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SECTION 1: key information

Key points about METALINE® splashback systems

Important Information

1. Laminex Metaline Splashback system must be installed as per Section 5 - “Kitchen Splashbacks Installations” contained in this manual to deliver optimum product performance and compliance. All installations require a registration card to be completed by the installer to verify compliance with the installation instructions. Only registered installations will carry Laminex’s warranty.

2. The minimum set back distance between the installed Laminex Metaline Splashback panel and any cook top (gas or electric) is 30mm. This is to prevent impact damage caused by oversized pots being used on the rear burner or element. Installations that are closer than 30mm will not be warranted. Laminex Metaline Splashbacks are not suitable for installations where benchtop is less than 600mm.

3. The Laminex Metaline Splashback system has a proprietary coating that allows it to be cleaned easily. Cleaning of Metaline Splashbacks should follow the “Care and Maintenance” section, which is contained later in this manual and also on the consumer warranty card. Deep gouges caused by abrasive cleaners or scouring pads will not be warranted.

4. Laminex Metaline Splashbacks are certified by SAI Global under the CodeMark scheme for use as Splashbacks under the BCA and BCNZ, when installed according to these guidelines. CodeMark certification number is SAIG-09-CM20030.

5. Laminex Metaline Splashbacks have been assessed for fire safety properties. Laminex Metaline Splashbacks are classified as Group 2 (under specification A2.4 of the BCA) and have the typical fire indices of 0 (Ignitability index), 0 (Spread of flame index), 0 (Heat evolved index) and 0-6 (Smoke developed index).

6. ALWAYS follow the installation instructions as described in Section 5 of this document. Failure to follow the installation instructions may create a potential fire hazard to the consumer and will void any warranty. Any installation that is outside these guidelines would not be certified under the CodeMark scheme.
General Information

7. **Safety** – always wear appropriate PPE when handling or cutting Laminex Metaline Splashback panels.

8. **Lifting** – Laminex Metaline Splashback panels are heavy and require a 2 man lift or mechanical assistance. Always lift panels in a vertical orientation to avoid buckling the panel.

9. **Transport** – always transport Laminex Metaline Splashback panels horizontally on a solid pallet that supports the entire length of panel. Ensure that panels are carefully strapped and protected with top and bottom coversheets to prevent damage. Multiple sheets should be transported with the decorative faces together (protective film).

10. **Inspection** – any sheets that show visible damage (dents, impact damage, deep scratches through the protective film, etc.) should be rejected unless the damaged section is outside of the required usable area. Installation of damaged sheets is not warranted.

11. **Cutting** – always use a dedicated aluminium-cutting blade for all straight cuts. The use of vacuum extraction is recommended to prevent build-up of swarf on the work piece or cutting equipment.

12. **Folding** – Laminex Metaline Splashbacks can be folded around or into corners to give a continuous corner without any joins. The Laminex Group recommends folding edges and corners to give the installation a premium look and feel.

13. **Butt joining** – Laminex Metaline Splashbacks can be butt joined together or into corners to give a simpler installation. Allowance for a 3mm gap for silicone sealing is required.

14. **Penetrations** – Laminex Metaline Splashbacks can be cut for plumbing and electrical installations. Cutting can be performed using hole saws or a jigsaw. Allowance for a 3mm expansion gap around joins is required. Laminex Metaline Splashbacks are electrically conductive, so all electrical work must be performed by a licenced electrician. All plumbing work must be performed by a licenced plumber or gas fitter.

15. Laminex Metaline Splashbacks are produced with a thick protective film on the decorated side of the panel. This protective film includes installation instructions, cleaning instructions and orientation guide arrows for reference during installation. DO NOT REMOVE the protective film either before or during fabrication. Protective film should only be removed as direction in Section 5 - Kitchen Splashback Installation instructions.
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SECTION 2: product introduction

Introduction to LAMINEX® METALINE® splashback systems

Product Characteristics
Laminex Metaline Splashbacks are an aluminium composite panel consisting of two coil-coated aluminium sheets bonded onto both sides of a Flame Retardant (FR) core. Bonding of the aluminium and FR core is achieved by both chemical and mechanical action, which gives excellent bond integrity. An exceptionally flat, corrosion-resistant panel, Laminex Metaline Splashbacks are simple to install and produces a premium finish.

