The panel has a 12 or 16 inch wide finished face with interlocking joints and is fastened at a 24 inch maximum. Trim accessories exist for perimeter conditions, edges of openings and panel joints.

- READ ENTIRE GUIDE CAREFULLY BEFORE INSTALLING PANEL
- RECOMMENDED FASTENING AND INSTALLING PROCEDURES SHOULD BE FOLLOWED
- IF INSTALLING IS NOT DONE CORRECTLY, BUCKLING AND DAMAGE CAN RESULT.

THE BUYER IS THE SOLE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR DECIDING ON THE SUITABILITY FOR USE OR APPLICATION OF MURALAX AND ALL OTHER COMPONENTS. THE BUYER IS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MATERIAL MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF BUILDING AND SAFETY CODES FOR THE ACTUAL APPLICATION.
INSTALLATION GUIDE
Muralex 12” / 16” PVC interlocking liner panels

STORING
All MURALEX material should not be tightly packed, (remove top members from crating upon delivery) and MURALEX should not be stored in enclosed hot spaces, because the components may deform. Material should be stored level and straight. When daily temperatures are consistently over 30°C (86°F), store the material in the shade or cover with loose tarps that provide shade, but allow air flow.

INSTALLING
Install MURALEX at temperatures above 5°C (40°F) and store all material at temperatures above 5°C (40°F) for at least 24 hours before installing.

The recommended maximum service temperature for MURALEX is 50°C (122°F). Do not directly expose MURALEX to flame or radiant heat sources. As a rule, all heaters, including radiant heaters, should be shielded and located over 18 inches (450 mm) from MURALEX. Contact the manufacturer of any heater or radiant heater for installation details, heat shield requirements and all clearances from MURALEX.

Provide 1/4 inch minimum clearance at each end of all ceiling panels, 1/2 inch minimum clearance at top of all wall panels and 1/32 inch minimum gap between panels at interlocking joints.

These recommended clearances are based on a maximum temperature variation of 22°C (72°F) and lengths not over than 16 feet (4.9m).

For lengths more than 16 feet (4.9m) or if MURALEX will be exposed to greater temperature variations, increased clearances and oversized holes for fasteners are recommended. Contact VICWEST for recommendations to suit other conditions.

The manufacturer bears no responsibility for problems caused from storing, incorrect installation or variations in temperature.

RECOMMENDED TOOL
- Tape measure
- Hammer
- Square
- Utility knife
- Level
- Work table
- Chalk line
- Drill (with drill and driver bits)
- Caulking gun
- Putty knife
- Tin snips
- Caulking/Sealant
- Ladders and/or scaffolding
- Sliding radial arm saw

Use a fine tooth blade (12 or 16 teeth per inch) with the blade installed in the reverse direction. Some applicators prefer hand-held circular saws with a similar blade installation.

MATERIAL
1. Panels can be ordered in regular lengths of 8'6", 10', 12', 16' or 20' or custom sized lengths ordered from the factory.
2. For custom-size panels, make sure that wall heights and ceiling dimensions are consistent throughout the building and adjust the dimensions for clearances. Wall heights and ceiling dimensions may vary because of building inconsistencies.
3. Panels should be installed a minimum of one inch above the floor and not touching the floor, using the J-Molding or Drip-Molding. To allow for proper drainage if MURALEX is installed in an area where there is water (i.e. car wash or where power washing will occur), the Drip-Molding is recommended.

METAL FASTENERS
Only galvanized, stainless steel or aluminum nails or screws with a minimum head diameter of 3/8 inch should be used. The recommended fastener length is 1-1/4 inch screws and 1-1/2 inch nails.

Staples and power nail guns should be always be avoided.

