HYDRO-BLOK™

The BETTER Shower System

Shower Pan Installation Guide

Before Installing your HYDRO-BLOK Shower System

Ensure all parts of the Brass drain kit are present.

a) Solid brass caulking nut with tightening insert key
b) Rubber caulking casket
c) Solid brass drain body
d) Rubber and fiber gaskets
e) Solid brass locking nut

If the top edge of the shower pan is higher than the floor plate 2" x 4", another 2" x 4" must be installed on top of the existing floor plate between each wall stud. This provides the wallboard with the necessary support needed at the shower pan joint.

The subfloor must be solid, level and properly constructed to meet deflection standards. For wood floors, joists must be 16" OC with ¾" T & G plywood or equivalent glued and screwed.

The drain pipe must be securely fastened below the subfloor so that it will not move under load. The drain should be centered through a 5" round opening in the subfloor to allow the proper fit of the drain assembly. Cut the 2" ABS or PVC drain pipe ⅛" higher than the subfloor. Clean off any burrs on the 2" pipe after cutting.

Perform a final floor and wall measurement check to ensure all walls are square and make any adjustments required BEFORE installing your HYDRO-BLOK shower system. Clean the shower pan install area of any dirt, dust or debris.

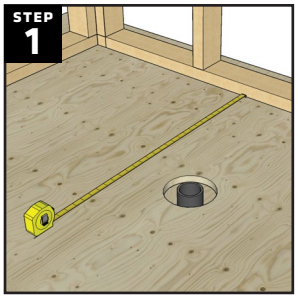
Installation Tools and Materials Required

- 5 Gallon plastic bucket and drill with mixing paddle
- Modified thinset
- #2 Robertson or #2 Philips screwdriver drill bit
- Large flat head screwdriver
- Professional notch trowel (minimum ⅜" x ⅜" square notch)
- 7 ¼" Circular saw and hand saw with small teeth
- Tape measure & fine point marker
- Level
- Utility knife
- 4' to 6' Straight edge or similar square
- Cleaning supplies (we recommend paper towels, citrus wipes, rags, dust pan and brush)

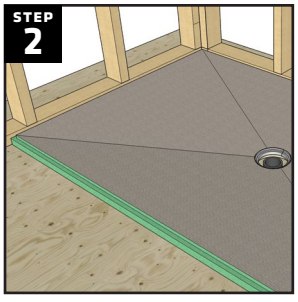
Included in your HYDRO-BLOK Shower Pan box are

- 2" Wide mesh tape (for final shower pan joint)
- Straight and corner putty knives
- Brass drain kit

IMPORTANT: Please read all related installation guides before installing your HYDRO-BLOK Shower System! Contact your local dealer if you have any questions regarding the installation process.



Install the Shower Pan and Drain Kit. Measure the area where the shower pan will be installed to determine if the pan must be cut to size. Pay attention to the drain location when cutting a shower pan to size. We recommend leaving a ⅛" space between the pan edge and the framed wall.



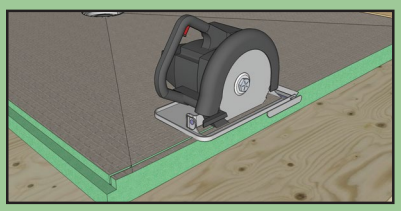
Dry fit the shower pan on the subfloor and ensure that the subfloor opening and drain pipe are centered inside your shower pan drain opening. Ensure all sides of the shower pan fit comfortably to the walls. DO NOT try to force the shower pan into its location.

Apply a continuous ¼" bead of HYDRO-BLOK Joint Sealant around the top edge of the first notch inside the shower drain profile ensuring that the bead is consistent and full. Drop the solid brass drain body into the joint sealant and seat it firmly.

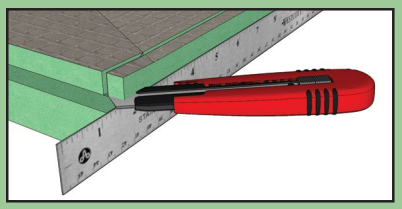
Trimming a Shower Pan to Size

HYDRO-BLOK Shower Pans can be cut to size using power saws (minimum 40 tooth blade for a 7 ½" circular) or a sharp utility knife. The ½" x ½" notch MUST be re-cut on any side where it is trimmed away in order to ensure a proper seal around the shower pan.

