Armstrong Integrated Lighting for WoodWorks® Grille – Classics and WoodWorks® Grille – Forté

Assembly and Installation Instructions

This installation guide is a supplement to the standard WoodWorks® Grille – Classics and WoodWorks® Grille – Forté installation instructions. Please read the entire document prior to beginning work to avoid any re-work.

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1. SOLUTION OVERVIEW

The WoodWorks® Grille – Classics and WoodWorks® Grille – Forté integrated lighting panels are engineered with a factory-applied bracket designed to simplify field installation of linear lighting. These clips are strategically positioned to either replace a slat or sit between slats, providing a dedicated, secure mounting point for the approved linear light fixtures.

This integrated design protects the integrity of the system by eliminating the need for field modifications to the wood panels or the suspension system. The factory-installed clips are versatile, accommodating varying light lengths and widths to ensure a precise fit for the specified lighting.

The approved linear lights are designed to be field adjusted to the desired height and are available in three width options (3/4", 1-1/2", and 3-3/4"). This allows full compatibility with our Grille – Classics system, available in 8' panels, as well as our Grille – Forté system available in 4', 6', and 8' lengths, even when multiple panel sizes are combined. The system accommodates both continuous (10' or longer) and discontinuous lighting layouts offering design flexibility while maintaining a clean, uniform aesthetic.

The Armstrong Integrated Lighting linear light fixtures are sold by LightArt®.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Installation requires collaboration between the ceiling contractor/carpenter and the electrical contractor.

- **Ceiling contractor/carpenter:** Installs the WoodWorks Grille – Classics or WoodWorks Grille – Forté standard panels and lighting integration panels and performs minor grid adjustments as needed to accommodate drivers and access door.
- **Electrical contractor:** Installs the drivers, the linear light and completes wiring and power connections after the lighting panels are in place.

NOTE: Linear lights are supplied by their respective manufacturers. Coordinate product delivery and power requirements with the electrical contractor.

1.1 Storage and Handling

All ceiling components should be stored in a dry interior location and should remain in the original packaging prior to installation to avoid damage. The materials must be stored off the floor in a flat, level condition. Do not store in unconditioned spaces with humidity greater than 55% or lower than 25%, or with temperatures above 86°F or lower than 50°F. Use proper care when handling to avoid damage or soiling. WoodWorks Grille – Classics panels can be cleaned with a soft dry cloth. Nesting panels during storage or handling is strictly prohibited, as it may result in damage to the panel light brackets.

1.2 Site Conditions

Building areas that will receive a ceiling must be free of construction dust and debris. Installation of the products must be carried out where the temperature is between 50°F and 86°F and relative humidity levels maintained between 25% RH and 55% RH. These temperature and humidity conditions must be met throughout the lifetime of the ceiling. Real wood and wood composite products are natural building materials and they will react to changes in humidity and temperature. (Wood tends to contract with lower humidity and expand with higher humidity.) Wood may also have a tendency to warp, twist, or bow due to the natural stresses in the components and these humidity changes.

Be aware of these natural tendencies when evaluating the products and suitability of this product in your space. It is also necessary for the area to be enclosed and for the HVAC systems to be functioning and in continuous operation. All wet work (plastering, concrete, etc.) must be complete and dry. These products cannot be used in exterior applications. To ensure that the ceiling panels have stabilized to the current building conditions, before their installation, Armstrong recommends uncrating and keeping panels on the skid, and placing panels in an environmentally stable building location for a minimum of 72 hours.

1.3 Ordering Considerations

Be sure to account for extra material that is normally needed for wood installations. When installing Grille integrated lighting panels, you should consider ordering at least 5% extra material.

1.4 Safety Recommendations

All personnel must wear appropriate PPE, including, safety glasses, gloves, and footwear. Ensure all necessary tools needed for proper wiring of fixture to supply circuits is used.

Use a ladder, mobile scaffolding, or scissor lifts appropriate for the ceiling height and site conditions.

2. DESIGN & INSTALLATION CONSIDERATION

2.1 WoodWorks® Grille Lighting Integration Panels

System Compatibility: WoodWorks Grille lighting integration panels include factory-attached brackets and are designed as direct replacements for standard grille panels. They must be installed using the same suspension system and methods as the standard panels. For detailed suspension requirements, refer to the standard installation instructions for the specific WoodWorks Grille system being installed.

Visual Alignment: The factory-installed bracket on the Grille lighting panel features a tab that allows the height of the linear light to be fine-tuned in the field to be leveled to the desired height. End-to-end slat alignment of lighting integration panels is critical when installing a continuous light fixture across multiple panel rows. Extra care must be taken during installation to ensure proper alignment.

Maintenance and Accessibility: To ensure proper access for installation and future maintenance, a torsion spring access door is recommended to be installed adjacent to each light panel. This is achieved by using a torsion spring kit to convert a standard WoodWorks® Grille panel into an access point. Please refer to Section 3.4.1 for detailed instructions on creating and installing these access doors.

2.2 Wall Installation

Wall lighting integration panels are available only for WoodWorks Grille – Classics panels and must be ordered using the designated wall item number. Wall panels utilize factory-attached brackets that differ from those used on ceiling panels; therefore, wall and ceiling panels are not interchangeable.

The factory-attached bracket configuration establishes a fixed panel orientation when installed vertically that cannot be altered in the field. This panel directionality must be considered during layout and installation planning.

Refer to Section 4 for additional details..

2.3 Suspension System

The suspension system shall be installed in accordance with the WoodWorks Grille – Classics or WoodWorks Grille – Forté installation instructions. Minor adjustments will be required when accessories are added to accommodate access door installation and/or when drivers are mounted directly to the suspension system.

