

ALCOVE Seamless Water Screen

Alcove Shower System Installation Guide for Water Screen

Congratulations on the purchase of your new shower package. This guide will give you the instructions on the installation of your new shower.

Sistine Stone[™] showers are ideal for an experienced "DIYer". Please read through this entire installation guide before beginning your installation. If you feel you can not confidently install this shower by yourself hire a licensed contractor, handyman, or professional installer that can do it for you. Installation time may vary depending on your experience, complexity of shower, and "Pre-Install Prep Work" which may include: plumbing and/or drain relocation, bathroom demolition, and squaring up studs and floor.

Watch our Installation and Product Videos on american bathfactory.com/pages/videos

Prior to demolition, scheduling your installer, or building your shower, double check that you have all the parts from the factory. Some applications may require a licensed plumber or contractor. Do not use any product spec sheets to begin installation before receiving product. These spec sheets are for reference only. Use actual product measurements only. The diagrams throughout this guide illustrate a 60" x 30" shower. Depending on the size of the shower purchased, actual parts may vary in size and look from the diagrams shown.

Our goal is to help you achieve a quick and successful shower installation.



See the clock in each section for estimated installation time.

Check Your Order Before Installation

Please inspect shipment thoroughly upon receipt and before starting the installation. Missing or damaged stone and hardware should be reported within 24 hours of receiving this shipment. For assistance, call us at 800-454-2284 Ext 22 Mon. - Fri. from 7:15am - 4pm (PT) or email customerservice@americanbathfactory.com.

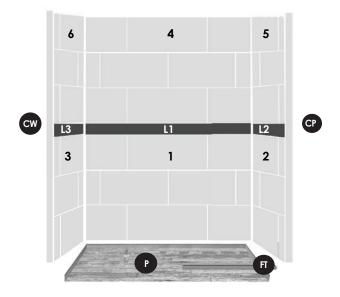
Go step-by-step through the guide verifying you have all the parts for each step depending on your model description in each section.





CHECK YOUR SHIPMENT

Make sure you have received all the items necessary for the installation. This will also familiarize you with all the parts and hardware you will need to install your shower. Package contents are dependent upon which package you ordered. Also carefully inspect all items for any shipping damage that may have occured.



GP

SHOWER PAN SET

- Leak-Free Reinforced Pan
- FIDOR Threshold for Glass Panel

SISTINE STONE WALLS AND TRIM

- Back Wall Panel Top & Bottom
- 6 3 Left Wall Panel Top & Bottom
- 5 2 Right Wall Panels Top & Bottom
 - Accent or Stone Liner Back
- 13 Accent or Stone Liners Right & Left
 - © Side Casing for Glass Panel & Cap (Reversible)
 - cw Side Casing for Wall & Cap (Reversible)

Store panels and liners on a clean, flat surface only, as well as all stone items. Leaning panels against a wall will cause them to bow. Laying them out will also allow the pieces to acclimate.

GLASS

GP Glass Panel (Reversible)

CAUTION: handle glass panel with care. Glass is heavy and fragile.

For best results, keep direct water sprays (handshowers/ showerheads) away from the opening. Never install them directly opposite of the opening. Keeping direct water spray away will ensure you have minimal water escaping.

CAUTION: Do not use an elastomeric waterproofing membrane on your backer board as silicone will not properly stick to it.



PRE-INSTALLATION TEAR DOWN



This shower system is designed to be installed on a level, bare floor. It is necessary for any existing shower to be completely removed. Tear out and remove all old material to expose the 2 x 4 wall studs. Clean up the shower area, removing all dust and old material from the area.

Cold Weather Warning: We recommend not installing your shower below the temperature of 70°F. The shower will be fine in cold weather after installation, but during installation bending and handling shower components in cold weather can cause breakage. Frigid conditions can make some shower components brittle and susceptible to cracking during rough installation handling.

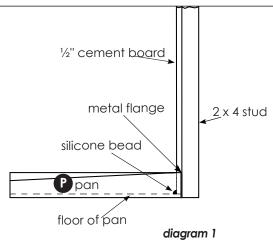


DRY-FITTING THE PAN



TIME REQUIRED

1/2 to 1 HR



It is easier to check alignment of studs and pan without the drain installed into the pan. Place the pan in the planned position. Make sure the shower pan is aligned properly and fits snuggly against the shower frame studs on all sides. Check the drain alignment and make adjustments as necessary. Also check to make sure your studs are in the needed position and supported adequately.

