

# Zapwall Installation Guide

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## Preparations:

### 1. Measuring:

Keep it simple. Measure as Wall A, Wall B, Wall C, etc. Advise your ideal height and width and we will supply, cut to those sizes. Allow for the panel to be no lower than 50mm from the skirting board or floor as floors are seldom level and may rise or fall. Check the width and two heights and advise the shortest with as walls as seldom square.

The standard maximum panel size is 2400mm x 1200mm.

### 2. Screws & Fixing Materials:

Advise Zapwall of the wall type when ordering your slatwall and we can include with your order the appropriate screws and fixing materials.

Use 8 gauge counter-sunk zinc coated screws (to match the aluminium) at least 40mm long.

### 3. Wall Type

Determine what materials the wall is made of that the slatwall is to be attached to

- a. Gib-board attached to wooden wall studs (see paragraph 13)
- b. Concrete or concrete block (see paragraph 14 then 13)
- c. Brick especially old brick requires special installation

### 4. Wiring & Pipes:

Check behind wall to be covered using Stud finder to avoid hitting pipes and wiring.

### 5. MDF Wedge:

Included with your slatwall are two small rectangular MDF wedges. Insert these wedges into the slatwall groove for easier lifting and holding of the slatwall panel you are attaching. During installation and before finally screwing the panel in place use the wedge to span the grooves of the panel just installed and the one you working on.

The simple procedure ensures that all the grooves on each panel line up.

### 6. Height from Ground:

Keep the bottom of the panel at least 50mm above the skirting or where there is no skirting above the floor itself. Most floors are not level and may tend to creep up causing problems with the installation only a few panels down from the first panel.

### 7. Exposed Ends:

At the time of ordering your slatwall advise the location of any exposed ends e.g. Wall (A) left side, Wall (B) both sides etc.

### 8. Exposed Ends Coverings:

'**U**' shape aluminium capping that we can attaché before the shipment leaves our factory or we can supply loose for your installer to attach on site. **PVC edge tape** which is attached to the panels prior to shipment. This is an attractive way to finish the panels in the same colour as the panel. **The cost** of each capping option is the same.

### 9. Install Right Way Up!!

Zapwall must be installed the right way up. The '**U**' shape section of aluminium must face **upwards**. Test with a slatwall fitting and this will demonstrate the right way up.

Our logo will also indicate the correct way as the Zapwall should not be upside down

### 10. Battens:

For concrete, brick or walls with irregular wall studs it is faster, easier and ensures a strongly mounted slatwall wall to fix battens first. Zapwall can supply battens for a small charge or you may choose to source them locally. Fix battens vertically so they can bridge between slatwall sheets, i.e. 1200mm apart or even 600mm as long as each sheet has at least two battens to screw into.

This ensures that should the wall be uneven left to right your slatwall will remain flat so your slatwall fittings will fit properly. Battens ideally will be 100mm wide. Screws should be about every fourth insert from top to bottom when fixing to battens.

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### 11. Screw through Insert:

It is more secure, faster and many times easier to **screw through** the aluminium insert and into the wall. If you remove the aluminium insert, attach the panel then try and put the aluminium insert back it is almost impossible. **Never** screw through the finished face of the slatwall panel always screw through the aluminium insert.

### 12. Electrical Plugs & Switches:

It is safer to get a registered electrician to disconnect all plugs and sockets.

#### The Easiest Way

Once the plugs and sockets have been isolated drill a hole where the plug is and feed the wire through that hole for reconnection on the face of the Zapwall

#### The Hardest Way

Cutting a shape from the Zapwall panel for plugs etc. is difficult, often leaving an unattractive edge and sometimes the aluminium insert is in the way making cutting very difficult

### 13. Installation Standard:

- a. The first sheet is the most important. Spend time making sure it is level and positioned exact, the rest of the installation will be easier with this effort on the first panel
- b. Mark out the wall for wall studs and electrical plugs and lightly pencil the start line etc.
- c. Measure back on the first panel and drill clearance holes through the aluminium slats where screws to be (making sure the holes will match up with wall studs etc.)
- d. Measure back on the first panel and drill clearance holes through the panel where any telephone cables will be fed through
- e. Position panel loosely, feed any wires through the holes already drilled and start attaching panel
- f. Screws every 300mm vertically is ideal through every 400mm is O.K.
- g. Make sure the screws are no more than 1200mm apart horizontally

### 14. Installation of battens:

- a. Position the battens exactly where the slatwall fixing screws are to be (refer to No.10)
- b. Standard Wall Studs Attach the battens using 60mm screws
- c. Concrete Walls  
**Step 1:** Drill a series of holes in the concrete (every 600mm to 900mm) where the concrete wall nails will be used to attach the battens  
**Step 2:** Drill a 6mm hole in the battens to match where the concrete wall holes are  
**Step 3.** Position the batten in place and using the 'Ramset' concrete nail hammer in place
- d. Brick Wall - as in concrete walls but you may need to coat the nail with adhesive as well as side of the batten to help with stability especially if the brick is flaky

### 15. Cleaning:

Keep Zapwall clean using a damp cloth or citrus cleaners. Never use abrasive cleaners.