The coated aluminium sheets are 0.5mm thick, sandwiched onto a 3mm FR core to give a total thickness of 4mm and density of 7.5 kg/m². The high gloss decorated surface is a proprietary formulation that is easy to clean, mark and stain resistant and fire resistant. It has a minimum gloss measurement of 80 gloss units.

The corrosion-proofed surface is a matt grey colour. Printed onto the back surface are the product name, product colour, ASW code and manufacturing batch code.

Product Applications
Laminex Metaline Splashback panels are suited for use in all splashback applications, when installed according to “Section 5 – Kitchen Splashback Installation”, for both gas and electric cooktops. Laminex Metaline Splashbacks are CodeMark certified to meet the requirements of the BCA and BCNZ.

Other applications suited to Metaline include:
• Wall panels for wet areas (laundry, bathroom, toilets)
• Wall panels for dry areas (commercial and domestic applications)
• Wall linings for commercial applications (lifts, displays, caravans, etc.)
• Decorative vertical panels

Sheet Sizes
Laminex Metaline Splashbacks come in 2 main sheet sizes:
• 3600 x 800 mm
• 3600 x 1500 mm
All sheets have a protective film on the decorated surface to prevent physical damage during storage, handling and fabrication. Do not remove this protective film until instructed to during installation.

**Colours**

Laminex Metaline Splashbacks are available in a range of 12 colours:

- **Metallic Colours**
  - Argente Perle
  - Rubicon Perle
  - Champagne Perle
  - Nimbus Metallic
  - Autumn Perle
  - Iridium Metallic
  - Palladium Perle
  - Silver Stream Perle

These metallic colours are directional, so the sheets must be installed in a consistent direction.

- **Solid Colours**
  - Diamond Ice
  - Style Queen
  - Sophisticat
  - Lipstick Red

Solid colours offer a consistent high gloss reflective colour appearance.

Other colours are under development and will be released to meet the growing demands of consumers, specifiers and designers.

**Adhesives**

Laminex Metaline Splashback neutral cure silicone adhesive has been developed for installation. Silicone will be available in 300g cartridge suitable for use in standard hand caulking guns. Additional cartridges are available to order from your local Laminex Group sales branch.

Laminex Metaline double-sided tape has been developed for installation. Double-sided tape will be available in rolls from your local sales branch of The Laminex Group.
Warranty
Laminex Metaline Splashbacks have a 7-year limited warranty, when installed by an authorised fabricator according to this Installation Guide.

Care and Maintenance
Laminex Metaline Splashbacks are easy to clean using mild detergent and a soft, abrasion free microfibre cloth. Cooking oil, fats and food splashes are easy to remove.

- **DO** use a soft micro-fibre cloth with a mild detergent
- **DO** clean the surface regularly
- **DO NOT** allow food stuffs to build up on the surface
- **DO NOT** use abrasive cleaners or pot scrubbing pads
- **DO NOT** use cleaning solutions that are highly acidic or caustic
- **DO NOT** clean the surface if it is hot
- **DO NOT** place metallic or sharp implements against the surface, which may cause scratching

### Product Technical Specification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPERTY</th>
<th>RESULT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Indices (AS/NZS 1530.3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Classification (AS ISO 9705)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dry Heat resistance (AS/NZS 2924.2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steam Resistance (AS/NZS 2924.2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemical Resistance (AS/NZS 2924.2 - Groups 1-4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thermal Conductivity @ 200°C – Metaline only</td>
<td>0.574 W/m-K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thermal Conductivity @ 200°C – Metaline + mineral board*</td>
<td>0.096 W/m-K</td>
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<td>Thermal Resistance @ 200°C – Metaline only</td>
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<td>Scratch Resistance</td>
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<td>Gloss (AS/NZS 1580.602)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coefficient of thermal expansion</td>
<td>$2.36 \times 10^{-5}$ m/°C (0.0236 mm/°C).</td>
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</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPERTY</th>
<th>RESULT / TOLERANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thickness tolerance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Width tolerance</td>
<td>-0/ + 3 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length tolerance</td>
<td>-0/ + 4 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference between diagonals</td>
<td>Max 3 mm</td>
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*For more information on mineral board refer to section 5 – Kitchen Splashback Installation*
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Important Design Considerations – Types of Fabrication

Laminex Metaline Splashbacks can be fabricated in two main styles:

PREFERRED METHOD:
Folded internal corners, rolled edges
- This method gives a premium finish with no exposed cut edges and more professional corner detail.
- Utilises Metaline’s unique forming characteristics to produce an internal or external folded corner.
- No joins and seamless finish

