bottom edges resting on the shims. The center seam edges of the panels should be perfectly parallel. If not, you may need to slightly retrim the bottom edges of one or both panels.
- 16. "Trial-fit" all the panels together to check the alignment of the tops of the panels. If there is more than <sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" (1.5 mm) difference from one panel to another, you need to trim the tops of the panels. See Special Instructions, "Trimming Top Edges of Panels" (17.6.5).
- 17. Clean the backs of the panels and the walls with a clean, lint-free, white cloth moistened with denatured alcohol. If you made any pencil marks on the backs of the panels by mistake, be sure you completely remove them. If you don't, they may show through when you're finished.
- 18. Find the center of your back wall and make a reference mark.
- 19. Locate the back wall panel with the grooved seam edge. This is the panel you'll install first.
- 20. Lay panel **facedown** on sawhorses.

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

21. Apply panel adhesive in a solid bead all around the perimeter, about one inch from the edges. Be sure that the bottom edge of your adhesive is higher than the vapor gap cutout on your wall. Then apply the adhesive in diagonal lines across the center of the sheet. See Figure 17.6.4.F. Don't scribble or draw pictures! They could show through!

Figure 17.6.4.F

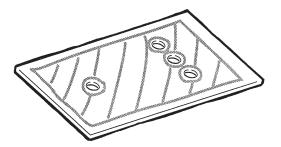


- 22. Position the panel against the wall right-side-up and resting on shims. Line it up with the reference mark on the center of the wall and press it firmly into place. Ask your helper to hold it in place while you work with the other panels.
- 23. Apply color-matched silicone for DuPont Corian<sup>®</sup> in a smooth bead along the grooved edge.
- 24. Lay other back wall panel facedown on sawhorses.
- 25. Apply panel adhesive as you did with the first back panel.
- 26. Position panel against wall right side up and resting on shims. Press it into place, with the seam edges as snugly together as possible.
- 27. Slide back wall panels together—with you pushing from one outside edge and your helper pushing from the other, so that:
  - the center seam edges come together along their entire length
  - the panels are aligned on their top edges
  - the bottom edges are snug against the shims
  - and the entire assembly is centered on the back wall, left to right.
- 28. Slightly pull away top of the panels and vent if necessary. Follow the manufacturer's instructions on the adhesive tube.
- 29. Apply hot-melt glue to the wall under the outer top corners of the panels.
- 30. Press panel back into place and hold until the glue sets—15 seconds should be long enough.
- 31. Clean away the excess silicone from the center seam with a clean, lint-free, white cloth moistened with denatured alcohol.
- 32. Lay side panel with cutouts **facedown** on sawhorses.

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

33. Apply panel adhesive to side panel with cutouts in a solid bead all around the perimeter, about one inch from the edges. Be sure the bottom edge of your adhesive is higher than the vapor gap cutout on your wall. Then apply the adhesive in diagonal lines across the center of the sheet. See Figure 17.6.4.G. Don't scribble or draw pictures! They could show through!

Figure 17.6.4.G



- 34. Apply color-matched silicone for DuPont Corian<sup>®</sup> in a smooth bead along the entire length of the back edge of the curved corner.
- 35. Position panel against wall, right side up and resting on shims. Press into place with curved edge slightly away from the back wall panel.
- 36. Pull away the top of the panel slightly and vent if necessary. Follow the manufacturer's instructions on the adhesive tube.
- 37. Apply hot-melt glue to the wall under the outer top corners of the panel.
- 38. Press panel back into place so that the entire curved edge fits snugly against the back wall panel and hold until the glue sets—15 seconds should be long enough.
- 39. Inspect your work. If the gap between the curved corner is wider than  $\frac{1}{16}$ " (1.5 mm), loosen the panel, reapply hot-melt glue and try it again.
- 40. Clean away the excess silicone from the corner seam with a clean, lint-free, white cloth moistened with denatured alcohol.
- 41. Install side panel without cutouts by following steps 32–41.

#### **Surface-Mounted Accessories**

#### Note:

If using surface-mounted accessories, do *not* screw directly into Corian<sup>®</sup>. Screws must attach into the stud or supporting block.

- 1. Drill through Corian<sup>®</sup>. Holes should be <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" (3 mm) larger than diameter of accessory screw.
- 2. Insert silicone in hole before inserting screw. Do **not** overtighten.