PREPARING
1. Because the material must be at room temperature before installing, it should be onsite at least 48 hours before installation.
2. It is essential to Inspect and plan the job in advance. Surfaces should be checked for straightness and furring installed where necessary. All surfaces should be uniform and straight.
3. MURALEX panels should be secured every 16 to 24 inch maximum.
4. If the MURALEX panels are parallel to ceiling joints, roof trusses or wall studs, install additional 1 inch x 3 inches wood furring or metal strapping at 16 to 24 inches maximum.
5. To support the Transition-Molding, Install furring or strapping where butt joints are located.
6. If lighting or other items are to be suspended, be sure to install adequate support at each location.
7. Before installation, all required air and vapour barriers should be installed. Whenever necessary, provide a sealed air/vapour barrier, such as 6 mil polyethylene.
**INSTALLATION GUIDE**

**Muralex 12” / 16” PVC interlocking liner panels**

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**PROcedures**

1. After fastening the panels, they should slide freely to allow for expansion and contraction. Allow a minimum of 1/16 inch (a dime’s thickness) between the back of the fastener head and the nailing strip of the MURALEX panel or trim. Do not nail tightly as the MURALEX could be permanently damaged.
2. Fasteners should not be more than 24 inches apart and located 4 to 6 inches maximum from the ends of panels and trims.
3. Fastening should be always be in the center of the slots, but if you must fasten near the end of a slot to hit a furring strip, extend the length of the slot with a slot-punch tool or router. Never fasten at the end of a slot. This may damage to the MURALEX panel or trim.
4. Always remember that expansion and contraction will occur, so leave a minimum of 1/4 inch clearance at each end of all panels and trims. No clearance at ends of panels can cause ripples in the panel and permanently damage the MURALEX panel.
5. For vertical panels supported at the bottom, allow for a minimum of 1/2 inch clearance at top. If there is not enough clearance, ripples in the panel may result which could cause the MURALEX to be permanently damaged.
6. Since MURALEX panels expand and contract with temperature variations, DO NOT FACE FASTEN. This can cause ripples in the panel which in turn may cause permanent damage to the MURALEX panel.
7. Install panels making a 1/32 inch gap between them where they interlock with a putty knife blade because of expansion and contraction. Do not fasten with tight joints in cold weather or cooler than normal ambient temperatures because the MURALEX panel may suffer permanent damage.
8. Use a silicone sealant to seal all corners, seal around all installations and repair small holes.

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**Installation on Walls**

1. If the MURALEX panels are for walls and ceilings, be sure to install the wall panels first.
2. To obtain even spacing and alignment with other adjacent work, you should plan the design of the MURALEX panels and trims. Determine panel layout and width of first panel so that the first and last panel in each wall section will be a minimum of 8 inches wide.
3. With a chalk line, draw a horizontal line across the base of the wall and a vertical line for the edge of the first panel.
4. To start, install Drip-Molding or J-Molding along the bottom of the wall. Drill 1/4 inch diameter drain holes in the bottom of the J-Molding at 16 inches on center.
5. Fasten outside Corner-Molding at 24 inches o.c. and notch back of panel for fastener. Fasten Inside Corner Trim with silicone or screw through face and cover holes with plugs. Mitre corners as required.
6. If panel tops are not hidden behind other ceiling finish, install molding at top of wall. Then Install panels into Corner-Molding or J-Molding.

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**Installation on Ceilings**

1. When posing MURALEX panels on walls and ceilings, wall panels should be installed first. Use Corner Molding, J Molding around perimeter of the ceiling.
2. In order that the first or last panel in each course be a minimum of 8 inches wide, decide on the layout and width of the first panel.
3. To obtain a straight line across the ceiling for the end of the first course, use a chalk line. Plan the layout of Transition-Molding to get an even balance or alignment with adjacent work.
4. Install the Corner-Molding at one corner of the ceiling, and be sure to leave room for a 1/8 inch expansion at panel sides and for a 1/4 inch expansion at panel ends.
5. Fasten, but not too tightly, at a maximum of every 24 inches, positioning fasteners in the middle of the slots. Fasten within 4 to 6 inches of the end of the panels.
6. When installing Transition-Molding at joints, be sure you leave a minimum of 1/4 inch for expansion. Nail the Transition-Molding on the other side of wood supports at 24 inches on center.
7. To ensure desired appearance, check all joints to make sure the panels are aligned and parallel.
8. For the final course, cut the required panel lengths, as required, leaving room for expansion in the Corner-Molding (1/4 inch minimum) at each end and 3/8 inch on the side. Install into perimeter trim and pull panel back 1/8 inch to interlock the last joint.

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**Cleaning**

Before cleaning MURALEX, test your cleaning agent on a sample area because some cleaners could damage the finish. Some cleansers to avoid are Clorox, pine powder, Tide Power, paint thinner, nail polish remover and grease relief.