3. GENERAL CEILING INSTALLATION & ASSEMBLY

Please read this entire document prior to beginning work to avoid any re-work. Refer to project-specific shop drawings for exact locations and layout of the linear light fixtures.

The ceiling contractor/carpenter and electrical contractor must communicate clearly throughout the installation process to ensure a smooth installation process.

3.1 Electrical Scope: Preparing the Plenum

The following work must be performed by a qualified electrician. All required electrical preparation in the plenum space must be completed prior to the start of ceiling installation.

3.1.1 Installing Junction Boxes & Whips

Install all required junction boxes and whips in accordance with LightArt's Armstrong Integrated Lighting installation instructions for WoodWorks Grille.

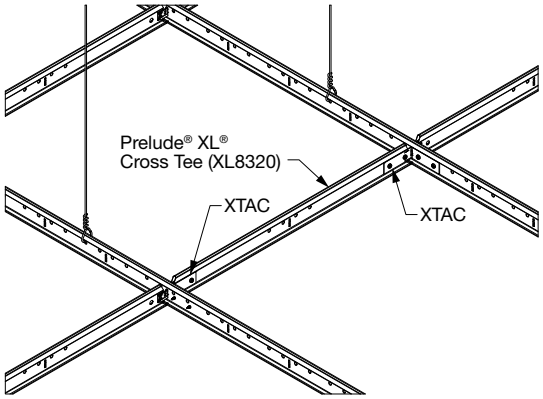
3.2 Ceiling Contractor/Carpenter Scope: Installing Suspension System

Performed by the ceiling contractor/carpenter after electrician has completed prepping the plenum. The ceiling contractor/carpenter is responsible for installing the suspension system to receive the WoodWorks Grille standard panels and light integration panels in accordance with the applicable standard installation instructions.

3.2.1. Suspension System Modification

Minor modifications to the suspension system are required when drivers are supported directly by the grid, and additional accessories must be installed to accommodate access doors. All WoodWorks Grille light panels require an adjacent panel to be converted into an access door to allow proper access to the linear light fixture for future maintenance.

For WoodWorks Grille – Classics or WoodWorks Grille – Forté systems, minor reinforcement of the suspension grid is required at the cross tee locations where drivers will be installed. Reinforcement is achieved by installing XTAC clips at the affected cross tees ***(Fig 1)***.



(Fig 1)

It is recommended that the access door locations be reviewed in advance, and that cross tees directly above access doors be avoided, as drivers will interfere with the torsion spring saddles used for the access doors.

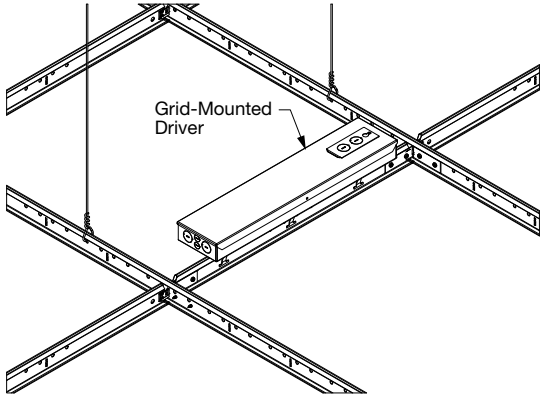
The ceiling contractor/carpenter shall reference the project-specific drawings to confirm the exact driver locations based on the light panel layout and reinforce the required number of cross tees accordingly.

NOTE: Installation of access door accessories occurs later in the installation process; refer to Section 3.4.1 for additional details.

3.3 Electrical Contractor Scope: Install Drivers

After all required modifications to the suspension system have been completed and the cross tees have been properly reinforced with XTAC clips, the electrical contractor shall install the drivers to the grid ***(Fig 2)***.

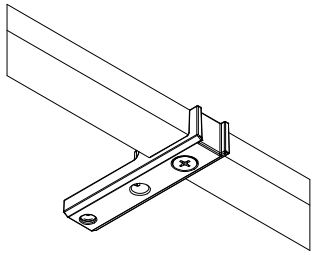
NOTE: Driver can also be independently suspended using hanger wires to accommodate project or job site needs.



(Fig 2)

3.4 Ceiling Contractor/Carpenter Scope: Install WoodWorks Grille & Lighting Panels

The ceiling contractor/carpenter shall install the WoodWorks® Grille panels along with their corresponding lighting integration panels. The panels arrive with the light brackets factory-installed and are installed using the same methods as standard grille panels in accordance with the installation instructions for the applicable ceiling system ***(Fig 3)***.



(Fig 3)

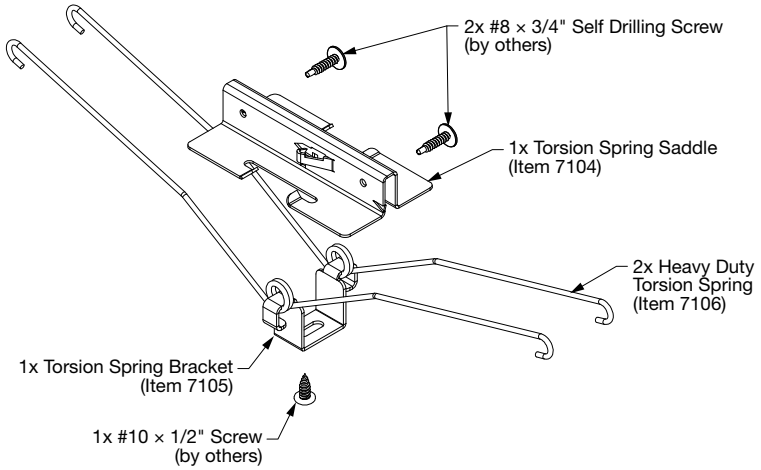
Multiple variations of lighting integration panels may be included within a single installation. Refer to the project-specific shop drawings to verify the correct panel locations and orientations prior to installation.