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

## Caulking

#### Note:

For best results, wait 8–10 hours before final caulking is applied. This allows adhesives to partially set. If caulking immediately, extreme care should be taken not to disturb trim pieces.

- 1. Carefully remove all shims.
- 2. Apply fine coved bead of color matched sealant in gap around bathtub/shower, around vertical edges and top of curved corners and trim, and around top and bottom edges of soap/shampoo shelves.

#### Note:

Use clear, denatured alcohol to remove excess sealant. Wait 24 hours before using bathtub/shower to allow time for sealant to fully cure.

## Use and Care

Please read the instructions in the Care and Maintenance Brochure.

17.6.5

## **Trimming Panels That Go to Ceiling**

SPECIAL If you are INSTRUCTIONS as your f

If you are installing panels flush with the ceiling, they must be trimmed to size as your first step in the installation process.

STEPS TO COMPLETION:

- 1. Be sure shims are taped in place along top of tub or shower base ledge. Use at least three shims for each panel to be installed, at points that correspond to the left, right and center of each panel.
- 2. At eye level, draw a continuous level horizontal line around the walls where panels will be installed.
- 3. Measure up from each shim to the level line. Double-check your measurements. Write them down. Making a simple diagram of the panels will be helpful.
- 4. Note the longest measurement and—on each panel—measure up that distance from the bottom and mark a point on each side in pencil. Use a straightedge to draw a horizontal line across each panel from mark to mark.
- 5. Transfer measurements to bottoms of panels by measuring down from the horizontal line on your panels. Follow your diagram and do one panel at a time.
- 6. Measure from the level line on your walls to the ceiling at several points along each wall that correspond to the locations of the shims below. Double-check your measurements and write them down on your diagram.

7. Transfer measurements to tops of panels by measuring up from

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

the horizontal line on your panels. Follow your diagram and do one panel at a time.

- 8. Draw straight lines between each point that you've marked.
- 9. Lay a panel **faceup** on the sawhorses.
- 10. Put on eye protection, hearing protection and a dust mask.
- 11. If a small amount needs to be trimmed ( $^{1}/_{4}$ " [6 mm] or less), carefully sand down to each line with a belt sander.
- 12. If a larger amount needs to be trimmed (more than <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" [6 mm]), carefully cut the panel with a router, using a straight-cut, carbide-tipped bit. Hand-sand each routed edge until smooth to the touch.
- 13. Repeat the procedure for each panel.

#### **Trimming Front Edge of Panels**

If the front edge of the side panels extend beyond the front edge of the tub or shower base, they can be trimmed after any required scribing, trimming or cutting of plumbing access holes is complete.

#### Additional tools required:

- a router guide somewhat longer than the height of the panel
- C-clamps with cushioned tips
- a <sup>1</sup>/4" (6 mm) carbide-tipped, roundover router bit (if you want to restore the original radius edge)

#### **Procedure:**

- 1. Place panel in its final position. Hold firmly in place with masking tape or ask a helper to hold it in place.
- 2. Mark the bottom of the panel.
- 3. Using a level, draw a plumb vertical line from the bottom of the panel to the top.
- 4. Place panel faceup on the sawhorses and clamp it in place.
- 5. Firmly clamp the router guide to the sheet.
- 6. Put on eye protection, hearing protection and dust mask.
- 7. To restore the original radius edge of the panel, carefully cut the panel with the router, using a <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" (6 mm) radius, single-flute, carbide-tipped bit.

If the front edge of the panel will be covered with trim, cut with a straightcut, carbide-tipped blade.

8. Sand panel to remove router marks.

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

## **Trimming Top Edges of Panels**

If there is more than  $\frac{1}{16}$ " (1.5 mm) difference in the height between the tops of the panels, you need to trim the panels.

## **Procedure:**

- 1. "Trial-fit" all panels together. Either tape them into their final position or ask a helper or two to hold them for you.
- 2. Find the lowest point. From there, draw a level horizontal line all around the top. See Figure 17.6.5.A.



3. When you get to the curved corner, here's an easy way to continue drawing your level line:

Line up the top of a magazine with the line you drew. Press the magazine evenly against the curved corner and draw your line along the top. See Figure 17.6.5.B. This works like a flexible straightedge!





- 4. Continue drawing your horizontal level line around the tops of the other panels.
- 5. Carefully sand the top edge of each panel with your belt sander, down to the line you drew.