ALTERNATIVE METHOD:
Butt joined corners, straight cut edges
- This method is the same as glass splashback installation and offers a less sophisticated installation, without sacrificing the benefits of Metaline splashback panels
- Joins will be visible and edges will be exposed
PREFERRED METHOD:
Fabrication Type – Folded Internal Corners
For fabrications where the Metaline is folded into the corner of the kitchen with a 90° seamless fold (as opposed to the traditional glass method of 2 sheets being butted together), the following sequence is observed:

1. Measure the internal dimensions of the corner:

2. Allowance is made for the panel fold in the measurement as per below:

3. Panels are routed using a 90° V bit behind the section to be fold to allow for the panel to be bent, giving the following finished fold:

4. The installed section will look like:

PREFERRED METHOD:
Fabrication Type – Folded External Corners
For fabrications where the Metaline is folded outwards to give a 270° seamless fold around the outside corner of a kitchen, the following sequence is observed:

1. Measure the external dimensions of the corner:

2. Allowance is made for the panel fold in the measurement as per below:
3. Panels are routed using a 135° V bit behind the section to be fold to allow for the panel to be bent, giving the following finished fold:

![Diagram of panel fold](image)

4. The installed section will look like:

![Diagram of installed section](image)

**PREFERRED METHOD:**

**Fabrication Type – Folded Rolled Edges**

Folded rolled edges give a completely encapsulated finish to the sheet, which hides the core of the panel from view.

1. Allowance is made for the edge fold in the measurement as per below:

![Diagram of fold allowance](image)

2. Panels are rebated behind the edge fold section to allow for the panel to be rolled over, giving the following finished edge detail:

![Diagram of edge fold detail](image)

3. The slight overlap of the fold is retained to allow for the thickness of the double sided tape and silicone fastening to the wall.

4. This method is ideally suited to installations where more than one sheet is required to span the wall. It gives a premium join appearance by concealing the cut edge of the sheet.
Fabrication Type – Finished Corner Details
Where the sheet requires two rolled edges to meet on corners, the following method is used to allow for the edge folds to encapsulate the core:

1. Router the back of the sheet as per previous detail for rolled edges allowing the two passes to criss-cross over the corner edge.

2. Remove the section of material as shown in red using a sharp chisel.

3. Roll the two sections over and the corner should meet without any overlap.

ALTERNATIVE METHOD:
Fabrication Type – Butt Joined Sheets
Butt joining sheets as flat panels without any folding is a simpler method of fabrication. This method does not allow for external folded corners around walls or seamless joins in corners. Ensure that all gaps are maintained at 3mm (with packers) to allow for silicone sealing. The method of installation is explained in Section 5.

Important Design Considerations – Expansion and Orientation

Thermal Expansion
Laminex Metaline Splashbacks is an aluminium based composite material and will therefore exhibit minor expansion and contraction behaviours during heating and cooling. Thermal expansion must be considered when calculating dimensions and allowances for joins between sheets and around edges.

Laminex Metaline Splashbacks has a coefficient of expansion of $2.36 \times 10^{-5} \text{m/°C}$ (0.0236mm/m/°C). Allow a gap of 3mm between sheets when butt joining them, and allow an edge gap of 3mm around all panels for caulking and sealing.
Direction of Coil Coating

Metallic coatings have a reflective or pearlescent finish, which is oriented in the longitudinal direction during the coil coating process. This gives the panel “active colour” behaviour, dependent on the angle from which it is viewed. Directional arrows are printed onto protective film and should be used to maintain orientation correctness and avoid shading differences between adjacent panels. This orientation must be taken into account when making panel optimisation calculations.

Always use Laminex Metaline Splashbacks panels from the same batch code for a job, rather than mix panels. This will avoid any minor colour variations caused by the coil coating process.

Health and Safety

Fire Safety

Laminex Metaline Splashbacks requires the installation of Laminex Metaline Calcium Silicate board directly behind the cooktop to ensure adequate fire safety is achieved. (See section 5 – Kitchen Splashback Installation for further information). Not applicable when Laminex Metaline Splashbacks are installed directly onto rendered brickwork, cement or brick walls.

Occupational Health and Safety

Metaline Splashback panels are heavy, with a 3600mm x 800mm sheet weighing approximately 22kgs and a 3600mm x 1500mm sheet weighing approximately 41kgs. Both sheet sizes require assisted handling.