Once all panels are installed, torsion spring access doors can be created. Installers should identify the panels adjacent to lighting integration panels, as specified in the project drawings, to remove and convert them into torsion spring access doors. Detailed procedures for this conversion are included in the standard system instructions and are further outlined in the steps below. Follow these steps precisely to ensure proper fit and accessibility.

3.4.1 Creating the Access Door

3.4.1.1 Required Tools & Accessories

Before beginning, ensure all necessary tools and components are available ***(Fig 4)***.



(Fig 4)

Refer to the table below for accessories and quantities needed per panel based on panel size being installed ***(Fig 5)***.

Accessories and Quantities Needed Per Panel Size
(All components to be ordered separately)

Panel Sizes	**Torsion Spring Saddles** (Item #7104)	**Torsion Spring Bracket** (Item #7105)	**Torsion Springs** (Item #7106)	**#10 × 1/2" Wood Screw** (By others) to fasten torsion spring bracket to backer	**#8 × 3/4" Self-tapping Screw** (By others) to fasten saddles to suspension system
1' × 4'	2	2	4	2	2
1' × 6'	3	3	6	3	3
1' × 8'	4	4	8	4	4

Other Tools Needed

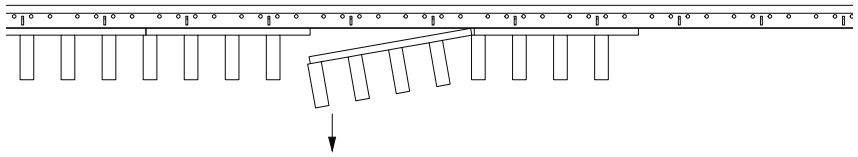
A drill and a size 1/8" drill bit will be needed to pre-drill backers prior to fastening the spring bracket to backers. This will minimize splitting or damage to backers. Drill extender with a magnetic tip may be required depending on the depth of the blades.

(Fig 5)

3.5. Converting a Standard Grille Panel into an Access Door

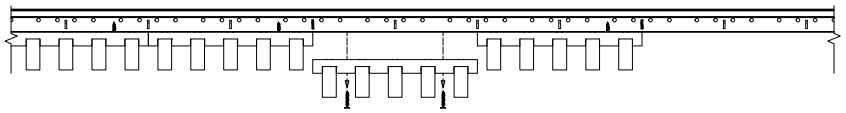
Select the standard grille panel to be converted and remove it from the ceiling.

For the WoodWorks® Grille – Classics system, panels utilize a male-to-female construction. To remove a panel, first lower the female side several inches to create an angle, then slide the panel horizontally toward the lowered side. This motion disengages the male backers from the adjacent panel, allowing the panel to be safely removed from the opening ***(Fig 6)***.



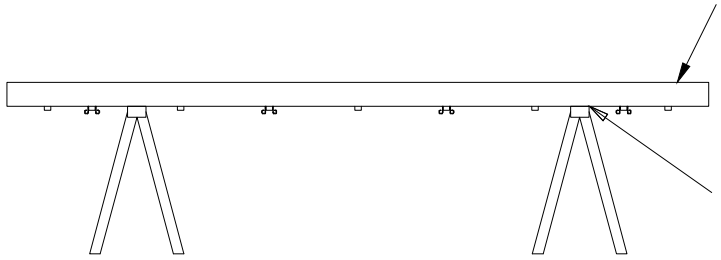
(Fig 6)

For the WoodWorks® Grille – Forté system, panel removal requires only unscrewing the panel. Since the backers are centered, the panel can be removed by lowering it straight down ***(Fig 7)***.

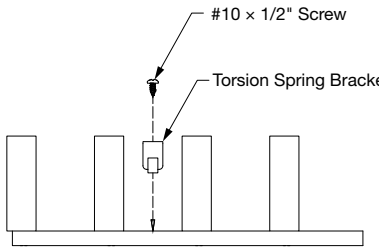


(Fig 7)

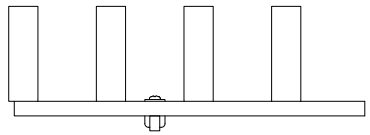
- Using the torsion spring bracket (Item 7105) and #10 × 1/2" screws, modify the panel according to the detail shown ***(Figs 8 – 11)***



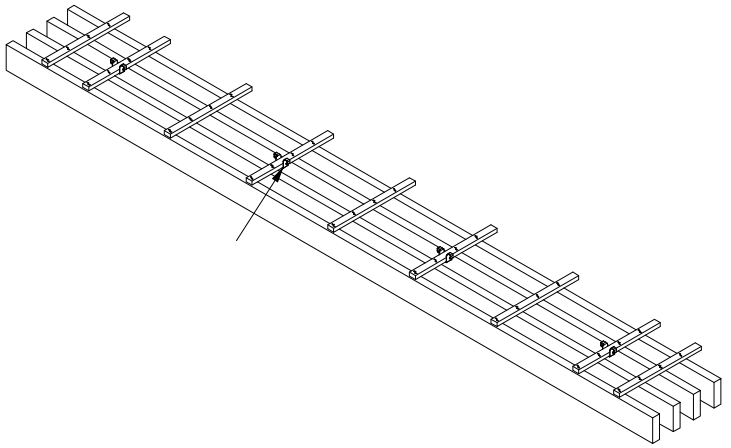
(Fig 8)



