

DIY CLIMBING WALL PANEL

ESCAPE
CLIMBING



OWNERS MANUAL



Failure to heed any and all instructions, warnings and cautions for the correct installation, operation, care and maintenance of the DIY Climbing Wall Panel(s) may result in serious injury or death. Keep this manual in a convenient location readily available for reference.

CLIMBING IS AN INHERENTLY DANGEROUS ACTIVITY!

PLEASE NOTE indoor climbing is a different sport than outdoor climbing, each requiring individual techniques and safety procedures. While similarities exist between the two sports, the objective dangers are quite different. Seemingly small and insignificant mistakes may have catastrophic results that could result in serious bodily injury and/or death. Individuals and organizations using product(s) distributed by Escape bear the responsibility for learning the proper techniques and safety procedures required for their safe use.



SAFETY SYMBOLS

The following safety alert symbols and signal words are used to highlight potential hazards throughout this manual. Ensure you understand each symbol and the nature of the hazardous situation, the consequences of not avoiding the hazard, and/or method(s) for avoiding, or that direct you to such information.



This is a safety alert symbol. It is used to alert you to potential physical injury hazards. Obey all safety messages that follow this symbol to avoid possible injury or death



DANGER indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.



WARNING indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.



CAUTION indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury.



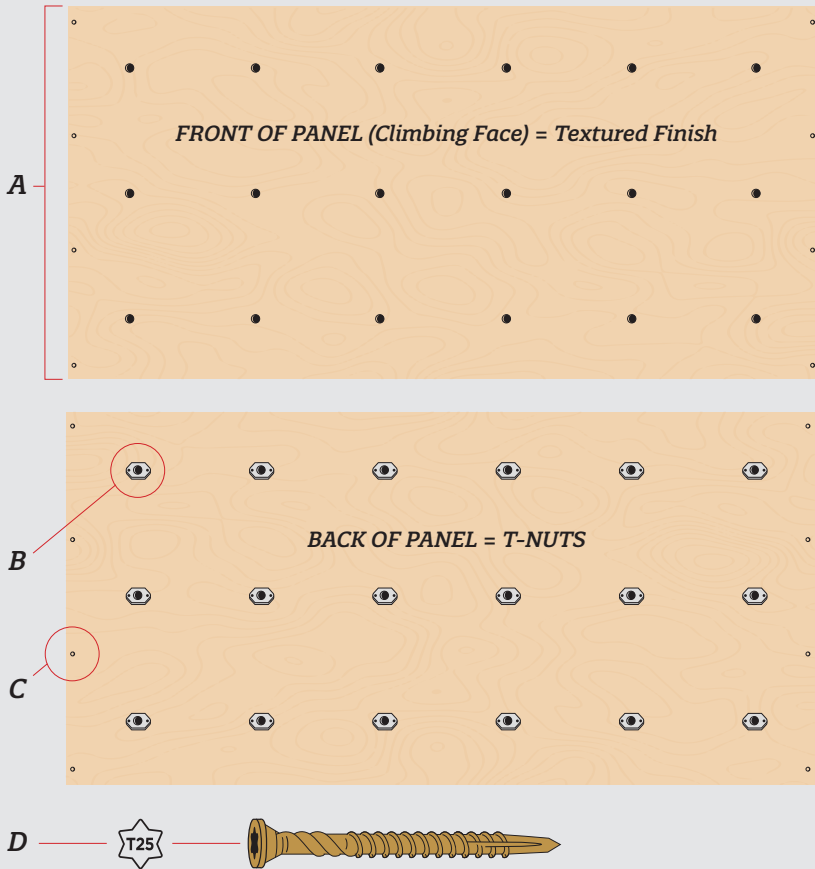
NOTICE is used to address practices not related to physical injury.



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PACKAGE CONTENTS



DIAGRAMS NOT TO SCALE

- A: (1 QTY)** *DIY Climbing Wall Panel
(with commercial-gym quality textured finish)*
- B: (18 QTY)** *Pre-Installed Escape Climbing Industrial T-Nuts*
- C: (8 QTY)** *Pre-drilled mounting holes for
Structural Screws (#9)*
- D: (12 QTY)** *Structural Screws (#9)*