Manual handling

- Two person lift
- Lift on edge to avoid flexure bending

Mechanical devices

- Vacuum lifting
- Transport on suitable flat trolley

Personal protective equipment

Cutting Metaline Splashback systems will generate noise, flying hot swarf and sharp edges. Ensure that appropriate PPE is worn at all times during this operation. Eye protection, hearing protection and gloves should be worn at all times during cutting operations.

MSDS

A MSDS for Metaline is available from The Laminex Group – laminex.com.au
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**SECTION 4: cutting of panels**

**Tools and Equipment**

**Cutting Equipment**
Laminex Metaline Splashbacks panels can be cut with traditional tools fitted with a suitable aluminium cutting blade – either tungsten carbide or high speed steel.

The following cutting equipment can be used for cutting Metaline panels:
- Panel or table saw (using aluminium cutting blade – e.g. Leitz 68800)
- Circular saw (using aluminium cutting blade)
- Hand router (high speed TC blade)
- Milling machine or CNC (high speed TC blade)
- Jigsaw (using aluminium blade only)
- Handsaw (metal cutting blade)
- Holesaw or Drill (using HSS drill bits)

Recommendation - always use vacuum swarf extraction to prevent build up on panel or cutting equipment.

**Additional Tools Required**
- Glazier’s suction cup x 2
- Straight edge
- Builders angle
- Measuring tape
- Plasterboard saw
- Fixing screws – 25mm length, self tapping
- Utility knife
- Metal file
- Edge tape roller (metal roller) for rolled over edge finish
- 3mm packers

**Transport, handling and storage**
Store the panels flat in an environment of approximately 20-25°C for at least 24 hours before commencing any installation or cutting operations to allow them to reach a constant temperature. This will ensure that dimensions remain constant during any cutting and installation process. Always allow Metaline panels to reach constant temperature after transport (particularly in very hot or cold weather). Temporary storage of Laminex Metaline Splashbacks on-site should be flat with a sheet of cardboard, polystyrene or foam between the panels. Do not remove the protective film until directed.

Handling of Laminex Metaline Splashbacks requires care. It is recommended that panels be supported at several points along their length (the number of support points depending on the length of the panel). Panels should be manually lifted vertically, mechanically lifted horizontally.
Sheet Inspection

Always inspect sheets of Laminex Metaline Splashbacks for obvious signs of damage during transport or handling. Do not fabricate damaged sheets unless the damaged section can be removed. Always check that the protective film on the decorated surface is free from any drag marks or deep scratches that may penetrate into the coated surface.

Check that all sheets of the same colour are from the same batch code (printed onto the back of the sheet) to ensure that colour differences are minimised. Remember to note down the product batch code for completion of the warranty and installation checklist.

Cutting Metaline Sheets

Laminex Metaline Splashback sheets are best fabricated on a solid work platform (bench or stable board that fully supports the length of the sheet). Avoid cutting where the panel is only supported by trestles or bearers. Movement of the panel during the cutting process must be avoided to ensure accurate dimensional finish and prevent damage.

Laminex Metaline Splashback sheets must be cut with a downward cutting stroke on the decorated surface. Always ensure that the workplace is kept free of swarf and other hard objects that may damage the Laminex Metaline Splashback surface.

Table Saw/Panel Saw

A table saw (eg Altendorf) cuts with a downward direction of the blade, thus the decorated surface must be upwards. This ensures that the cut edge of the sheet is not burred by the exit stroke of the blade. It also eliminates chipping of the decorated coating. A flat metal file can be used to clean up any fine burrs on the cut edge. Care must be taken to ensure that no swarf or other hard objects become jammed between the saw and the decorated surface, as they can potentially scratch the surface.

Hand-held Circular Saw

A circular saw cuts with an upward direction of the blade, thus the decorated surface must be downwards. Take care in all cutting situations where the decorated face is downwards as you are unable to check for swarf and other debris between the sheet and the supporting table.
Hand Held Router
A hand held router cuts with a sideways action, however because of the high level of dragging during operation, the decorated side should be downwards. Always use a vacuum extraction on a router to prevent swarf build-up around the collet. If vacuum is not available, stop regularly and clear the swarf.

CNC or milling Machine
Same as hand held router.

Jigsaw
A jigsaw cuts with an upward action, so the panel should be cut with the decorated face down. Note that a fine metal cutting blade must be used to prevent chipping and burring of the cut edge. Clean up with a file.