SILICONE

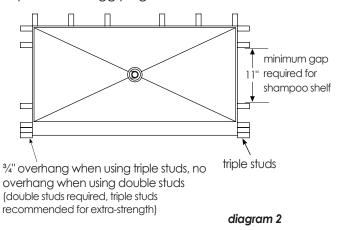
Each shower will typically require between 12-24 tubes depending on your size and configuration. There are different brands that make RTV silicone (e.g. "DAP", "LOCTITE", or "A.S.I.") or we also recommend the use of GE Silicone II. You can purchase silicone on our website under Shower Accessories.



FRAME OUT SHOWER STALL AREA



Using the pan, you will be able to check to make sure your studs are in the needed position and supported adequately. You will see in (dia. 2) extra 2 x 4 studs are added to the door and glass side thresholds for extra strength. You may need to make adjustments for your accessories. You can calculate the needed width and height of areas to keep free of 2 x 4 studs. This is also when you should add your extra support bracing for those who need them for your other accessories such as the shower valve, grab bars, benches, shelves, etc. Sweep out any debris. Make sure the shower pan is aligned properly and fits snuggly against the shower frame studs on all sides.



NOTE: Due to some rough handling during shipping, you can water test pan before installation to check for any issues.

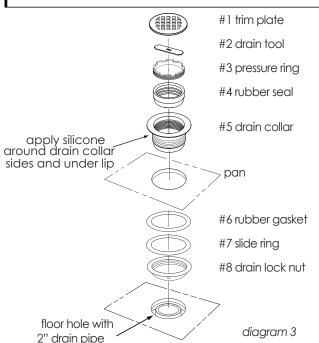


INSTALLING DRAIN



TIME REQUIRED

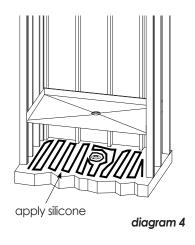
1/2 to 1 HR



- 1. Locate the drain assembly to install into pan.
- 2. Apply a generous bead of 100% RTV silicone around the shower pan drain hole and around the outside of the drain collar #5, insert the drain collar #5 into the drain hole.
- 3. Apply a generous bead of 100% RTV silicone around the drain collar #5 from the underside of the pan.
- 4. Install the rubber gasket #6 over the drain collar #5, to the underside of the pan, next install the slide ring #7.
- 5. Screw on the drain lock nut #8 and hand tighten. Turn drain lock nut #8 approximately 1/4 turn with the wrench to ensure a water-tight fit. Check for a good seal. DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN.
- 6. Wipe off excess 100% RTV silicone and allow to dry. Follow the manufacturer's directions for application and drying time.







- 1. Now that the drain is installed into the pan dry fit the pan and drain for alignment, check to make sure the 2" drain pipe is in the center of the pan drain hole. (dia. 2) Use the drain collar #5 by itself; remove the rubber seal, nut and gaskets from the drain assembly.(dia. 3, previous page) Push the drain collar #5 into the drain hole between the pan and the 2" pipe. With the drain collar pushed flush to the pan surface, the 2" drain pipe should not extend past the inside threads of the drain collar #5.
- 2. Make sure the pan and drain fit level to the floor.
- 3. Remove pan and apply 100% RTV Silicone to floor. (dia. 4)
- 4. Carefully lift the shower pan and set into place. Make sure the ABS pipe is still centered.
- 5. Push and secure the rubber seal #4 onto the 2" ABS pipe.
- 6. Thread on the brass pressure ring #3 around the drain pipe with the provided tool #2. Remove the tool after the brass pressure ring is installed.
- 7. Test and snap the decorative diamond trim plate #1 into position.(Remove the decorative trim plate and store in secure area until installation is complete, drain will be grouted when shower is grouted)
- 8. After installing pan, cover with cardboard or drop cloth to protect pan from scuffs.



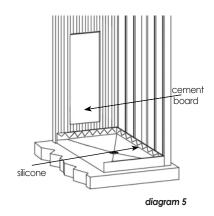
CEMENT BOARD INSTALLATION



TIME REQUIRED

1-2 HRS

We recommend the use of ½" thick cement board as your shower backer. This is a common backer for stone and tile. Using this backer will help comply with almost all city codes. A product like WonderBoard® or HardieBacker® may be used if it meets your local codes. Some codes may also require a vapor barrier to be installed. We recommend using a 6 mil. plastic water/vapor barrier and should be installed prior to the cement board. To do this, staple plastic so that it hangs 1" above the floor. **DO NOT USE AN ELASTOMERIC WATERPROOFING MEMBRANE OVER YOUR CEMENT BOARD (such as RedGard).** Roofing nails may be used to attach the cement board instead of screws, this prevents the plastic from wrapping around the screws.

