

# shadowFIX®

concealed panel fixing *made easy*

## Installation Guide

### What is shadowFIX?

shadowFIX is a concealed fixing system for plywood panels on walls and ceilings. The grooved plywood panels are fixed using a plastic tongue and screws that clamp the plywood on all 4 sides. Additionally the plywood panels are adhered along the centre line using either a polyurethane adhesive (wall applications) or 3M adhesive tape (ceiling applications).

**NOTE** - shadowFIX is only recommended for installation on TIMBER battens. If steel batten material is used, we recommend using our full adhesion system designed with 3M. Please ask our sales staff for more information on the 3M full adhesion system.

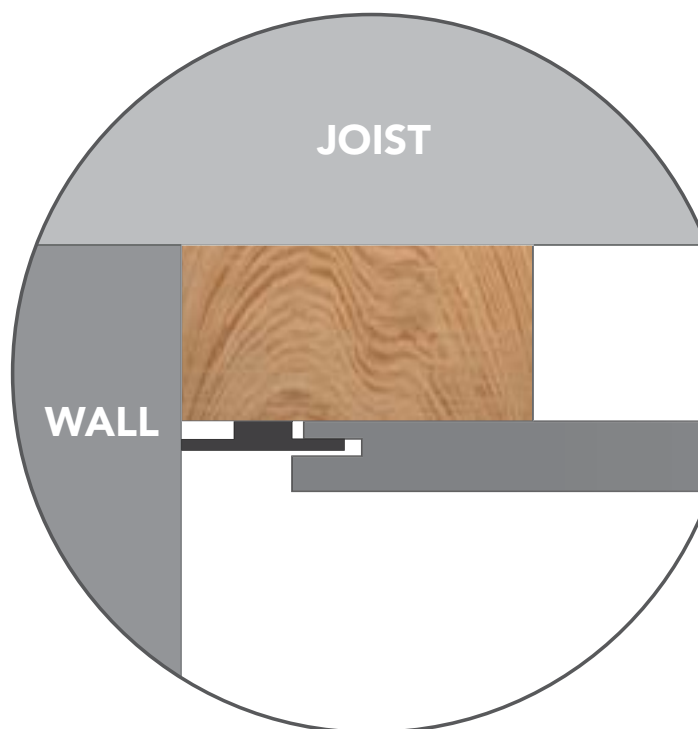
### What tools and material do I need?

#### For wall installations:

- Austral Plywoods 12.5mm grooved plywood panel
- shadowFIX plastic tongue (pre-drilled and countersunk)
- stainless steel 8G 25mm screws, black painted heads
- shadowFIX toggle (for consistent panel spacing)
- shadowFIX router bit (for grooving the plywood on cut sections)
- ariaply sealer (for sealing raw cut edges of plywood)
- Router
- Power saw with blade suitable for fine cutting
- Power drill
- 8G countersink bit
- 4.5mm drill (clearance hole)
- Polyurethane adhesive (3M 550 or equivalent)
- 2 installers (shadowFIX is designed for 2400x1200x12.5mm plywood panels and will require 2 people for installation)

#### For ceilings the following will also be required:

- 3M 4991 VHB tape
- 3M hiPA 300 spray (or equivalent isopropyl alcohol spray)
- 3M sealer for timber battens (or equivalent acrylic timber sealer)
- Pressure roller



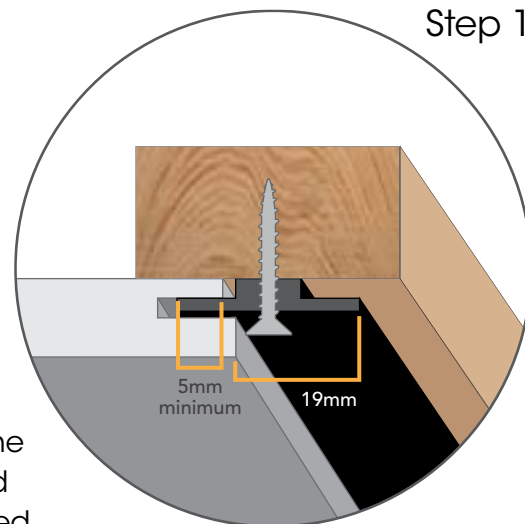
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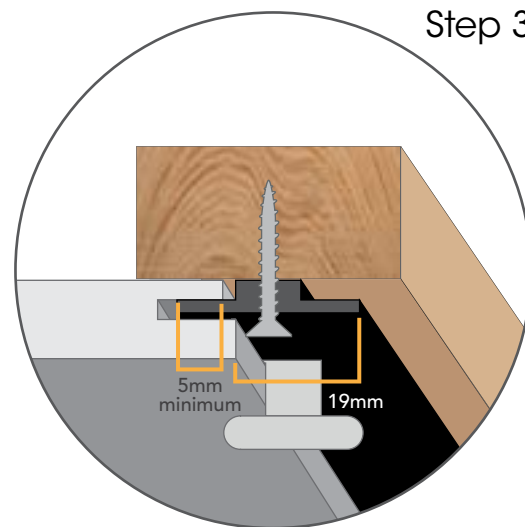
## Installation Guide