Handsaw
A handsaw can be used for cutting Metaline but must have a dedicated metal cutting blade (e.g., hacksaw or fine tenon saw). These saws typically cut in one direction – set the blade direction (if possible) to the push stroke. Cut with the decorated face upwards.

Hole saw and drills
Cut with the decorated face upwards. Regularly remove the saw to allow the swarf to be ejected.
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Sheet Inspection

Items Required for Installation of Laminex Metaline Splashbacks

- Double-sided tape – 3M VHB 4991 tape or 3M Scotchtape 4008 (or equivalent) in minimum 12.5mm width,
- Neutral Cure silicone – Laminex Metaline neutral cure silicone in translucent
- Silicone application gun
- Glazier’s suction cup × 2
- Straight edge
- Builders angle
- Measuring tape
- Scraper or similar
- Plaster patching compound
- Plasterboard saw
- Fixing screws – 25mm length, self tapping
- Utility knife
- 3mm packers
- Laminex Metaline Splashback panels
- 9mm calcium silicate mineral board – Laminex Metaline Splashback Calcium Silicate board (not required for installations where Laminex Metaline Splashbacks are installed directly onto rendered brick and/or cement brick walls)

Important Note: Minimum installation distance for gas and electric cooktops

For all inbuilt gas and electric cooktops – Laminex Metaline Splashbacks must be installed with a **minimum of 30mm** set back from the rear of the cooktop. This applies to all gas, electric and induction cooktops. The minimum benchtop width suitable for Laminex Metaline Splashback installation is 600mm.

![Figure 1: Gas Hotplate clearances](image1)

![Figure 2: Electric Hotplate clearances](image2)

Installations where these minimum distances are not observed creates a risk of impact damage from the use of oversized cooking pots and will void the Laminex Metaline Splashbacks limited warranty.
All Cooktop Installations

Gas and Electric Cook tops require the installation of Laminex Metaline Calcium Silicate mineral board directly behind the cooktop to provide additional heat protection for the wall structure and ensure compliance with the relevant BCA/BCNZ requirements, as well as CodeMark certification. The Laminex Metaline Calcium Silicate mineral board must be installed to a minimum height of 150mm above the benchtop level across the full width of the cooktop. This can be seen in Figures 3-7.

**Figure 3:** Kitchen layout  
**Figure 4:** Mark out mineral board position directly behind cooktop and to minimum height of 150mm above the benchtop  
**Figure 5:** Remove of plasterboard behind cooktop with plasterboard saw, exposing stud wall  
**Figure 6:** Installation of mineral board onto stud wall with self-tapping screws into the studs
Laminex supplies 9mm calcium silicate board with all Laminex Metaline Splashback panels. Substitute mineral boards must not be used. Installation of 9mm calcium silicate board not required where Laminex Metaline Splashbacks are installed directly onto rendered brick and/or cement brick walls.

**Surface preparation – plaster board & cement sheet**

The wall area must be a dry and clean surface, free from any crumbling plasterwork, grease or major surface damage. Crumbling plasterwork should be removed with a scraper blade or sanded off, or if severe, it must be repaired with plaster filler or patched with a suitable piece of plasterboard. Grease should be removed with isopropanol (IPO) or thinners and wiped dry. All nail heads must be punched in. Residual glue or plaster filler should be sanded or scraped off.

**Surface preparation – bricks or cement blocks, grey coat render or white coat plaster**

The wall area must be a dry and clean surface, free from any crumbling plaster, mortar, sand, grease or major surface damage. Crumbling plaster should be removed with a scraper blade or sanded off, or if severe, it must be repaired with plaster filler. Grease should be removed with isopropanol (IPO) or thinners and wiped dry. Residual mortar or plaster filler should be sanded or scraped off. Sandy or loose render on brickwork or cement blockwork must be sealed with appropriate sealer/primer. (The Laminex Group recommends ArdexP51 Porous Substrate Primer. Follow manufacturer's application instructions.) Any holes larger than 100mm across must be patched or filled. Electrical or plumbing penetrations should be cut to slightly oversized for ease of installation, however they should not be excessively oversized to ensure wall integrity.

Figure 8 should be used as a reference for the recommended repair method for any damage to the wall.
Wall Flatness and Squareness

The wall area should be checked for flatness and squareness before any splashback dimensions are taken. Areas requiring packing out should be identified and corrected. It is recommended to use double-sided tape as the method for packing out low sections of the wall. Tolerance for wall flatness is $\pm 2\, \text{mm/m}$ vertically and horizontally. Wall squareness is $\pm 5^\circ$ from a right angle ($90^\circ$).