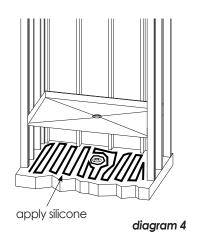


IMPORTANT: Walls must be solid, plumb, and square within $\frac{1}{8}$ " of true. Use your cement board as an indicator of squareness. If you see gaps or areas where the cement board is not fitting flush, fix the problem by removing the cement board and shimming the boards until it's square and flush. This kit is designed with some allowances for minor alignment issues.

- 1. Install the cement board to fit around threshold flange. Sanding or shimming the 2×4 's at the top rim of the pan may be required to flush the cement board. (dia. 5)
- 2. Place a bead of 100% RTV silicone on the front INSIDE face of the shower pan flange. The bead should be in a zig-zag pattern. (dia. 5)
- 3. Install the cement board against the studs and rest it inside the shower pan against the metal flange leaving a 1/4" gap from pan floor and silicone accordingly. Attach the cement board to the studs with screws or nails. **DO NOT** screw or nail into the metal shower pan flange.
- 4. Continue installing the remaining cement board ensuring to seal all joints.
- 5. Clean the wall surface with a damp cloth to remove any dust, dirt, or any other contaminants.







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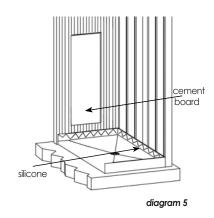
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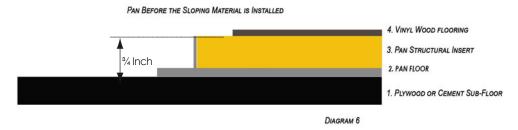
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- 4. Continue installing the remaining cement board ensuring to seal all joints.
- 5. Clean the wall surface with a damp cloth to remove any dust, dirt, or any other contaminants.



CONTINUOUS FLOOR INSTALLATION

There are several options to choose from when connecting your bathroom flooring to the shower pan.



- A) The basics to install a continuous floor: The floor on the pan (#4 in Diagram 6) is ¾ of an inch above your bathroom floor (#1 in Diagram 6). To connect the bathroom flooring to the pan flooring it will be necessary to raise the bathroom floor ¾ of an inch. (Diagram 6)
- B) The bathroom sub-floor will be plywood or cement, depending on which you have will determine what you can do to raise the flooring.

Option 1: Use cement to float the ³/₄" height difference up to the pan structural insert (#3 diagram 6) it is recommended to level cement to the pan structural insert and extend leveling one foot out the shower opening, which will allow water that may escape the shower to flow back into the shower to drain. (Diagram 7) Your bathroom configuration may be different, but the example is a guideline for you to adapt to your needs; the cement can be gradually tapered to the bathroom sub floor in a way that works for your particular bathroom layout. (Diagram 7)

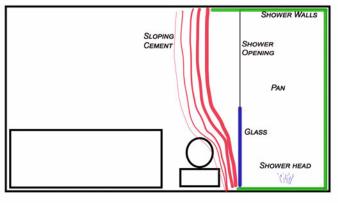
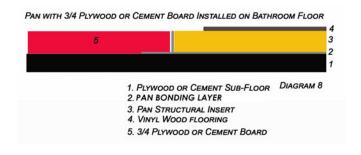


Diagram 7



Option 2: For both wood or cement sub-floors it is possible to use $\frac{3}{4}$ " plywood or cement board ($\frac{1}{2}$ plus $\frac{1}{4}$) to raise the entire bathroom floor or make a sloping floor that fits your needs. The cement board or plywood can be screwed or glued down the the sub-floor. If you install the $\frac{3}{4}$ plywood or cement board onto the entire bathroom, the transition point under the door will need to have a $\frac{3}{4}$ " threshold under the door and you may need to trim the bottom of the door to accommodate the higher floor.

C) Once the 3/4" raised flooring (#5 in Diagram 8) is installed and a you have a flat transition from the pan structural insert (#3 in Diagram 8), the remaining wood flooring can be installed. Most of the wood flooring will be installed as the manufacturer recommends, that is floating loose over the new sub-floor. However for the first foot of flooring coming out of the shower we recommend using silicone to glue down the wood vinyl flooring. With silicone holding down your flooring, it will be well equipped for the wet environment caused from exiting the shower. Follow the flooring manufacturer's instructions when installing the rest of the bathroom flooring.

