

Adobe Brick Veneer Installation Instructions

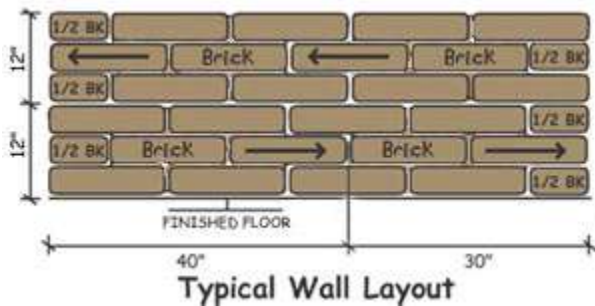
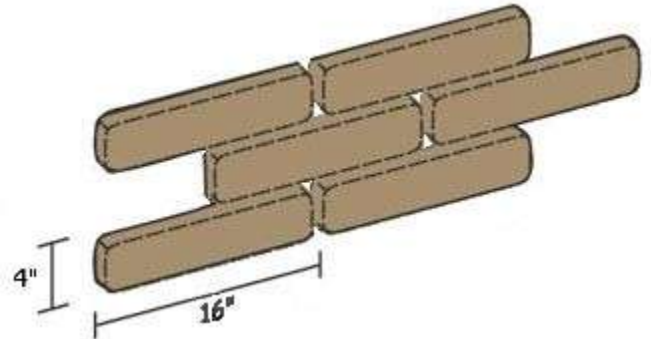
Flat Walls (1" thick)

Flat walls that are enclosed by other walls at each end require a very simple layout procedure. First, the wall should be marked at each end, starting at the floor and marking every 4" to the ceiling. Then, using a chalk snap line, snap a line across the entire length of the wall on each set of marks. Next, starting at one wall, make a mark every 16" out from the corner, then again every 16".

Next, apply an Adobe Brick Veneer to sheetrock or wood paneling with a single 1-5/8" or 1-1/2" drywall screw. Use an electric drill with a driver bit.

Center the brick vertically between the floor and the first line on the wall, then drive the first screw into the wall, being careful not to over tighten. Next, adjust the paneling brick so that it is parallel to the lines on the wall, then attach it to the wall, using a second screw to adequately secure the brick so that it will not wobble or move. Set the next brick in place and repeat the same procedure.

When a whole brick cannot be put in place, measure from the wall to the last secured brick. Now place a full brick on a work table - which should be located in an area that will not be damaged by the mess that will be created in cutting the bricks. Making sure the paneling brick is pointing in the same direction as the last secured brick, measure from the secured brick up to the length needed to finish the layer on the wall, and mark the paneling brick-to-be-cut with a carpenter's square.



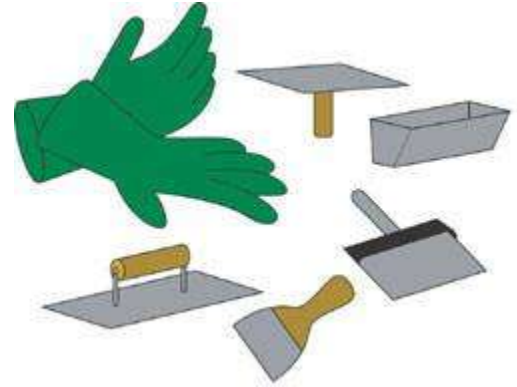
Slide the paneling brick so the marked vertical line is just over the edge of the table and cut with an electric hand-held jigsaw or a utility blade. If necessary, try to support the portion of the paneling brick that is overhanging the table to minimize breakage. Beginning with the second row, reverse the brick pattern direction (see illustration to the left). Note: All joints should be staggered. Beginning with the next row, use the same pattern as you used for the first. Repeat this procedure, reversing the pattern of bricks for each row, until you reach the ceiling. When the entire wall has been covered with whole bricks, cut single or partial bricks to fit and fill all the small voids.

Filling the Seams

The next step is to fill all the seams separating the brick veneers. This requires the fibered Structo-Lite compound (available at most home center stores). Following mixing instructions on the bag, prepare only a quantity that can be used within an hour. Depending on the quantity you will need, this material can be mixed in a mortar tray, 5-gallon pail, garbage can, or cement mixer.

To apply the filling compound, you will need:

- Rubber gloves
- mortar hawk or sheetrock compound tray
- 12" trowel or 12" sheetrock knife
- 3" knife, plastic spray bottle



Warning: If the Adobe Brick Veneer is being installed in a room that has existing carpet or tile, the floor will require protection. Place 2" masking tape next to the wall, then place a sheet of 1/8"x4'x8' Masonite 1" from the wall. Any compound that is dropped on the Masonite can be easily removed and reused.