1. shadowFIX is fastened with 8G x 25mm countersunk, full thread stainless steel screws. Fit the shadowFIX plastic tongue into the groove of the plywood panel and screw it using the pre-drilled countersunk holes. The screws will sit flush with the plastic tongue when fastened correctly. If additional holes are required, pre-drill (at slow speed) the face of the fixing strip with a 4.5mm drill followed by 8G countersink bit to allow the screw to sit flush. It is important the hole is drilled on the centre line of the plastic tongue. If the plywood is installed on a ceiling, the centre of the panel must also be attached to frame work using 3M VHB double sided tape 4991. Please see instructions for correct use of 3M tape at the end of this guide.
2. When screwing shadowFIX to framework, ensure screw is not fully tensioned to allow the panel to easily slide into position.
3. After securing first panel, insert spacing toggle and twist to lock into position.
4. Slide second panel over shadowFIX and hard against the spacing toggle.
5. Once second panel is in the correct position, screw off shadowFIX and remove toggle by twisting out of position.

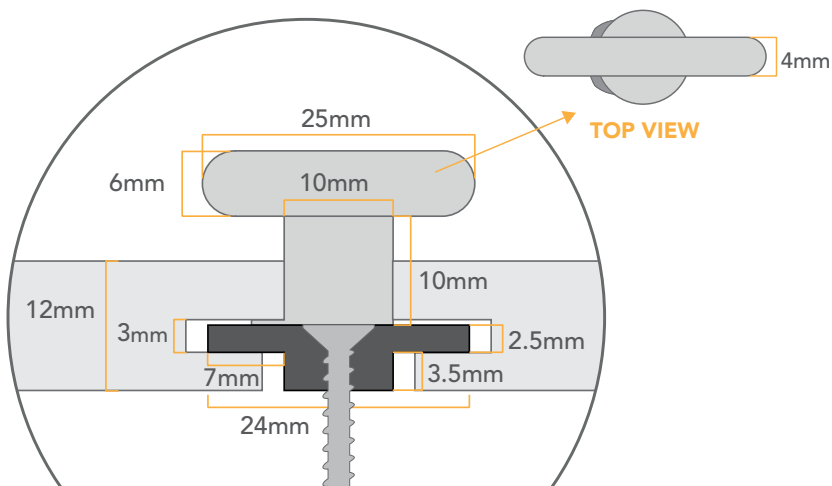
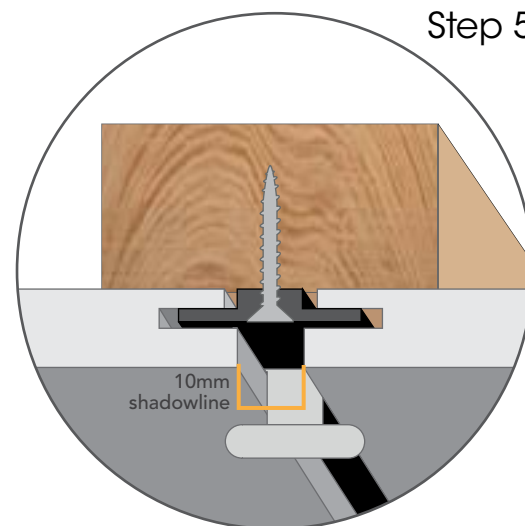
Step 1