WARNING

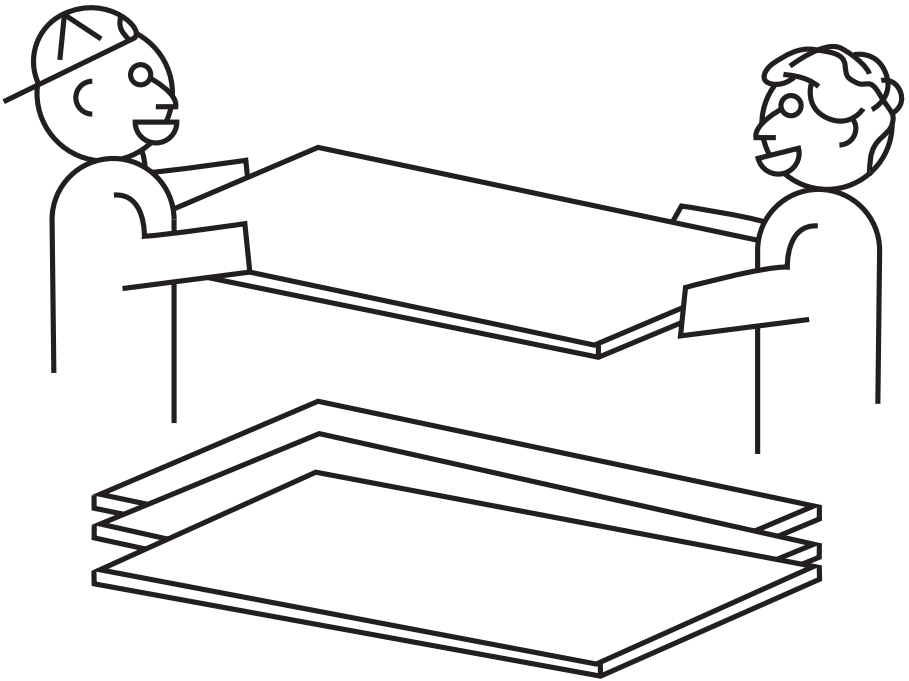
- This package contains small parts which have sharp edges and may be a choking hazard. Keep small parts away from children.
- T-nuts (item “B” above) in the panels are designed for climbing hold installation only. Do not use t-nuts for anchoring (top rope, bolt hanger installation, etc) of any type.



BOOYAH! YOU'RE BUILDING A HOMEWALL!

Nice! You're ready to make that commercial quality climbing wall a reality! Those 2'x4' panels on your floor might not look like much right now, but when grouped together they will make your climbing wall dreams appear.

Before starting though, let's go over how to safely install and maintain your new DIY Climbing Wall Panels. We will often refer to the DIY Climbing Wall Panel(s) as "panel(s)" throughout this manual.



KNOW WHAT YOU ARE GETTING INTO

WARNING

Owning a climbing wall brings with it a lot of responsibility. When done well you can mitigate some of the inherent risk, but when corners are cut or complacency sets in, the results can be catastrophic.

Your panels can be used to construct a bouldering wall or a rope climbing wall. Although they may appear similar in nature, they each have very different inherent hazards and the ways of properly mitigating these hazards are substantially different.

Understand that this owner's manual is very limited in its scope. It is **ONLY** intended to address the installation, safety, and maintenance of the DIY Climbing Wall Panel itself. It does not address any of the other inherent hazards associated with owning or using a climbing wall. It also does not address differences between bouldering walls and rope climbing walls.

DANGER

Failure to consider, fully understand, implement, and consistently practice all the safety components/aspects associated with your climbing wall will result in death or serious injury, so don't rush the wall build or start climbing until this is done. These components/aspects include but are not limited to: climbing wall design, structural supports, fall zones, flooring and padding, climbing ropes and anchor systems, routesetting, hold installation, harnesses, belay tools and other life safety equipment, belaying, spotting, spectator zones, lowering and downclimbing, and overall climbing technique. Each are separate and critical components/aspects necessary for you to mitigate the inherent hazards associated with your climbing wall.

NOTICE

If you are not willing or unable to implement the various components/aspects associated with a safe climbing wall then we ask that you promptly return your panels to Escape Climbing within 15 days for a refund of the product purchase price.

Visit <https://escapeclimbing.com/pages/returns-exchanges> or email orders@escapeclimbing.com to process this refund.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN YOUR INSTALLATION

Here are a few suggestions to help you get ready to install your panel(s). We've said it before, but please make sure you read everything before you get started!