WALL PANEL/LINER INSTALLATION

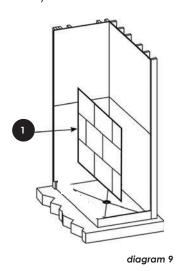
TIME REQUIRED

1-2 HR

A - Inspecting Wall Panels/Liners

Inspecting panels at this point will give you confidence that the wall panels are straight and square from the factory. When installing wall panels, you may need to make adjustments to the panels to accommodate for unevenness of your existing walls. During the inspection process and/or dry-fitting process, if you have any concerns about the alignment or fit of the wall panels, please call us and we will gladly assist you with your install.

- 1. Find a large flat area to layout and inspect all panels. Carry the panels vertically and in some cases have 2 people transport them.
- 2. Align all panels and liners to check for straightness. Make sure grout lines are straight and square to each other.
- 3. Sistine Stone wall panels are made to have some flex. Use care when laying the panels flat or picking them up to prevent overflexing, especially when they have a cutout in them. If the panels have been stored improperly it will likely cause them to bow. In most cases it can be corrected. (See troubleshooting section for details)

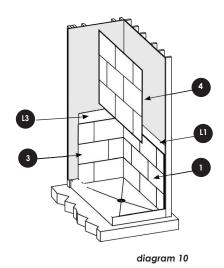


B - Dry-fit Wall Panels/Liners

- 1. The panels are numbered on the back start with the #1 back panel. Next # 2 right side panel and then the #3 panel. (dia.9)
- 2. After panel #3 is installed, the accent liners will be installed. Start with L1 liner from left to right on horizontal models or on vertical liners start from the bottom to the top.
- 3. After the liners are installed, continue in order installing #4 panel then the rest of panels.
- 4. If have a Horizontal double liner model, you will install the cap liners in order to finish.



DO NOT force the panels or liners to fit in a tight space. This will cause the panels to bow or curve and can cause them to break. Due to the resilient flex in the panels any bowing will cause the silicone bond to break away from the wall's surface.



- 5. Holding the upper panels and liner in place with another persons help, check the length and overlap alignment. Some fitting may be required.
- 6. Place one of the bottom side panels into position and check for levelness and length. Making sure the shorter wall panel is on the glass side.
- 7. Place the side liner into position. (dia. 10)
- 8. Place one of the top side panels into position.
- 9. Repeat steps 6 through 8 for other side of shower.
- 10. Depending on your faucet selection, you may need to mark and cut out holes for your faucet and other accessories (i.e. shampoo shelf) to fit through before you can place the panel into position. Remember "measure twice, cut once", you can cut our walls with most cutting tools.

HELPFUL HINTS: Place wall panels on a flat surface finished side up and put masking or painter's tape where the blade will cut the stone. All cutouts for faucets or accessories should have rounded corners; as straight, sharp edges can cause stress cracks. For best results when drilling, place a scrap piece of wood beneath the hole to ensure a clean cut.



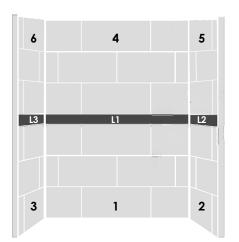
WALL PANEL/LINER INSTALLATION (continued)

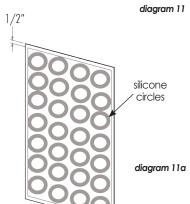


TIME REQUIRED

2-3 HR

2-3 HR





C - Installing Panels

- 1. Remove all dust and dirt with a clean dry cloth. This will increase the bond to the 100% RTV silicone.
- 2. Start with the bottom panel #1 apply a generous amount of 100% RTV silicone in the same circular application recommended for the side casings to the cement board and to the back side of the wall panel. Refer to the manufacturer's recommendations for installation precautions and drying time. (diagram 11a)

Braces may be required to keep walls flush

- 3. Make sure to apply a generous bead of silicone between each joint or seam to create a watertight seal.
- 4. Press the wall firmly into position. Be sure to use the spacers again between the bottom panel and the shower pan to ensure the panel sits level.
- 5. Install the remaining panels and liners in the same order you dryfitted them.



OPTIONAL SHAMPOO SHELF INSTALLATION



- 1. The shampoo shelf was designed to match your tile size. 12" x 24" tiles, the cut-out hole size is 10 x 22".
- 2. There is a 1" lip or frame around the shelf, this will be the water sealed area for the shampoo shelf.
- The best way to cut the hole is with a small 5" round lines.
 diamond blade and with a jigsaw to cut the corners.
 Using 100% RTV Silicone place a generous bead

See detailed instructions included with shampoo shelf

- 4. On the 2 tiles the shelf will be replacing, mark 1" in from the outside of the grout line. Cut out the hole for the shelf. The smaller the hole the better.
- 5. Dry-fit the shelf and check alignment of the grout lines.
- Using 100% RTV Silicone place a generous bead around the back of the lip, push in place and wipe away any excess silicone.