Cutting a Shower Pan Notch



1. We recommend using a circular saw set for ½" depth to make a cut on the top of the shower pan ½" in from the new edge.



2. Standing the pan on edge, use a straight edge and a sharp utility knife to make a ½" deep cut ½" in from the top of the pan to complete the notch.

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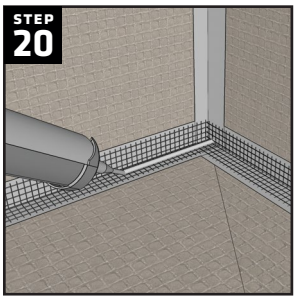
Position the shower curb ensuring the curb is firmly pressed into place against the shower pan notch and the thinset on the sub floor.

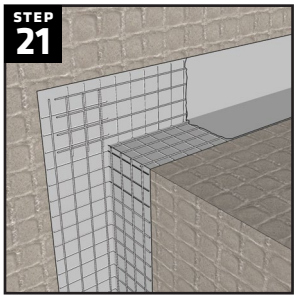
We recommend placing the curb from the top down at a slight angle to avoid the thinset from contacting or mixing with the joint sealant.

TIP: We recommend placing weight on the curb while applying joint sealant in the following steps.



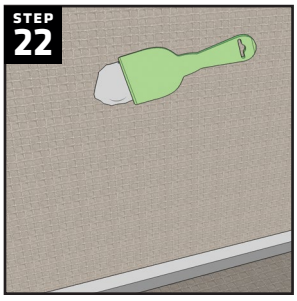
Apply a continuous ½" bead of joint sealant into the corner seam of the shower pan where it meets the curb or wallboard. Use the corner putty knife to smooth out the sealant so that there is at least 1" of sealant on either side of the seams.

Press 2" mesh tape (supplied) into the seam, pressing it into the existing joint sealant. Use a sharp utility knife to make small slits to fit the corners. Use a corner putty knife to smooth the mesh tape into the joint sealant. Apply a continuous ½" bead of joint sealant on top of the mesh tape and smooth out again with the corner putty knife to **fully cover** the mesh tape.



Repeat **Step 20** for all seams between the wallboard and the shower curb.

Important: The mesh strips must be long enough to go from the shower pan base to the front of the curb where it meets the sub floor. Mesh tape should always be pressed into joint sealant and should not make any contact with the cement surface of the wallboard, pan, or curb. It should always be fully covered by the final application of joint sealant.



Perform a final check of all joints and screws/washers to ensure they are completely covered in joint sealant. Check the caulking nut on the drain assembly again to ensure it is tight and cannot be turned by hand with a screwdriver.

After approximately one hour, (at room temperature of at least 18˚ C or 65˚ F) the joint sealant will skin over and thinset can safely be applied. The drain assembly and shower pan can be water tested to confirm a leak free installation using a 2" drain plug.

Loosely fit the HYDRO-BLOK stainless steel drain and tray into the shower pan drain opening while installing tile (tile up to the edge of the tray).

DO NOT glue the tray into the opening. Should the drain cover need to be raised to accommodate thicker format tile/stone, cut the supplied plastic riser to adjust the height of the drain cover.

Installation Hints

All HYDRO-BLOK shower pans have 4 flat slopes that allow the installation of large format tile or stone. The tile or stone must be cut and grouted to follow the slope joints.

When installing tile or stone that is smaller than 2" x 2", a high performance grout with a minimum 3500 PSI compressive strength and meeting ANSI 118.7 or epoxy grout 118.3 must be used to comply with the HYDRO-BLOK warranty. These products are commonly used and readily available.

If planning to install any HYDRO-BLOK accessories such as a shower niche, we recommend marking the exact locations of all wall studs you will need to use on the wallboard as you go.

If your shower requires curbs on two sides of the shower pan, you must cut the curb lengths to meet at a 45 degree angle at the corner. The curbs must be glued together with a ½" continuous bead of joint sealant generously applied in a zig-zag pattern during **steps 18-19**. Weight should be applied to the top and front of the curbs to ensure a constant pressure is applied to the 45 degree joint while the joint sealant is curing.

We recommend reading the installation guides for all the relavent HYDRO-BLOK products before starting your shower. HYDRO-BLOK installation guides for shower niches, pan extensions

Installation Note!

When installing your shower pan, ensure that your installation meets all local building codes for proper slope. Either the shower pan or your tile or stone installation can be adjusted to meet any local requirements.