WARNING

Failure to follow the instructions below could result in death or serious injury:

- You must build or use an existing structurally sound frame (studs) to properly attach the panels. Consult with a local contractor and/or structural engineer if you have any questions or concerns about the structural integrity, load limits, or viability of the structure you are attaching the panels onto.
- The DIY Climbing Wall Panels must be properly installed, inspected, and have an adequate landing surface in place before any use.
- Owners and operators of the DIY Climbing Wall Panels are responsible for the safety, instruction and supervision of any person using the panels and are responsible for correctly installing and using the panels for their intended purpose.
- Owners and operators must have read and shown to have understood all instructions and safety information pertaining to the installation, operation, care, and maintenance of the DIY Climbing Wall Panels, its component parts (including but not limited to climbing holds, anchors, and safety flooring), and all associated hardware.
- Select a location with an open fall zone free of obstacles to avoid any accidental impacts to climbers or spectators.

NOTICE

- Obtain any building permits as required.
- Inform your insurance provider of the project and its scope to ensure continued coverage.
- Find a location free from rain or high moisture levels.
- Installation of panels over drywall will leave 12 holes per panel in the drywall. When the climbing wall is removed the holes in the drywall will require repair to restore the drywall to its original condition.



GENERAL INSTALLATION

The manufacturer is not responsible for any failure from incorrect installation.

WARNING

- Take care not to drop the panels as this may result in serious injury or damage to the product.
- Ensure all parts of the climbing surface are free of sharp edges and burrs. This will help avoid damage to ropes and avoid injury to climbers.
- Ensure no gaps exist between panels where fingers could be entrapped and cause serious injury.
- A minimum of 12 screws are required to secure every panel and reduce probability of panel failure.
- Never over-tighten installation screws as this will greatly reduce the pull-out strength of the fasteners and increase the probability of panel failure.

MODIFYING PANELS

Do not modify your panels. Panels are designed to install without modifying/cutting and will line up with standard stud spacing used in wall construction.

NOTICE

Any cuts or modifications to your panel will void the warranty.

WARNING

Drilling, sawing, sanding, or machining climbing panels generates wood dust and silica sand particles, both substances known to the State of California to cause cancer. Avoid inhaling wood dust and silica particles and use appropriate personal protective equipment.



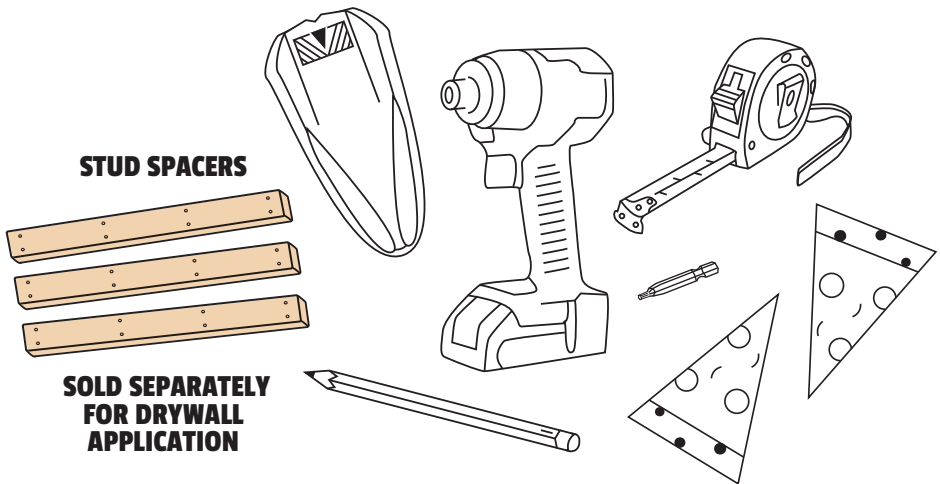
DIY PANEL INSTALLATION

TOOLS YOU WILL NEED

- Impact driver or power drill with a T-25 bit
- Pencil
- Stud finder (if installing panels on to walls without bare studs)
- Measuring Tape
- Some Pizza (Why Not?)

PREPARING THE INSTALL LOCATION

Before you get started, make sure the area is clean and clear of debris.



**PANEL INSTALLATION STEPS FOR
EXPOSED STUDS: PAGE 9**

**PANEL INSTALLATION STEPS FOR
ENCLOSED STUDS: PAGE 12
(DRYWALL)**



PANEL INSTALL ON EXPOSED STUDS

STEP 1:

Identify stud spacing to determine your screw installation pattern. These panels are designed for 16" or 24" on center stud spacing.