Figure 17.6.5.A

CORIAN® TUB & SHOWER SURROUND KITS

## **Installing Optional Wall Trim**

#### Additional tools required:

- For straight cuts: miter box or fine-toothed hand saw
- For curved cuts: saber saw with a fine-toothed blade

#### **Procedure:**

- 1. Scribe a vertical line on the wall to mark the position of the outer edge of the trim.
- 2. Measure and cut to length just as you would with wood trim.

For straight cuts, mark and cut with miter box or fine-toothed hand saw.

For curved cuts, scribe the curve and carefully cut with a saber saw with a fine-toothed blade.

- 3. Sand cut edges smooth.
- 4. Apply beads of silicone.
- 5. Apply a few dabs of hot-melt glue toward the center of trim.
- 6. Press into place against scribed vertical line until glue sets.
- 7. Clean away excess silicone with a clean, lint-free, white cloth moistened with denatured alcohol.

#### CHAPTER 17

## Grifform Innovations<sup>®</sup>, Inc.

## Care and Maintenance

The inherent qualities of Corian<sup>®</sup> solid surfaces ensure the ultimate in easy care and renewability. Its nonporous, solid composition makes it easy to live and work with for many years.

- Routine Care
- Preventing Heat and Other Damage
- Removing Stains and Fixing Scratches or Burns

## **Routine Care**

Routine daily care and maintenance of Corian<sup>®</sup> is easy. But, because cleaning practices differ around the world, please consult your local supplier of Corian<sup>®</sup> for specific recommended care and maintenance practices and products. Use the following procedures as a guide to everyday care for Corian<sup>®</sup> solid surfaces:

- There are three types of countertop finish: matte, semi-gloss and gloss.
- All Corian<sup>®</sup> sinks and GRIF *form*<sup>®</sup> Shower Bases have the matte finish.
- Soapy water or ammonia-based cleaners will remove most dirt and stains from all types of finishes.
- However, slightly different techniques must be used to remove difficult stains, depending on the finish. Please contact your source for Corian<sup>®</sup> for more information.

## Preventing Heat and Other Damage

Although Corian<sup>®</sup> is quite resistant to heat; you should always use a hot pad or a trivet with rubber feet to protect Corian<sup>®</sup>. Hot pans, as well as some heat-generating appliances like frying pans or electric cooking pots, can damage the surface if a hot pad or trivet is not used.

- In most cases, Corian<sup>®</sup> can be repaired if it is accidentally damaged. However, be sure to follow these guidelines to prevent any permanent damage to Corian<sup>®</sup>.
- Avoid exposing Corian<sup>®</sup> to strong chemicals, such as paint removers, oven cleaners, etc. If contact occurs, quickly flush the surface with water.
- Remove nail polish with a non-acetone-based polish remover and flush with water.
- Do not cut directly on Corian<sup>®</sup> countertops.

## **Removing Stains and Fixing Scratches or Burns**

Nicks, scratches and cuts are inevitable with any high-use product, including Corian<sup>®</sup>. But because Corian<sup>®</sup> is solid all the way through, it is easy to renew to its original appearance as described below.

Minor damage, including scratches, general or chemical stains, scorches or burns, and minor impact marks, can be repaired on-site with a light abrasive cleanser and a product such as a Scotch-Brite\* pad. For heavier damage, light sanding may be necessary. The following steps should be followed:

- Identify the extent of the damage and ascertain whether a minor repair will solve the problem. You may want to consult with your supplier of Corian<sup>®</sup>.
- If the damage is minor, try to repair it with an abrasive cleanser or a product such as a Scotch-Brite\* pad.
- If the above step is unsuccessful, hand-sand with 400-grit wet and dry paper. To minimize dust, wet the surface before starting.
- If this is unsuccessful, use an electric sander and heavier-grit paper. Always make provisions to control dust.
- If this, too, is unsuccessful, you may need to consult a professional for other repair options. In this case, contact your supplier of Corian<sup>®</sup> for assistance.

## **Renewing Corian<sup>®</sup>**

Nicks. Stains. Cuts. Scratches. While these can permanently mar most other surfaces, they won't compromise the appearance of Corian<sup>®</sup> solid surfaces. That's because it's easy to restore Corian<sup>®</sup> to its original state, using an ordinary abrasive cleanser and a cleansing pad such as a green Scotch-Brite\* pad. And, if damage does occur, Corian<sup>®</sup> can be repaired on site, saving both downtime and aggravation.

\*Scotch-Brite is a trademark of the 3M Company<sup>®</sup>.