Step 3



Step 5



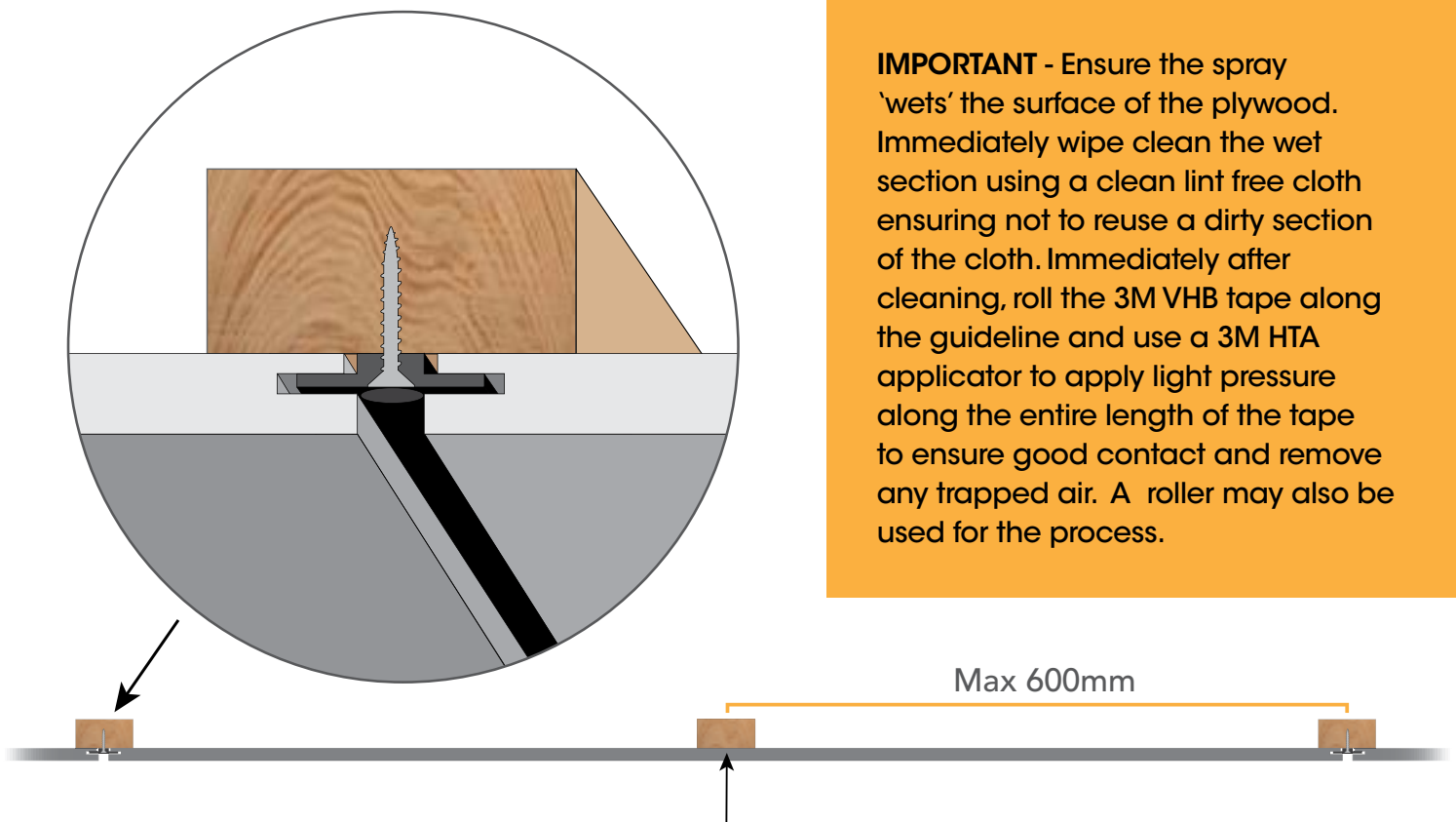
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## 3M tape installation

For ceiling installations, 3M tape must be used along the centreline of the plywood panel to prevent any deflection of the panel over time.

Both the back of the plywood panel and the frame must be prepared before applying the tape. To prepare the back plywood surface, mark the centreline of the panel that corresponds with frame set out. Using the 3M hiPA 300 (or equivalent isopropyl alcohol), spray the marked section of the board, covering a width of approximately 50mm.



**IMPORTANT** - Ensure the spray 'wets' the surface of the plywood. Immediately wipe clean the wet section using a clean lint free cloth ensuring not to reuse a dirty section of the cloth. Immediately after cleaning, roll the 3M VHB tape along the guideline and use a 3M HTA applicator to apply light pressure along the entire length of the tape to ensure good contact and remove any trapped air. A roller may also be used for the process.

Fasten with 3M VHB double sided Tape 4991.  
Both surfaces must be cleaned first with 3M hiPA 300.

Once the panel is fitted into place, use a roller to apply even pressure to the face of the panel in line with the adhesive tape. This will apply the necessary pressure to make good contact between the plywood and the tape.

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## Installation Guide - Set out