24" studs will require **adding four screws** to the center stud of each panel as pictured below:

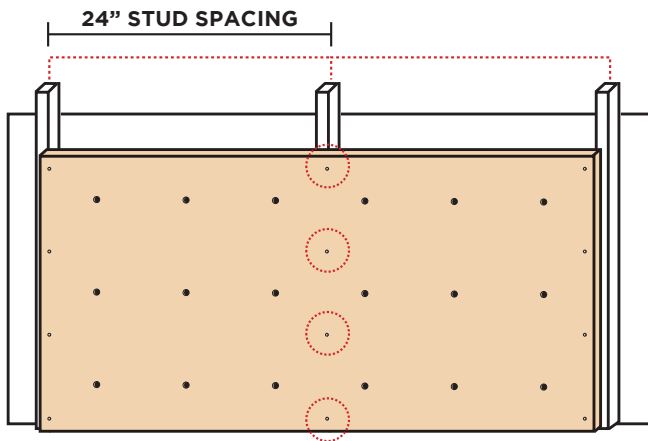


FIGURE A

16" studs will require **adding two screws (4 total)** to each center stud as pictured below:

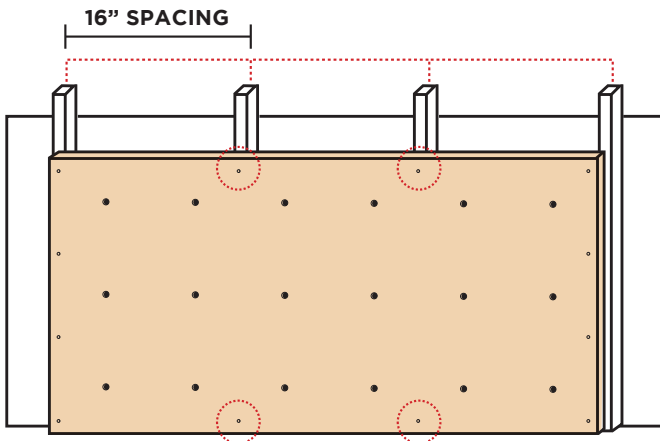


FIGURE B



PANEL INSTALL ON EXPOSED STUDS

STEP 2:

Start installation at the bottom of the structural frame. Install the panel using all 12 screws based upon your stud spacing and screw pattern determined in step one.

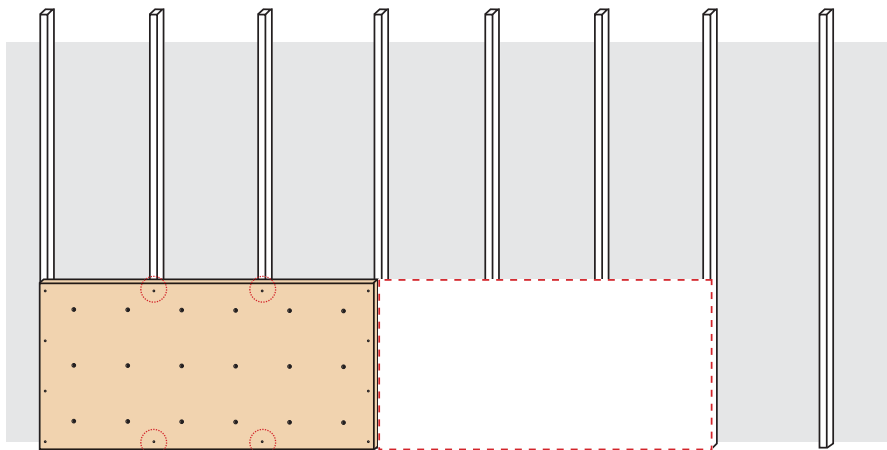


FIGURE C



Ensure install screws thread a minimum of 2" into the structural stud.
Do not overtighten install screws which can reduce the pull out strength.

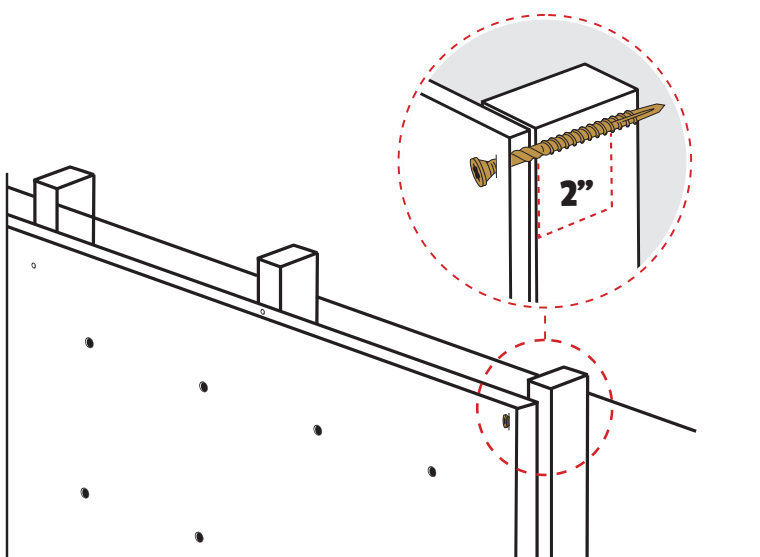


FIGURE D



PANEL INSTALL ON EXPOSED STUDS

STEP 3:

Install the following panel on top of the previous panel ensuring no gaps top/bottom or left/right. You got the hang of it! Keep going until all your panels are installed.