Dimensional measurement

Wall dimensions should be taken after wall preparation and/or corrections are complete. Measurements are to be to the nearest 1 mm, with allowance for diagonal variations. Check all measurements before transferring to the Laminex Metaline Splashbacks surface. (Refer to Fabrication section for the most suitable method of cutting to size).

Dimensions will depend on the selected method of installation (viz. folded vs butt joined method).

Taping

Double-sided tape must be used to provide initial adhesion during the installation process. Laminex recommends the use of 12.5mm minimum width, 3M VHB 4991 or 3M Scotchtape 4008 tape to assist in the installation process.

The double-sided tape performs 2 key functions:

- Provides initial adhesion of panel to the wall during silicone cure.
- Allows adjustment of the wall flatness to pack the panel out for plumb fit.

Double-sided tape should be applied vertically, spaced every 450mm across the width of the panel, and down the full length of the wall. Do not remove the protective strip from the tape until after the dry fit of the panel. Figure 9 outlines the correct double-sided tape installation method.

Figure 9: Application of double-sided tape to the wall
Dry Fit

Laminex Metaline Splashbacks should be dry fitted to the wall to check dimensional accuracy. The use of glazier’s suction cups will assist in the handling of the Metaline panels. Once a satisfactory fit is achieved, the panel should be removed to allow for silicone application.

Figure 10 shows the recommended dry fit gaps.

Final Fitting

a). Silicone Adhesive Application

A 5mm bead of Laminex Metaline neutral cure silicone adhesive should be applied to the wall using a zigzag pattern between the strips of double-sided tape. Figure 11 shows the recommended application pattern.

Ensure an even coverage of the silicone to ensure wall flatness. DO NOT use dollops of adhesive as they can create an uneven wall finish. The use of zigzag type patterns ensures an even bond of the Metaline Splashback panel to the wall.
b). Double-sided tape protective strip removal
Remove all of the protective strips from the double-sided tape, ready for panel installation. Make sure all the protective strips are removed, as there will not be an opportunity to remove once the panel is pressed onto the wall.

c). Fitting
Install the panel against the wall, pressing firmly and evenly against the silicone bead until resistance from the double-sided tape is experienced. Note: Where a folded panel method is used, both adjacent walls must be considered at the same time to ensure the panel is tightly fitted into the corner – so start at the corner.

Ensure the whole panel is pressed evenly and check vertical trueness with a spirit level. Ensure gaps between the panel and overhead cabinets or benchtops are even. Allowance of 3mm is required at each edge for silicone sealing. Figure 12 illustrates the installation process for a folded panel.

![Figure 12: Sequence of panel pressing onto the wall – folded corner method](image)

Butt joining of panels together requires a 3mm gap between panels for silicone sealing. Each panel is installed and pressed separately, starting at one edge and working to the other. Corners require a 3mm gap to be left for silicone sealing. Figure 13 illustrates the installation process for a butt joined panel.

![Figure 13: Sequence of panel pressing onto the wall – butt join method](image)

For straight panel joins, simply allow 3mm gap between sheets to allow for silicone sealing.
Removal of Protective Film

Once the panels have been installed onto the wall and all gaps are checked for spacing, the protective film can be removed. Take care to remove the protective film gently – DO NOT rip it from the panel with excessive force or it may move the sheet. Peel with a constant force and from one corner to the diagonal opposite. Figure 14 illustrates this.

Sealing with Silicone

Apply the silicone into the gap between each panel, and between panels and overhead cabinets/benchtops; ensuring that sufficient silicone is used to completely fill the gap, with a small amount of excess silicone squeezing out of the join.

Clean-up

Use water with a small amount of detergent and a soft micro-fibre cloth to clean up any excess silicone from the decorated surface before it cures.

Care

Laminex Metaline Splashbacks require very little maintenance if installed according to the instructions above and cleaned according to the following guidelines:

- DO use a soft micro-fibre cloth with a mild detergent
- DO clean the surface regularly
- DO NOT allow food stuffs to build up on the surface
- DO NOT use abrasive cleaners or pot scrubbing pads
- DO NOT use cleaning solutions that are highly acidic or caustic
- DO NOT clean the surface if it is hot
- DO NOT place metallic or sharp implements against the surface, which may cause scratching
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