(Fig 9)

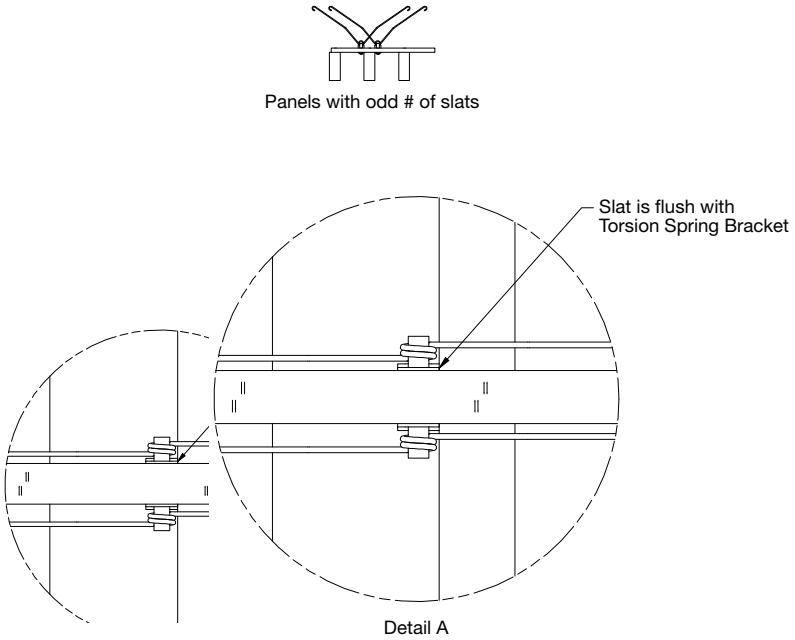


(Fig 10)



(Fig 11)

- On the hanging backers, position the brackets (Item 7105) based on the total number of slats in your panel as shown ***(Figs 12 & 13)***



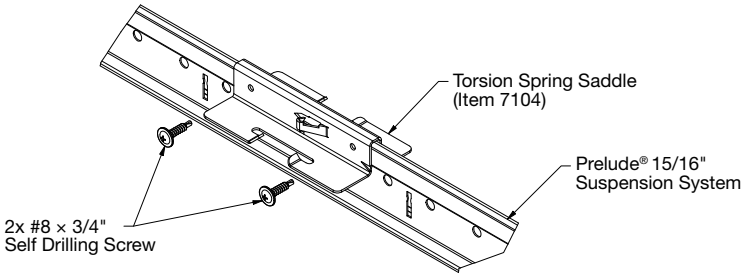
(Fig 12)



(Fig 13)

3.4.1.3 Install Torsion Spring Saddles to the Grid

Measure the exact bracket locations on the modified panel. Use these dimensions to position the saddles on the grid so they are perfectly aligned to receive the springs. Once the position is verified, secure each mounting saddle to the suspension system using a #8 × 3/4" self-tapping screw (by others) ***(Fig 14)***.



(Fig 14)

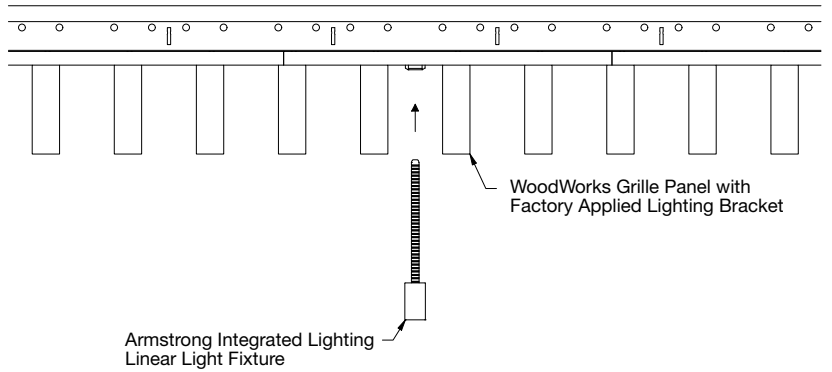
IMPORTANT NOTE: Torsion spring access doors will install after lights are installed and all electrical connections are completed.

3.6 Electrical Contractor Scope — Install Linear Lights

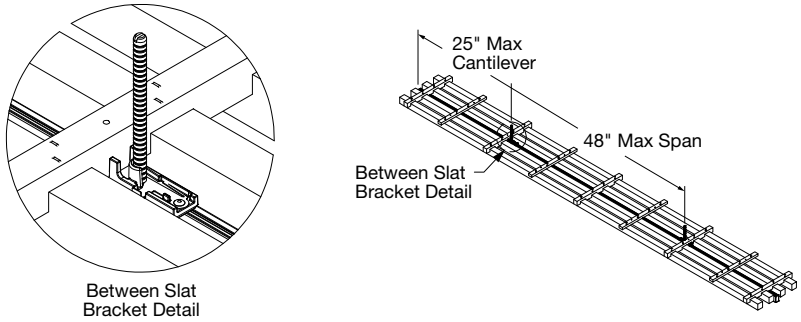
A qualified electrician must perform all steps in this section.

Refer to LightArt's Armstrong Integrated Lighting installation instructions for WoodWorks Grille for more details on installing light fixtures.