Tip: best to have one person holding the panel in place while the second person screws the panels in place.

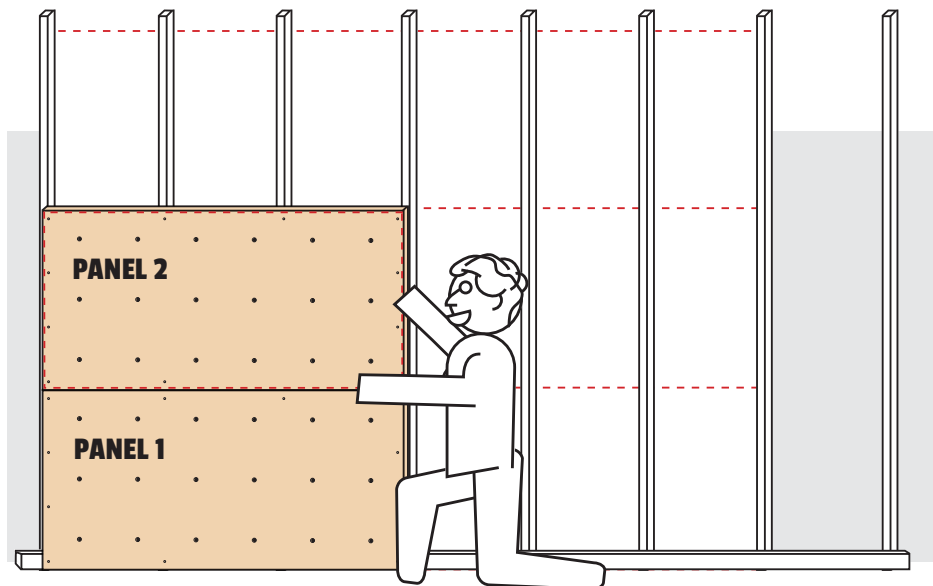


FIGURE E

ENSURE PANELS MEET AT THE MIDDLE OF STUD

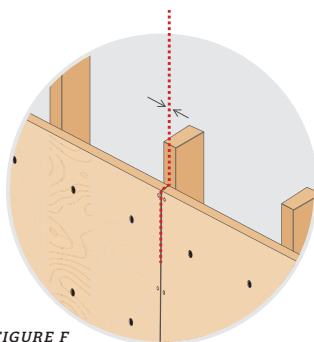


FIGURE F



INSTALLATION OVER DRYWALL

WARNING

DRYWALL (SHEETROCK) IS NOT A STRUCTURAL BUILDING MATERIAL AND WILL NOT SUPPORT A CLIMBING PANEL OR A CLIMBER'S WEIGHT. LOCATING AND INSTALLATION INTO THE STRUCTURAL STUDS BEHIND THE DRYWALL IS CRITICAL.

STEP 1:

Since your structural supports are not visible you must locate the studs with the use of a Stud Finder. Identify stud spacing to determine your screw installation pattern. These panels are designed for 16" or 24" on center stud spacing.

24" studs will require adding four screws to the center stud of each panel as pictured below:

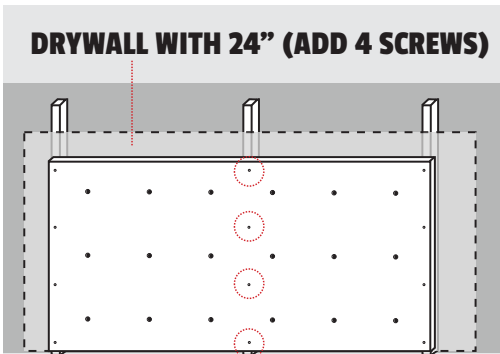


FIGURE G

16" studs will require adding two screws to each stud (4 total) as pictured below:

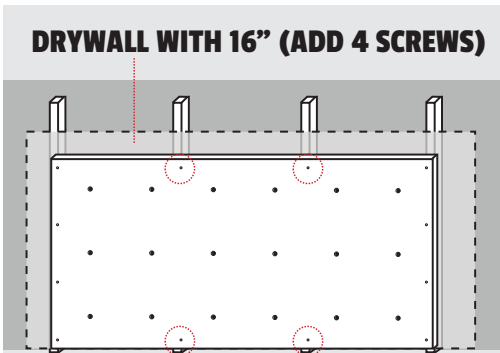


FIGURE H



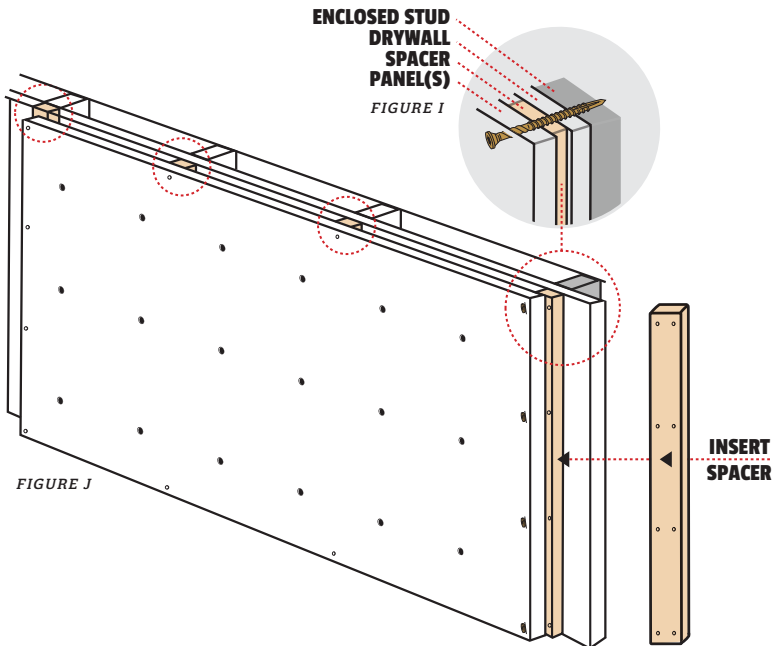
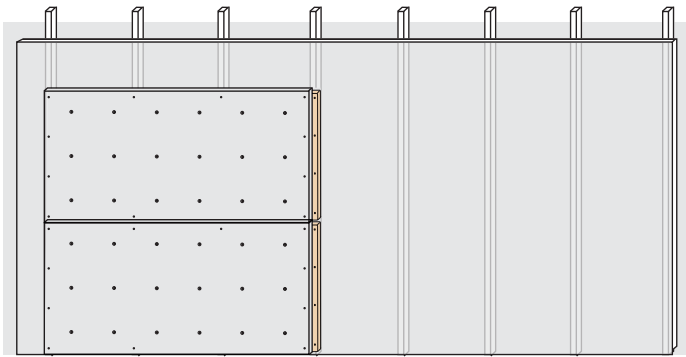
INSTALLATION OVER DRYWALL

STEP 2:

The panels should not be installed flush against the drywall. Follow the steps for an Exposed Stud Wall but sandwich the 3/4" spacers between the panel and the sheetrock. (Figure J)



- Ensure install screws thread a minimum of 2" into the structural stud (Figure I)
- Do not overtighten install screws which reduces the pull out strength.



BEFORE YOU CLIMB



Now that your panels are installed you are one step closer to climbing! We know you are anxious to climb; however, Failure to follow the instructions below may result in serious injury or death.

ALWAYS check the condition of the wall, the hardware, handholds, and other climbing-related equipment prior to climbing. Any damaged equipment or equipment showing signs of wear needs to be replaced prior to climbing.

ALWAYS check handholds to ensure they are properly mounted, secured and undamaged prior to climbing. ALWAYS double check EVERYTHING. ALWAYS seek proper training and instruction before using products received from Escape.

- Incorrectly installed climbing holds are dangerous! Use and install Escape branded climbing holds according to our climbing hold user manual. For use of Escape branded climbing holds visit our website at www.escapeclimbing.com to obtain a copy of our climbing hold user manual and safety guide.
- If using another manufacturer's climbing holds, ensure they meet the EN 12572-3:2017 standard, and are installed according to the manufacturer's instructions. Do not use climbing holds that fail this safety standard or do not come with proper safety instructions.
- Proper anchors systems must be installed and inspected by a professional prior to using a top-rope or lead rope climbing wall. T-nuts in the panels are NOT adequate anchor points and are ONLY designed for the installation of climbing holds.
- Falls onto hard surfaces could result in head or other serious injuries. Carpet or thin mats are not adequate surfaces to reduce fall injuries. Always use protective padding designed for rock climbing falls.
- Ensure routes/boulder problems are free of unsafe maneuvers or falls.
- Shoes must be worn at all times to prevent scrapes and cuts
- On-site adult supervision is required at all times for children of all ages.
- DO NOT allow pets or other animals near the equipment.
- Owners and operators are responsible for ensuring that any person using the DIY Climbing Wall Panel is informed of all potential dangers associated with its use and has been instructed in the appropriate and safe use of this product and any accessory products being used in connection to this product (namely climbing holds, ropes, floor padding, harnesses, belay devices, carabiners, etc).
- Climbing is considered to be a strenuous activity. If you have any physical or medical conditions that may affect your climbing ability consult a medical professional prior to climbing.