Beginning at the floor, fill the horizontal seams first about half full of compound. Use masonry hawk on sheetrock tray and a trowel or sheetrock knife. Next fill the vertical joints the same way. Right after you fill the joint, when the material is partially set, press your thumb or fingers in the joint and smooth out the compound. You may need to use a water spray bottle to work it properly. (The compound should be quite thick for joint application.) Allow the joints to dry completely before applying the finish coat.

End Walls

Read this section on end walls if you want authentic adobe block dimensions when wrapping the end of a wall or large opening with Adobe Brick Veneer.

For application on an existing wall that has an exposed end or a large exposed opening, the wall should be furred out to approximately 7" or 8" thickness to achieve a real adobe block size (which can be 8" or 10" wide). If the wall was constructed with 2"x4" studs and covered with 1/2" sheet rock on both sides, it will be approximately 5" wide. If the wall is constructed with 2"x6" studs, 1/2" sheetrock will be necessary to achieve a thickness of 7-3/4". To make the wall thicker, first decide which side of the wall you wish to increase, then locate the studs with a stud finder. To locate studs manually, drive a nail through the sheetrock until stud is located.

The studs will be 24" or 16" apart; mark the sheetrock to indicate where each stud can be found. Now nail 2"x2" furring strips over each stud. Then, nail an additional layer of sheetrock or drywall to the furring strips. This will give a finished thickness of 7-1/2" or 7-3/4". The Adobe Brick Veneer is 3/4" thick; therefore the completed wall will be 9-1/4" to 9-1/2" wide, approximating the width of real adobe block.

Additions

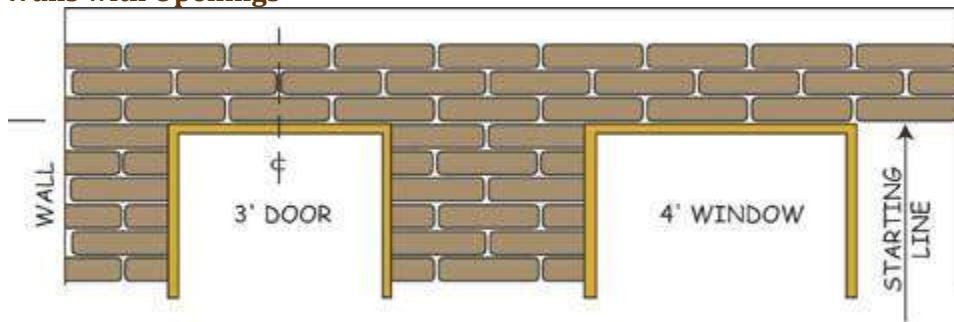
If the end wall has a floor to ceiling end, then the paneling brick layout for the horizontal lines of 4" should be used as described in the "Flat Walls" section. However, when installing the paneling bricks, the first brick should be installed to overhang 3/4" past the exposed end wall, and to be duplicated with each row started. When doing the opposite side, make sure to start the paneling bricks to match the pattern on the opposing wall, including the 3/4" overhang. When both walls are covered floor to ceiling, install half-bricks to fill the voids on the end wall, matching the joints. Now the wall is ready for finishing.

Finish Coat

The finish coat is applied with 'unfibred' [Structo-Lite](#): follow the mixing instructions on the bag, but adding additional water and liquid latex additive to lessen cracking. For ease of application, the mixture should be the consistency of

thick paint. A light coat can be applied with a wallpaper brush or texture compound sprayer (which can be rented at most contractor's rental stores). If you use a brush, it will need to be washed frequently to prevent the compound from setting and ruining the brush. After a small area is covered, rub and smooth out the surface with your hands. Be sure to wear rubber gloves to protect your skin. Spraying the surface of the wall with water while you are working will increase the smoothness of the finish. Once the finish coat is dry, it will have a blotchy antique finish, light tan in color. This finish should be sealed with clear coat sealer if a natural finish is desired. If you want a more even color and finish, paint with a good latex water-based paint.

Walls with Openings



Any existing wall or new wall with a door or window opening requires a paneling brick layout to minimize very short bricks being needed. Each full brick is 3-1/2" high and 15-1/4" long.