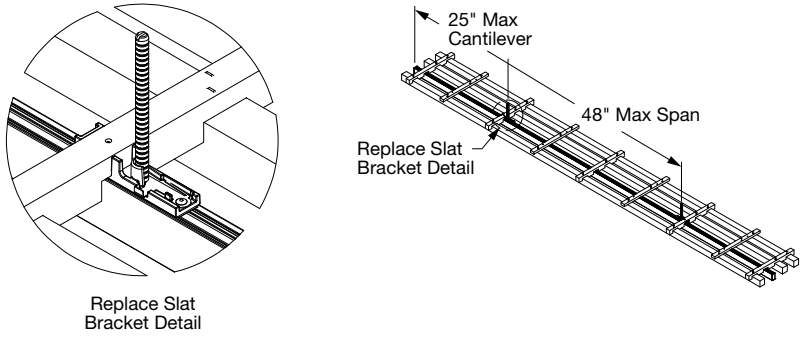
- **Mount the Light:** Position the rod on the linear light and insert it through the designated hole on the light clip of the lighting panel ***(Fig 15)***. Light fixture will require at least two hanging points, with no more than a 48" span, and no more than 25" cantilever from end of light to the jack screw ***(Figs 16 & 17)***.



(Fig 15)



(Fig 16)



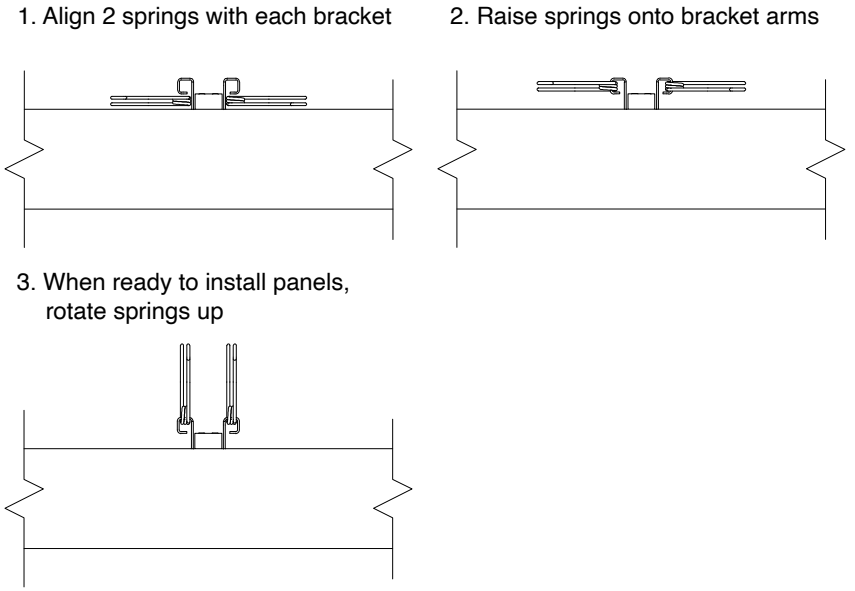
(Fig 17)

- **Adjust the Height:** Push the light upward and set it to the desired height, either leveling it as needed or aligning it flush with the bottom of the panel slats. The light can be adjusted as required by pressing the spring section of the light bracket. Refer to the linear light installation instructions for additional details on proper adjustment, where applicable.
- **Complete Wiring:** Once the light is at the correct height and all adjustments are finalized, complete the wiring of all light fixtures.
- **Attach Safety Cables:** Install safety cables on fixture as required by local code.

3.7 Ceiling Contractor Scope — Installing Access Door

Once all electrical work is completed, the ceiling contractor/carpenter completes the installation by installing the access door, following the steps below.

Step 1 — Add Torsion Springs to the panels as shown ***(Fig 18)***

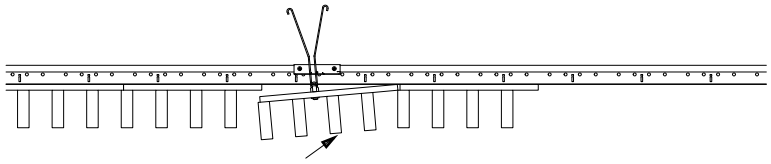


(Fig 18)

Step 2 — Install Door as shown

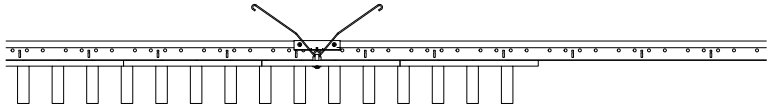
Align the spring with its corresponding slot on the saddle. Recommend doing this progressively across the panel can ease installation process.

For Grille – Classics, once all springs are engaged, tilt the panel to lead with the “male” side, sliding it horizontally to tuck the protruding backers behind the adjacent “female” panel ***(Fig 19)***.



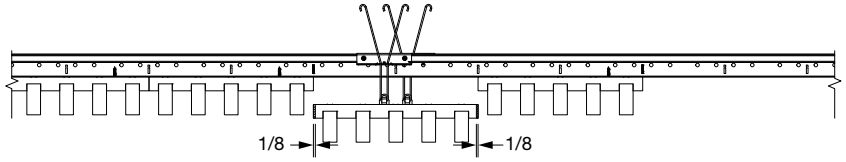
(Fig 19)

Once the joint is engaged, pivot the panel upward until level and push firmly to allow the torsion springs to pull the unit flush into its original position ***(Fig 20)***.