REPLACEMENT PARTS

Order necessary replacement (installation screws, Escape industrial t-nuts, or panels) directly through our website www.escapeclimbing.com

ASSUMPTION OF RISK/DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

THE DIY CLIMBING WALL PANEL IS NOT DESIGNED TO PREVENT OR REDUCE ANY OF THE INHERENT DANGERS OF CLIMBING, INCLUDING PERSONAL INJURY AND DEATH. THIS USER MANUAL IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR PROPER INSTRUCTION, COMMON SENSE, OR THE SERVICES OF OTHER PROFESSIONALS SUCH AS STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS, BUILDERS, WALL DESIGNERS, FLOORING EXPERTS, CONSULTANTS, ROUTESETTERS, OR CLIMBING TRAINERS.

WARNING! CLIMBING, MOUNTAINEERING, BOULDERING, HIKING, RELATED ACTIVITIES AND TRAINING FOR SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE HAZARDOUS AND INHERENTLY DANGEROUS ACTIVITIES, THAT EVEN WHEN DONE PROPERLY, DUE TO THEIR PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND/OR FALLS SUSTAINED, MAY RESULT IN SERIOUS BODILY INJURY AND/OR DEATH. USE THE DIY CLIMBING WALL PANELS AND OTHER ESCAPE CLIMBING, LLC ("ESCAPE") PRODUCTS AT YOUR OWN RISK. ALWAYS USE COMMON SENSE AND GOOD JUDGMENT, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, USING APPROPRIATE SAFETY EQUIPMENT, CRASH PADS, AND SPOTTING. ADULTS SHOULD SUPERVISE CHILDREN OF ALL AGES IF YOU CHOSE TO ALLOW CHILDREN TO USE THE DIY CLIMBING WALL PANEL. ENSURE THAT THE AREA UNDERNEATH AND ADJACENT TO THE DIY CLIMBING WALL PANEL IS CLEAR OF OBSTACLES, PETS, PEOPLE, OR ANYTHING ELSE THAT COULD INJURE OR BE INJURED BY A FALLING CLIMBER.

BY PURCHASING THE DIY CLIMBING WALL PANEL ("PRODUCT"), YOU HAVE ACCEPTED ALL RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWNERSHIP AND USE OF THE PRODUCT, FOR YOURSELF AND ANYONE THAT YOU ALLOW TO USE THE PRODUCT AND YOU ASSUME ALL RISKS AND FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL DAMAGES OR INJURY, INCLUDING DEATH AND DISFIGUREMENT THAT MAY RESULT FOR THE USE OR MISUSE OF THE PRODUCT. IF, WITHIN THE FIRST FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FOLLOWING THE DATE OF PURCHASE YOU ARE NOT WILLING OR OTHERWISE UNABLE TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ASSUMPTION OF RISK/DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY, CONTACT US TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO RETURN THE PRODUCT AND RECEIVE A REFUND OF THE PURCHASE PRICE. ESCAPE EXPLICITLY DISCLAIMS ANY AND ALL RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY FOR ANY DEATH, INJURY, AND/OR DAMAGE TO ANY PERSON OR PROPERTY THAT MAY OCCUR, THAT ARISES OUT OF, OR IS IN ANY WAY RELATED TO THE USE, MISUSE, OR INSTALLATION OF ANY ESCAPE PRODUCT.

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MAINTENANCE / INSPECTION

WARNING

- Check for loose holds before every use and tighten as required! Climbing panels will expand and contract with changing humidity levels which can cause holds to loosen and tighten without notice.
- Check for sharp points or edges that can cause injuries.
- Check panels monthly during usage periods. This includes, but is not limited to inspected for missing attachment points, loose connections, excess wear, thread damage on t-nuts, and overall integrity.
 - Replace any damaged climbing wall panels
 - Replace any damaged t-nuts
- Frequency of inspection will need to increase if factors exist such as heavy use, vandalism, coastal locations, or age of equipment.
- Avoid removing panels during maintenance or inspection. If it is necessary to remove a panel (such as replacing t-nuts), longer screws or new attachment points must be used to reinstall the panel. Never use the same screw in the same hole for re-installation as this greatly reduces the pull-out strength of the screw. If you wish to reuse the existing holes you must reinstall the panel using screw 2' longer than the original screws and ensure the longer threads rest in solid wood. Alternatively you can create new attachment points ~ 1" above or below the original attachment points.