Thank you for choosing
HYDRO-BLOK™
for your shower solutions

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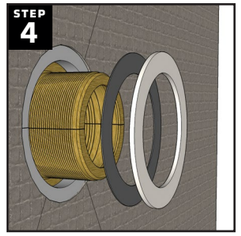
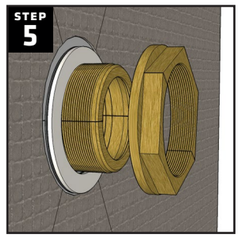
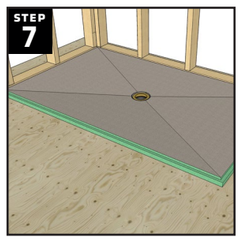


Carefully place the shower pan on edge and slide the rubber gasket and then the fiber gasket over the drain body threads while firmly holding the drain body from the front to ensure it remains seated in the shower pan.



Thread the solid brass locking nut onto the drain body while continuing to hold the drain body from the front. Hand tighten the nut until the gaskets are snug against the stainless steel support ring on the underside of the shower pan. Once snug, check the positioning of the drain body to ensure it is in the proper position. Continue to tighten to a firm tension (do not use tools to tighten!). Use a paper towel or citrus wipes to wipe away excess sealant from the edge of the solid brass drain body on the top of the shower pan.

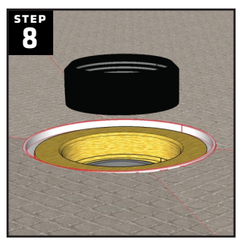
Mix modifed thinset as per manufacturer's instructions. Apply thinset to the subfloor starting at the back of the shower area, troweling towards the front. Ensure the trowel lines are pointing to the front or curb of your shower pan. This will ensure there will be no voids in the installation. DO NOT cross channel trowel lines or air can not escape.



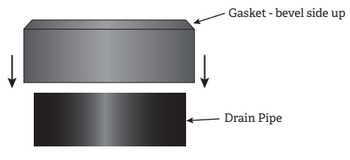
Apply thinset to the back of your shower pan using the smooth side of a trowel. Do not apply thinset on or within ½" of the stainless steel drain support ring.

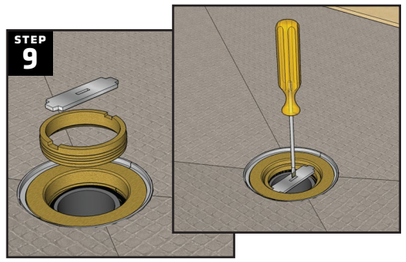
Carefully place the shower pan in the proper position on the subfloor and press into place by walking on the shower pan. Ensure the shower pan is firmly pressed into the thinset mortar and is level on all 4 sides. Use a level to check the slopes to the drain.

Wipe away any thinset which may have accumulated on the drain pipe.

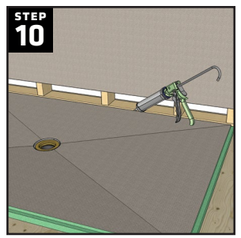


Slide the rubber caulking gasket (bevel side up) over the 2" drain pipe until it is flush with the top of your drain pipe. Ensure that the rubber gasket is not higher than the top of the 2" drain pipe. Soapy water may be used to help ease the rubber gasket onto the pipe. DO NOT use a petroleum based lubricant.



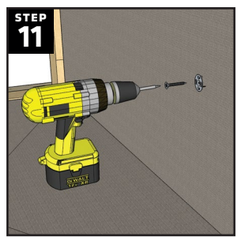


Thread the solid brass caulking nut into the drain body to compress the rubber gasket onto the 2" drain pipe. Once it is hand tight, take the flat tightening key and place it into the solid brass caulking nut and then further tighten with a large flat screwdriver by placing the screwdriver in the slit in the middle of the tightening key.



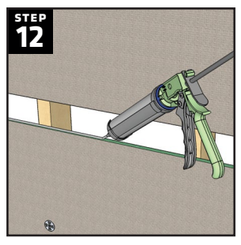
The wallboard at the rear of the shower should be installed first. Begin installing your wallboard by apply a ½" continuous bead of HYDRO-BLOK Joint Sealant inside the channel created by the shower pan and the wall plate. Place your pre-cut, ½" thick wall board into the channel and firmly press it into place, using a level to ensure the board is properly positioned.