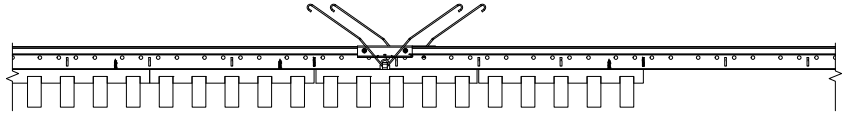


(Fig 20)

For Grille – Forté panels, simply align the spring with its corresponding slot on the saddle then push upwards on the panel, springs will spread and sit panel in place ***(Figs 21 & 22)***.



(Fig 21)



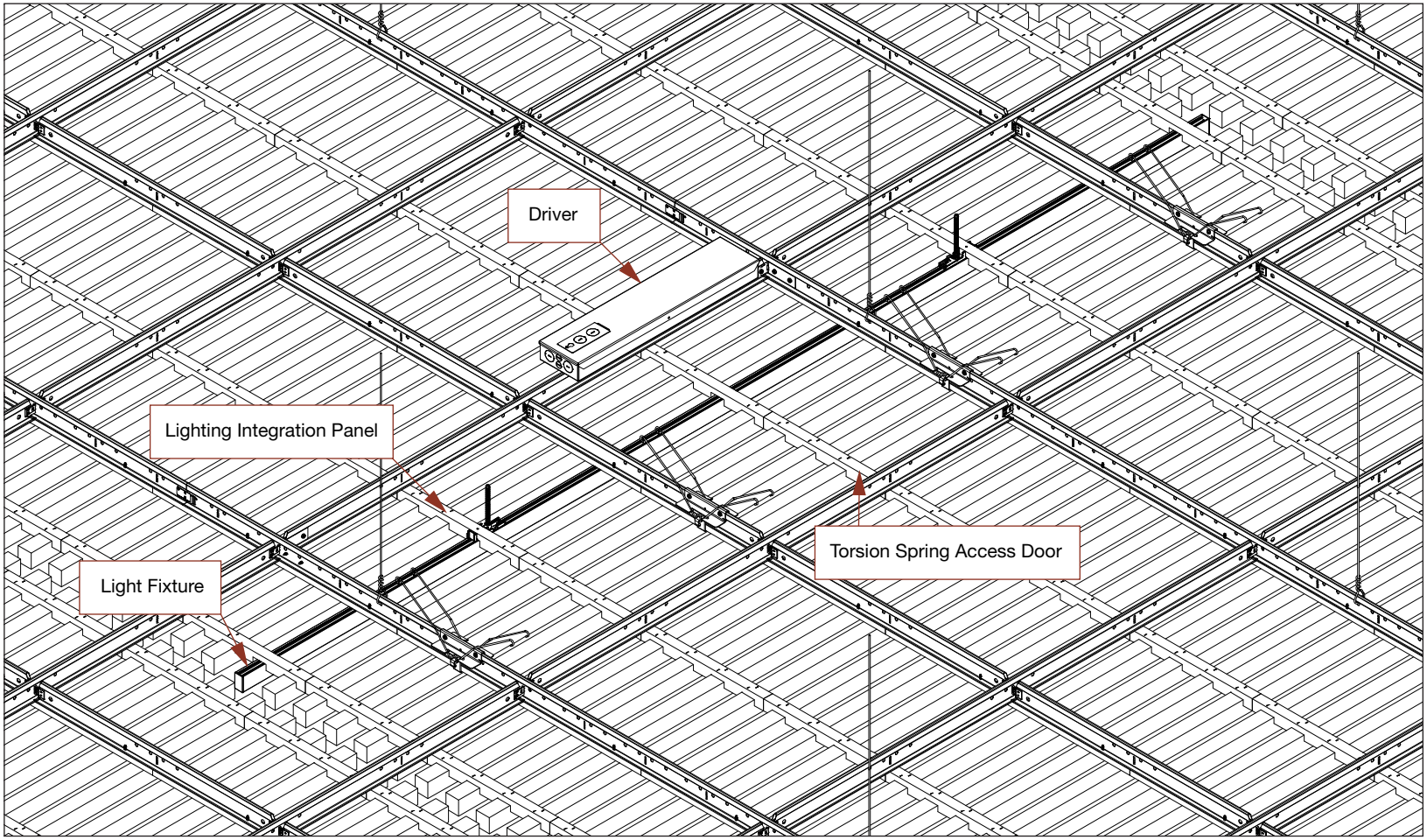
(Fig 22)

3.7.1 Access Door Removal for Future Maintenance

Carefully pull the panel down from the grid until the torsion springs are fully extended. Reach into the plenum and squeeze the spring legs to release them from the saddle, allowing the panel to be removed. Due to the panel weight, the product **IS NOT** designed to be left hanging in the swing-down position and should always be removed from the space for access.

Full Integration Installation Detail

(Fig 23)



(Fig 23)

4. GENERAL WALL INSTALLATION & ASSEMBLY

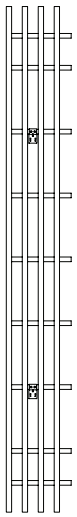
Wall lighting integration panels are available only for WoodWorks® Grille – Classics panels and are installed progressively across the wall during the installation process.

The ceiling contractor/carpenter and electrical contractor must communicate clearly throughout the installation to ensure a smooth installation process.

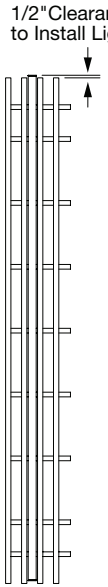
4.1 Ceiling Contractor/Carpenter Scope: Installing Furring/Plywood

Prepare the wall in accordance with the standard WoodWorks Grille – Classics wall installation instructions. Install furring strips or plywood backing as required to provide adequate structural support for the panels. Ensure that each hanging backer has a secure attachment point to the supporting structure and is fastened with a minimum of two screws per backer.