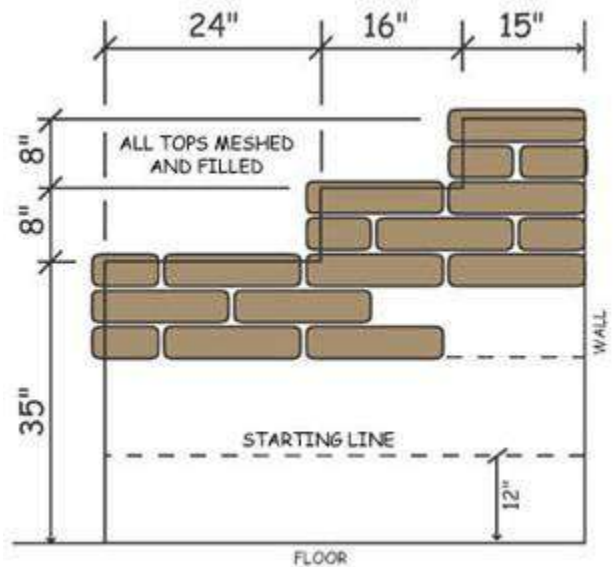
Room Dividers

To construct a room divider, certain criteria need to be followed to simplify the paneling brick installation, and make it look correct when finished. First, because this is new construction, 2" x 8" lumber should be used for the wall framing to achieve a finish wall of 10-1/2" thick (which will include the sheetrock or wall paneling). Because the bricks are 3-1/2" high and 15-1/4" wide, the height of the wall should be in increments of 4" --less 1" for the top of the wall.

Example: A 36" high wall / 4 = 9 rows of Adobe Wall Panel brick. Less 1" on the top of the wall which is filled with Stuctolite. The finished framed wall would be 35" high, to have a 3' high finished wall.

The length of the wall should be in 8" or 16" increments.

Example: A 6' long wall or 72" / 16" = 4 bricks at 16" + 1/2 brick, less 1" for the half-brick on the end wall. The finished framed wall would be 71" long to finish at 72".

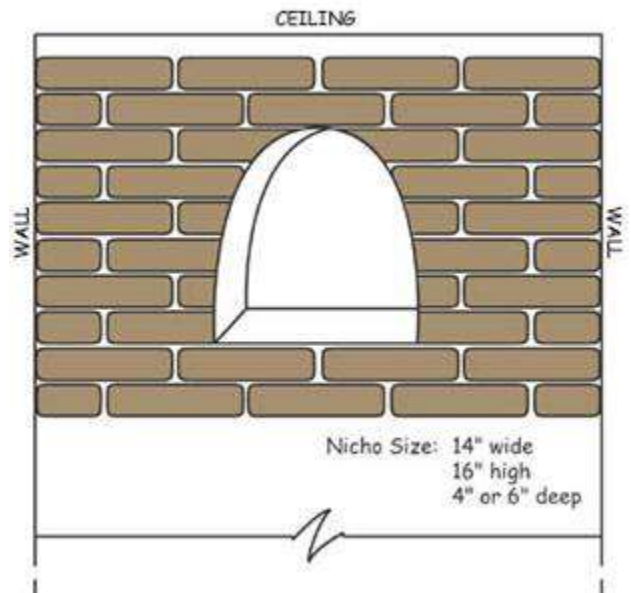


When stepping a wall, the height should always be divisible by 4" and the length by 16" or 8". Always start the wall on the open end. (See figure at right.)

Wall Nichos

Prefabricated [wall nichos](#) can be ordered from Grand River Supply. They are 4" or 6" deep by 16" wide and 20" high. They are constructed of plaster of Paris.

To install, mark out 16" of the adobe bricks at the desired height you wish the bottom of the nicho to be. The installation will require a stud-free area 16" wide. After determining where you will place the nicho mark a horizontal line on the wall the width of the nicho at the desired height. Place the bottom of the nicho on the line and outline the nicho on the wall covering. Next, drill a hole large enough to insert a jigsaw blade and cut out the wall board. Next, place the nicho into the opening and secure by screwing the nicho flange to the wall board. Now the wall is ready for Adobe Brick Veneer. If the nicho is to be lighted, the wiring should be installed before any wallboard is applied. We recommend low voltage halogen lights because they are thin and can be surface mounted. They should be activated from a wall switch. A wood header at the top of the nicho will simplify this installation.



Structo-Lite Gypsum Plaster

We recommend Structo-Lite Gypsum Plaster. Structo-Lite is a base coat mixture for finished plaster that sets up quickly and will give you a quality hand-made texture in just about a half hour. As it is setting up, it's toweling qualities change and so will its textural appearance. Structo-Lite is a lightweight plaster, so the application process is going to be easier on your arms than most other options.

Any good-sized lumberyard or plaster supply house should have Structo-Lite in stock, or be able to get it for you. You can get additional information about Structo-Lite and search for local distributors on the U.S. Gypsum website.

Submittal Sheet: <http://literature.usg.com/pdf/P754.pdf>