

Mantel Installation

HEARTH – Always work from center of firebox. We usually install our formed edge hearth on top of the hardwood or other finished floor. The grout around the edge of the hearth after installed will give a nice finished appearance. Use glue such as construction adhesives in hearth to wood installs and mastic or thin set for hearth to tile. In cases where the hearth is to concrete or tile, use a thin set material as if you were installing tile.

MANTEL – Know what your mantel looks like installed. Lay it out on the floor if necessary. Install the vertical ledgers for the legs onto the wall. Place the leg over the ledger and drill the sides in order to screw the leg to the ledger making sure the screw head is set into the material. These places are addressed in the finishing process. Make sure the legs remain in the proper place after securing. Attach the horizontal ledger board on the wall in the proper place for the header. The boards on the wall hold the mantel to the wall. Drill and screw through the top of the header to secure it to the ledger.

OVER-MANTEL – If there is an over-mantel, secure it to the wall in the same manner as the legs and or mantel header.

FINISH WORK – Your mantel comes with a textured powder grout and a color mix that is water with color in it. When using the color you need to shake the color in order to dispense it in the water. As soon as the container is put down, the color begins to fall to the bottom of the jug. Because the mix sets up quickly, only mix what you can use at the time. Mix the grout to a peanut butter or dough like consistence. Push the grout in with your fingers and allow some to remain on the surface. As you work the grout, it begins to set up. Allow the grout to set some but not get very hard, then cut the over grout with a putty knife to the surface. This will leave a filled area that looks like the surface of the stone.

After filling the piece you may want to sand and oil the lines that you have finished. The oil comes with the kit. Evenly spread the oil on a clean dry rag. Pour oil onto a smooth flat surface (like a pizza pan) and lay the rag over the area. If the mantel is light in color, you may want to oil the whole mantel again. After oiling, it will appear darker than you desire. After a day or so the oil will absorb and the natural blend of the stone will show.