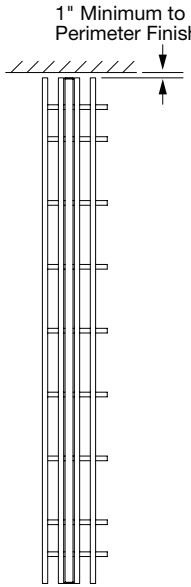
Light fixtures require approximately 1/2" of clearance regardless of on panel orientation to engage the factory-installed mounting brackets on the grille panel. To accommodate this installation movement, a minimum 1" clearance at the top or side of the wall panel system is recommended and should be incorporated into the wall preparation and layout prior to panel installation ***(Figs 24-26).***



(Fig 24)



(Fig 25)



(Fig 26)

4.2 Electrical Contractor Scope: Preparing the Wall

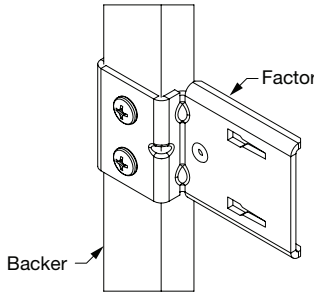
Install all required junction boxes and perform all wiring in accordance with LightArt's Armstrong Integrated Lighting Installation Instructions for WoodWorks Grille.

4.3 Ceiling/Carpenter and Electrical Contractor Scope: Panel Installation

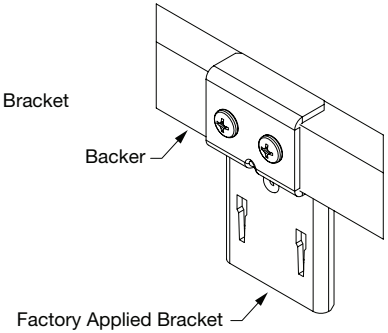
This phase of the installation requires coordination between the ceiling contractor/carpenter and the electrical contractor to ensure proper panel and fixture installation.

Before installing the grille lighting integration panels, verify that a minimum 1" clearance is available at either the top or side of the wall. The light fixtures engage the factory-installed mounting brackets using a hook-style connection and require approximately 1/2" of upward or side way movement during installation.

The ceiling contractor/carpenter shall install the WoodWorks® Grille – Classics panels and grille lighting integration panels progressively across the wall in accordance with the drawing layout. Grille lighting integration panels are manufactured with factory-attached mounting brackets designed to support the light fixtures ***(Fig 27 & 28).***



(Fig 27)



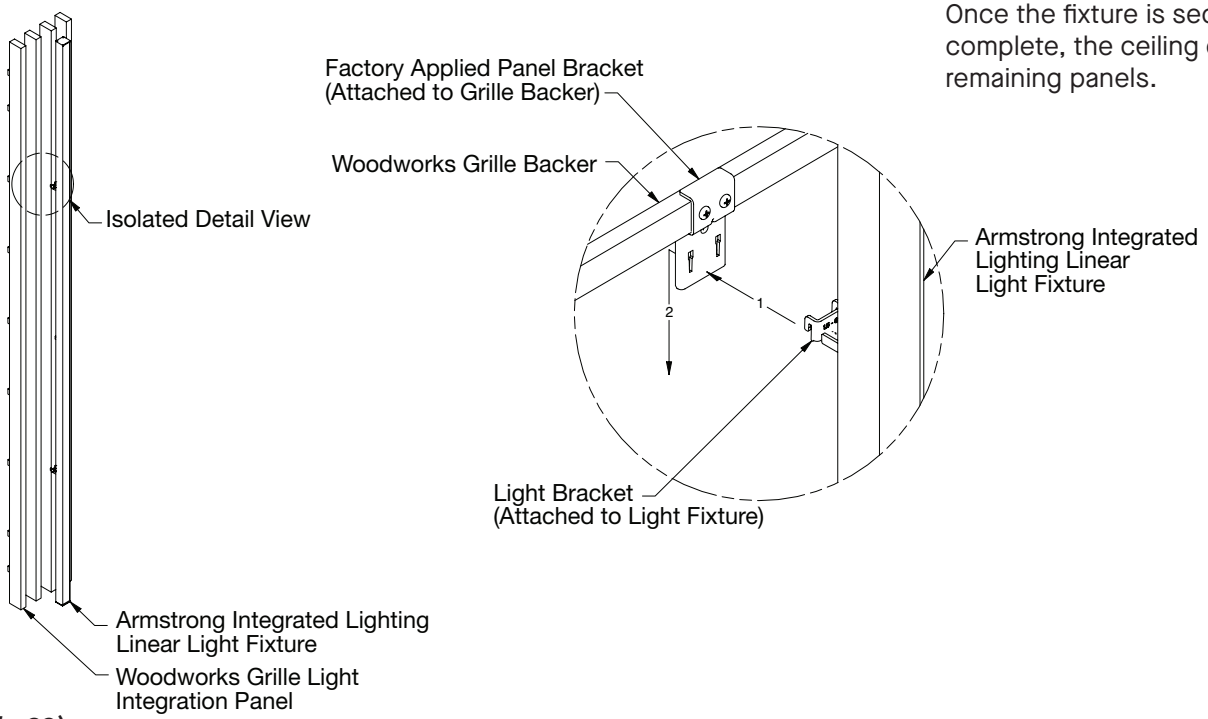
(Fig 28)

For vertical wall installations, panel orientation is critical. Grille lighting integration panels must be installed with the male backer on the right and the female backer on the left. No other vertical orientation is permitted, as it will prevent proper bracket engagement. For horizontal wall installations, either the male or female backer may face upward or downward, as bracket performance is not affected by panel orientation.