TIP: Rear wallboard surface should be the full width of the shower pan.

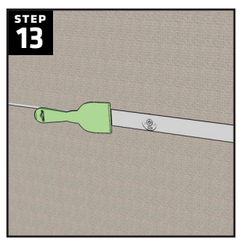


Fasten the wallboard to the studs using HYDRO-BLOK screws and washers. Place the first washer 12" up from the bottom of the shower pan and screw it in flush to the surface of the wallboard. Continue placing washers and screws every 12" along each stud until the entire sheet is fastened to each stud.

Use the HYDRO-BLOK corner putty knife to smooth out the excess joint sealant from the seam between the shower pan and the wallboard (excess joint sealant can be used in the following steps to cover washers and screws).

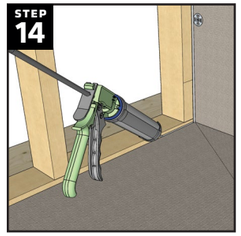


When placing a new piece of wallboard on top of an existing one, apply a ½" bead of joint sealant along the entire edge of the lower board. Press the new wallboard firmly into the joint sealant and hold against the studs. Install a washer and screw 12" up from the seam close to the to center of the board to provide initial support.



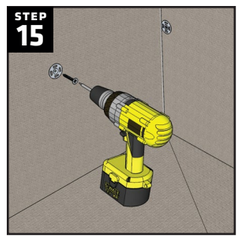
Install washers and screws along the seam before continuing to add washers and screws at 12" intervals to secure the board to the studs.

Use a HYDRO-BLOK standard putty knife to smooth out the excess joint sealant along the seam, using it to cover the seam as well as the screws and washers.



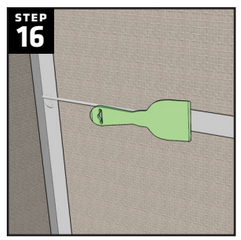
Apply a ½" continuous bead of joint sealant in the side shower pan channel and down the edge of the rear wall board so that the side wallboard can be pressed firmly into the shower pan channel and against the rear wallboard.

Place pre-cut side wallboard approx. 1" from the rear wallboard and press it firmly into the shower pan channel. Once in place, begin to push it towards the rear wall board and press firmly into the vertical line of joint sealant. Ensure the wall board is firmly and equally in the shower pan channel using a level.



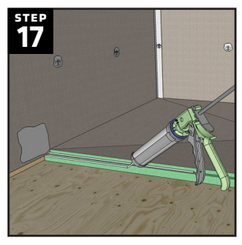
Attach the wallboard to the studs with washers and screws using the same method as was used for the rear wallboard.

Use the corner putty knife to smooth out the excess joint sealant from the seam between the shower pan and the wallboard (excess joint sealant can be used in the following steps to cover washers and screws).



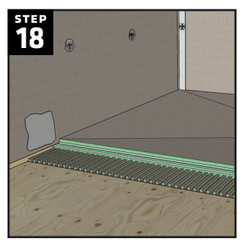
Once all wallboard is in place, apply a final bead of ½" joint sealant on all wallboard joints, seams and washers to complete installation. Use a HYDRO-BLOK corner putty knife for all 90 degree seams and the standard putty knife for all flat seams and washers. Ensure there is at least 1" of joint sealant on either side of any seam.

DO NOT apply additional joint sealant to finish the seam between the wallboard and shower pan until the shower curb has been installed.



Begin installing the HYDRO-BLOK Shower Curb by cutting the shower curb ⅛" shorter than the distance between the two shower walls where the curb will be placed. If your shower requires curbs on two sides of the shower pan see the **Installation Tips** on the back page of this guide.

Apply a ½" continuous bead of joint sealant along the shower pan notch as well as the exposed foam edge of the shower pan. Apply a generous amount of joint sealant to the wallboard where the ends of the shower curb will be located.



Trowel thinset out from the shower pan edge to the edge of the curb location. Trowel away from the pan in one direction. Apply thinset on the underside of the shower curb with the smooth edge of the trowel. Ensure the thinset does not contact or mix with the joint sealant, cleaning off any excess thinset from the joints of the shower curb.

TIP: Perform a final check to ensure the thinset has not come in contact with any joint sealant as this will contaminate the joint. Fix any areas where this may have happened by removing the excess thinset from any foam areas and re-applying the joint sealant.