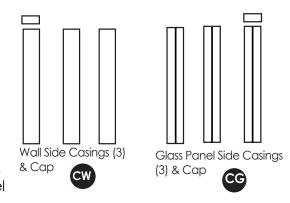
GLASS PANEL AND SIDE CASINGS INSTALLATION



- 1. Locate the Glass Panel, GP
- 2. Locate the set of 3 wall casings with Channels, CG
- 3. Locate the set of 3 Wall Casings without Channels, CW

Be careful not to rest the edges of the glass on hard surfaces. Tempered glass is very strong and impact resistant but its weakest point is impact on the edges.

- 4. The wall casings will go flush to the wall panels. Dry test first, place the first (CG) side casing with channel into position making sure to align it with the vertical edge of the short wall panel. Place the (FT) Floor Threshold with the glass channel (2 parts) on the floor and align with Wall casings Channel. Once you have the (FT) located in the desired location, mark the position on the floor with a pencil.
- With silicone, glue the Wall Casings and Floor Threshold Channel in place. Making round circles creates a suction cup-like action. Do not install the caps yet. Allow the silicone to fully dry before installing the Glass Panel.
- 6. Once the silicone on the wall casings and floor threshold channel has dried, then dry fit the glass panel. After examining that the Glass Panel fits nicely into the casings and floor threshold as well the height of the glass matches the top of the casings. Put a silicone bead inside the channel, insert the glass panel, wipe of excess silicone with making sure there are no gaps or voids between the glass and the channels. Then install the caps.



Floor Threshold with Channel for Glass (2)



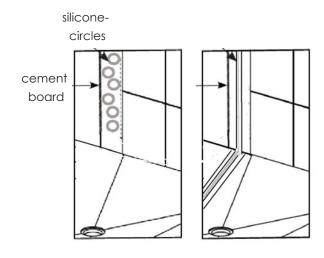


diagram 12

13 GROUT

Your American Bath Factory shower has a non-porous surface, which makes it easy to clean. Decorative lines in the shower wall panels and Sistine Stone floor accents (e.g. 4x4 Diamond) can be grouted if preferred, but it is not necessary. Showers with any glass tile accents must be grouted. Grout must contain an ACRYLIC ADDITIVE to ensure proper bonding to the tiles. We suggest grouting in every union joint of shower components. These are two recommendations we have for grouting the shower:

- 1. Traditional powered grout that is non-sanded and instead of water we recommend mixing with an acrylic additive to aid in adhesion
- 2. You can also use a pre-mixed non-sanded grout this comes ready to apply, no mixing necessary this normally comes in caulking tubes (no additive needed)

Do not let the grout dry completely onto the shower before removing and cleaning off the excess grout. If grout is allowed to dry onto the shower components, it will likely be difficult if not impossible to remove without damaging the shower's surface. **Note: Grout is not covered by ABF Warranty.**

CARE & MAINTENANCE OF YOUR SHOWER SYSTEM

SISTINE STONE is easy to clean using dish soap. Dish soap is inexpensive and great to dissolve body oils as well will not leave a buildup of soap. If you have hard water spotting you may need something stronger like Comet or another non-scratch cleanser. "Lightly" scrub the stained area in a circular motion to avoid discoloration. The stone is naturally waterproof and will not absorb spills or soil, simply wipe away with a damp sponge.

Periodic cleaning with a sponge and warm, soapy water will remove any build up of dust or grime. Periodically check the grout and silicone for any cracks and repair as needed.

SHOWER SYSTEM TROUBLESHOOTING

Correcting Bowed Wall Panels Sistine Stone Wall Panels are made to be flexible and may have a slight bow. This condition is normal and the panels will flatten when properly installed. If the panels have been stored improperly or have become excessively bowed, follow instructions below. Using a hair dryer or heating pad/blanket, warm up the backside of the panel in the most bowed area. Once the panel becomes malleable, lay panel on a flat surface and apply weight until cool and flat.

Cracked Tile As with any tile project, a tile can become damaged. Simply cut out the damaged tile, silicone a replacement tile in place, and grout.

Cracked Wall Panel Seam If your wall panel developed a crack in a grout line, simply grout over the cracked seam when it is installed. The grout will correct the problem, you will not be able to tell the crack was ever there.

Scratches & Blemishes Can be removed by wet-sanding the tile surface. Make sure tile surface and sandpaper are wet, and sand tiles until scratches and blemishes are removed.



Phone 800.454.2284 Fax 951.734.1480 Visit us at www.americanbathfactory.com