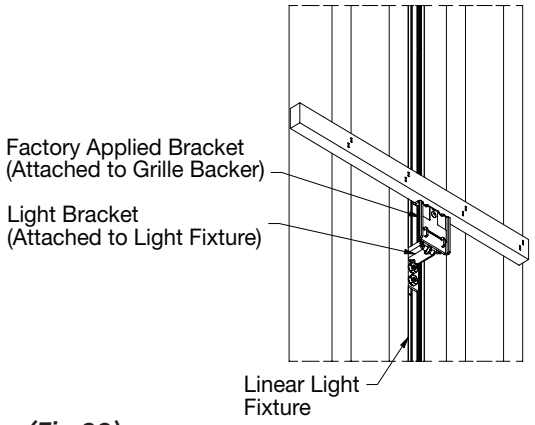
As each grille lighting integration panel is installed, the ceiling contractor/carpenter shall pause panel installation and allow the electrical contractor to install and connect the light fixture to the factory-attached brackets ***(FigS 29-31).***

Where required, the electrical contractor shall perform minor field modifications or routing adjustments necessary to conceal wiring behind the panel system. If furring or plywood backing creates an adequate cavity for wire management, no additional modifications may be required.

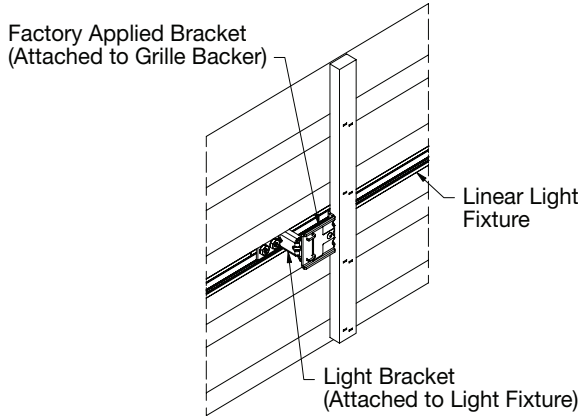
Once the fixture is secured and all electrical connections are complete, the ceiling contractor may proceed with installation of the remaining panels.



(Fig 29)



(Fig 30)

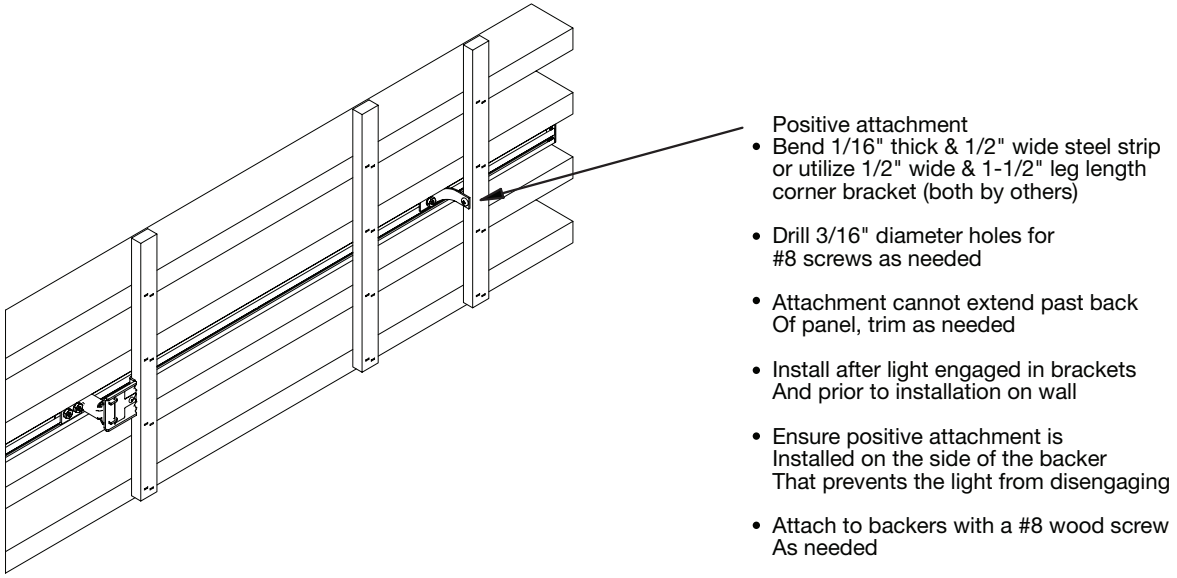


(Fig 31)

4.3.1 Electrical Contractor Scope: Fixture Positive Attachment

When a project requires the light fixture to be positively attached, the following method can be used to achieve this:

- Use a 1/16" thick × 1/2" wide steel strip cut to approximately 1-1/2" to 2" long, or a 1/2" wide corner bracket with 1-1/2" legs (both by others).
- Drill 3/16" diameter holes as required for #8 screws.
- Ensure the stop does not extend beyond the backer or panel. Trim as necessary.
- The electrical contractor must attach the fixture to the panel before the ceiling contractor installs the grille panel on the wall.
- Fasten the metal strip or bracket to the side of the backer that will prevent the fixture from lifting and disengaging from the panel bracket ***(Fig 32).***



(Fig 32)

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, or for an Armstrong representative, call 1 877 276-7876.
For complete technical information, detail drawings, CAD design assistance, installation information, and many other technical services, call TechLine customer support at 1 877 276-7876 or FAX 1 800 572-TECH.

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