Installation Frequently Asked Questions

Design considerations

Clearance: Easy Elegance™ panels are installed in drop/suspended ceiling installation using Armstrong Prelude® 15/16" Grid. You will need to have approximately 6" of clearance above face of 1280 Deep Coffer panels or 3" above 1282 Shallow Coffer panels.

Lighting: Easy Elegance™ panels work with most modern light fixtures. Leave 1/8" gap between recessed light housing and panel. Additionally, 1280 panel is 2.5" tall, so light fixtures may require a height extension component to provide clearance above the panel when installed.

Heat Source: Do not install Easy Elegance™ panels (items 1280 and 1282) in direct contact with open flame or a heat source that can exceed 130 degrees fahrenheit. Most recessed lighting options will meet this requirement, especially modern CFL (Compact Fluorescent Lighting) and LED lights.

Cutting Panels for Border/Perimeter: For a clean aesthetic look, cutting panels is not recommended. Two border solutions are recommended using mineral fiber drop ceiling panels or drywall to complete your look.

Perimeter Installation options

Option A: Drywall perimeter
Parts needed: 7300 Prelude® Main Beams and coordinating Cross Tees, MBAC Clip, DWAC Clip, and CHDC Clear Hold down Clip, 1280 or 1282, 1/2" or 5/8" drywall, angle molding, hanger wires and wire fasteners, square edge drywall casing bead (J-channel), Type S 1-1/4" screws, spackle, drywall tape, and paint. **Please note:** 7400 Prelude® Main Beam with square bulb and reduced height cannot be used for this installation solution.

1. Install your square and level suspension system: angle molding, hanger wires and Prelude® grid with extra wires for lights. Consult local electrical code or lighting fixture manufacturer for all light fixture requirements. Detailed installation directions available on armstrongceilings.com.

2. Cut coffer panels that will integrate with lighting; leave 1/8" gap between panel and recessed lighting housing. The light fixture trim will cover the gap.

3. Install lights (need height extensions when using 1280 Deep Coffered panels)
   - 2 1/2" above grid line for 1280 deep coffer panels
   - 7/16" above grid line for 1282 shallow coffer panels

4. Install DWAC at transition from ceiling panels to drywall and MBAC Clips at 8" intervals on the mains and tees that will support the drywall as shown in image.

5. Cut Drywall and screw in place (overlap by 1/16"). Border should not exceed 24" to wall

6. Finish drywall (bead edge, spackle, sand, and paint)

7. Drop panels into place

8. Install CHDC clear hold down clip as necessary to keep panels from shifting (possible near doors/windows)
Option B: Tegular acoustical drop panel perimeter

Parts needed: 7300 or 7400 Prelude® Main Beams and coordinating tees, CHDC Clear Hold down Clips, 1280 or 1282 Easy Elegance™ panels, tegular acoustic panel such as Sahara item #271, angle molding, hanger wires and wire fasteners.

1 – Install your square and level suspension system: angle molding, hanger wires and Prelude® grid with extra wires for lights. Consult local electrical code or lighting fixture manufacturer for all light fixture requirements. Detailed installation directions available on armstrongceilings.com.

2 – Cut coffer panels that will integrate with lighting; leave 1/8" gap between panel and recessed lighting.

3 – Install lights (need height extention when using 1280 panels)
   2 1/2" above grid line for 1280 deep coffer panels
   7/16" above grid line for 1282 shallow coffer panels

4 – Cut Acoustic Perimeter Panels, using tegular edge cutter tool

5 – Drop 1280 or 1282 into center section and tegular Acoustic Panels into the border

6 – Install CHDC Clear Hold down Clip as necessary to keep panels from shifting (possible near doors/windows)

If you have ceiling questions, call: 1-877-ARMSTRONG (276-7876)

NOTE: Due to printing limitations, colors pictured cannot be guaranteed to match actual ceiling materials.

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