WARRANTY

ESCAPE CLIMBING, LLC ("ESCAPE") WARRANTS THAT THE DIY CLIMBING WALL PANELS AND RELATED PARTS ("PRODUCT") ARE FREE FROM DEFECTS IN MATERIALS AND WORKMANSHIP FOR A PERIOD OF 1 YEAR FROM THE DATE OF PURCHASE AS SHOWN ON THE PURCHASE RECEIPT. THIS LIMITED WARRANTY APPLIES ONLY TO THE ORIGINAL PURCHASER AND IS NOT TRANSFERRABLE OR ASSIGNABLE. THIS LIMITED WARRANTY IS CONTINGENT UPON THE PURCHASER MAINTAINING AND USING THE PRODUCT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED BY ESCAPE. THIS LIMITED WARRANTY IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

THIS LIMITED WARRANTY IS FOR THE REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF PRODUCT(S) ONLY. THIS LIMITED WARRANTY DOES NOT INCLUDE LABOR OR OTHER COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH INSTALLATION.

IMMEDIATELY DISCONTINUE USE OF THE PRODUCT IF YOU FIND WHAT YOU BELIEVE IS A DEFECT IN THE PRODUCT. YOU MUST NOTIFY US IN WRITING WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF DISCOVERY OF THE DEFECT. AFTER RECEIVING NOTIFICATION OF THE DEFECT, ESCAPE WILL, IN ITS SOLE DISCRETION, REPAIR, REPLACE OR REFUND THE PURCHASE PRICE OF THE PRODUCT FOUND TO BE DEFECTIVE UNDER NORMAL USE AND SERVICE DURING THE WARRANTY PERIOD. ESCAPE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REQUIRE THE PURCHASER TO RETURN THE PRODUCT TO ITS FACILITY FOR INSPECTION PRIOR TO ESCAPE MAKING A WARRANTY DETERMINATION. IN SUCH EVENT, PURCHASER SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FREIGHT OR SHIPPING COSTS TO GET THE PRODUCT TO ESCAPE. ESCAPE SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FREIGHT OR SHIPPING COSTS TO RETURN THE REPAIRED OR REPLACEMENT PRODUCT TO PURCHASER. WHEN THIS LIMITED WARRANTY INVOLVES THE REPLACEMENT OF A PRODUCT, THE REPLACED PRODUCT BECOMES ESCAPE'S PROPERTY AND THE REPLACEMENT PRODUCT BECOMES THE PROPERTY OF PURCHASER.

THIS LIMITED WARRANTY IS NULL AND VOID IF ANY MODIFICATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE PRODUCT. THIS LIMITED WARRANTY DOES NOT COVER DAMAGES RESULTING FROM ABUSE, IMPROPER INSTALLATION OR MAINTENANCE, DAMAGE IN TRANSIT, OR ANY OTHER DAMAGE BEYOND THE CONTROL OF ESCAPE. NO PERSON, AGENT, SALES REPRESENTATIVE OR DISTRIBUTOR IS AUTHORIZED TO GIVE ANY WARRANTY ON BEHALF OF ESCAPE OTHER THAN THIS LIMITED WARRANTY. PURCHASER AGREES THAT ESCAPE (INCLUDING MEMBERS, MANAGERS, EMPLOYEES, REPRESENTATIVES, AND AGENTS) SHALL NOT BE LIABLE TO PURCHASER FOR INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OF ANY KIND, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, LOST OR PROJECTED PROFITS, EQUIPMENT OR PERSONNEL DOWNTIME. AS SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW THE EXCLUSION OF LIMITATION OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, THE ABOVE LIMITATIONS MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU. SUBJECT TO THIS PROVISION, ANY CLAIM FOR DAMAGES FOR BREACH OF WARRANTY SHALL BE LIMITED TO THE PURCHASE PRICE OF THE PRODUCT.

NOTHING IN THIS LIMITED WARRANTY AFFECTS STATUTORY RIGHTS THAT CANNOT BE WAIVED OR LIMITED BY THIS LIMITED WARRANTY.

