1. GENERAL

The following instructions are for the Create! family of ceiling panels. This product uses a process to print original artwork and designer colors on standard Optima, Ultima, and Ultima Health Zone ceiling panels. This product is considered a “designer” tile and requires additional handling precautions to avoid face damage and surface contamination. This product is not recommended for spaces requiring frequent access.

Create! is a directional product. On the back of the panel, the sticker on the upper left-hand corner will have an arrow. All arrows need to face the same direction upon installation. If you notice checker-boarding after installation, please quarter turn the tile until directionality is unnoticeable.

2. GENERAL PANEL INSTALLATION

Refer to the Armstrong Lay-in and Tegular Ceiling Panel Installation Instructions — Installing Suspended Ceilings CS-3592 — or Optima Vector® and Ultima Vector Installation Instructions BPLA-297843 for general system installation information. Vector Hold Down Clips (Item 442A) must be used with Create! Vector panels.

3. SUSPENSION SYSTEM COMPATIBILITY

• Create! Tegular items are compatible ONLY with Silhouette® XL® 1/4” or 1/8” reveal suspension systems.
• Create! Vector items are compatible ONLY with Prelude® XL suspension in color White.

4. INSTALLATION LAYOUT

In the case of an image installation, the back of each panel will be labeled A1, A2, A3, etc., which will correspond with the ceiling plan Layout Key included in the carton.

5. GENERAL PANEL HANDLING

PLEASE NOTE: Additional handling care is required with Optima and Ultima Create! as outlined below.

• When handling panels, always wear clean cotton or latex gloves.
• Carefully remove panels from the carton by gripping only on the panel edges. Remove the protective foam sheet and inspect the panel. A soft brush or compressed air may be used to remove any dust or particles that may have settled on the panel face during shipping.

• It is not recommended to stack the panels. If stacking is necessary, make sure to use the protective foam sheets (included in shipping carton) between the tiles.

• When installing panels into the ceiling suspension system, use caution to minimize contact with the plenum grid structure and hanger wires to avoid surface scratching.

• When accessing the ceiling plenum, it is recommended to completely remove panels from the ceiling suspension system as opposed to shifting panels above the ceiling suspension system.

6. PANEL CUTTING

Create!™ panels are cut in the same fashion as ordinary Optima and Ultima panels, however, extra care needs to be exercised as not to damage the printed face.

• Use a sharp utility knife to prevent chipping of the color surface.

• When possible, position the cutting straight edge on the “waste side” of the cut line.

• A soft brush or compressed air may be used to remove any cutting debris that may have been generated by the cut.

• Capture all cut border panels in the wall molding – do not leave field tegularized cut edges exposed.

7. PANEL CLEANING

Use a clean, soft white cloth to wipe off any dirt or fingerprints. Do not use any abrasive cleaners. A mild detergent may be used if necessary on Ultima Health Zone™ Create! items.

8. SMALL DEFECT TOUCH-UP PAINT

For Tegular cuts or surface defects on colored panels, use custom matched Sherwin-Williams® paint. The recommended touch-up paint is Sherwin-Williams ProMar® 400 interior flat latex paint. This paint can be custom matched to the full range of Create! colors.

8.1. Create! Paint Touch-up Guidelines

This touch-up technique is for small defects and scratches on Create! panels. For larger defects or damage, a new individual panel can be ordered from Armstrong by noting the color and/or project information printed on the backside label. It is recommended that this technique be tested on a scrap panel before installing.

8.2. Defect and Scratch Repair

Pour a small amount (1 oz.) of the custom matched paint into a small cup and dilute with an equal amount of clean water. Mix the 50/50 diluted paint thoroughly with a mixing stick. Obtain a 1" tapered "Poly Brush" (Fig. 1) from a local hardware store. Use scissors to cut the tapered brush tip to achieve a point (Fig. 2). Dip the tip of the foam brush into the diluted paint mix to just slightly wet the tip of the brush. Gently touch the foam tip to the damaged panel area taking care to paint only the damaged section; do not touch surrounding areas with paint. Repeat this process until the damaged area is covered. Note: The touch-up paint may have a slightly different gloss level so do not feather or blend the touch-up paint into the undamaged areas – the less paint the better.

Capture cut border panels in molding

Figure 1

Capture cut border panels in molding

Figure 2

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