Easy Up® System
Installation Instructions:
480 Country Classic™ Planks
12" x 12" Ceiling Tiles
WoodHaven™ Planks

Inspiring Great Spaces®
BEFORE YOU BEGIN:
- Store and install ceilings in areas with a temperature range of 60° to 85° F and not more than 70% relative humidity.
- Remove ceiling planks from cartons 24 hours before installation and allow to adjust to normal interior conditions of the installation area.
- Do not apply loose fill or batt insulation so that it rests directly on the back of the planks.
- Do not install ceiling tiles below embedded radiant-heat coils.
- Keep hands clean during tile installation to avoid fingerprints and smudges.
- Handle ceiling planks carefully to protect the face and edges from damage.
- Always cut ceiling tiles face up with a sharp utility knife.
- For Adhesive Applications of mineral fiber only planks directly to existing drywall or plaster ceilings: Ceiling tile adhesive recommended, such as Henry 237 AcoustiGum™ Acoustical Ceiling Tile Adhesive. Please follow adhesive manufacturer’s instructions for application and usage. Armstrong does not guarantee the performance of this or other adhesive products, either alone or in conjunction with Armstrong products.

SAFETY TIPS:
- Establish and maintain adequate ventilation in the work area. If high dust levels are anticipated during installation, such as with the use of power tools, use an appropriate NIOSH-designated dust respirator. All power cutting tools must be equipped with dust collectors.
- Wear long-sleeve, loose fitting clothing and gloves.
- Persons who are sensitive to odor and/or chemicals should avoid the work area during this process.
- Wear safety glasses to minimize the risk of eye injury.
- Use a sharp utility knife to ensure clean cuts. When not in use, store properly.

MAINTENANCE HINTS:
- Remove dust and loose dirt with a soft brush or vacuum hose with a soft brush attachment.
- Remove pencil marks, small smudges, or clinging dirt with an ordinary art-gum eraser.
- Wash with a damp sponge, mild soap and lukewarm water if necessary. Do not soak tiles with water.

Tools Needed To Install Your Ceiling
- Safety Glasses
- Tape Measure
- Straight Edge
- Chalk Line
- Tin Snips
- String
- Pencil
- Carpenter’s Level
- Screw Driver
- #6 Course Thread Drywall Screws
- Drill/Screw Gun
- Gloves
- Hammer
- Stud Finder
- Hack saw
- Dust Mask

Begin Installation
Locate joists
Tap on the plaster or drywall ceiling until you hear a solid thud, or use a stud finder. Generally, joists are spaced 16” or 24” on center.

Determine border tile size for a balanced appearance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Calculate Your Room:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room = 170”</td>
<td>170”÷6” = 28.333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.333 x 6” = 2”</td>
<td>2”+6” = 8”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8”÷2 = 4”</td>
<td>Border plank width = 4”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STEP 1 INSTALL TRACK

1. Run Easy Up track in the opposite direction of the joists. Install track with #6 coarse thread screws. Screw length may vary, depending on your existing ceiling type. Over plaster – 3" screw; over drywall – 2" screw; direct to joists – 1 5/8" screw.

   NOTE: If necessary, you can shim Easy Up tracks to improve the flatness of your existing ceiling.

2. Screw first row of track 2" from the side wall. Use a screw at every joist. Continue installing first row of track end-to-end or overlapped side to side. (ILLUSTRATION A)

   Track should be installed flush to the front and back walls. To finish a row of track, cut to fit using tin snips or a hacksaw.

3. Install remaining rows 12" on center. (ILLUSTRATION B)

4. Install the last track row 2" from the opposite side wall. (ILLUSTRATION C)

STEP 2 INSTALL PLANKS

Snap a Chalk Line

- Add 1/2" to your border plank width and snap a chalk line across the tracks at that distance from front wall.

Cut First Row of Border Planks

- Familiarize yourself with the plank edges and face before you begin cutting your first plank. (ILLUSTRATION D)
- Trim first plank to the calculated border plank width, face up with a sharp utility knife. Do not cut off flange sides of plank.
- Cut off tongue on narrow edge of the first plank for a tight fit.
- Each plank for the first row will be cut to the border plank width.

Install First Row of Planks (ILLUSTRATION E on next page)

- Snap a clip on every track with teeth facing away from the front wall.
- Push clips flush against the wall.
- Push first plank firmly into corner, thereby embedding clips into cut edge.
- Snap new clips on every other track and push them over the plank flange to secure the flange side of the plank.
- Lightly tap clips with hammer to seat plank tightly to front wall. Make sure the plank flange edge is aligned with chalk line.
- Complete first row of cut planks. Cut last plank to length that leaves a 1/2" gap at the opposite side wall. (ILLUSTRATION F on next page)
Install Remaining Planks (ILLUSTRATION F)

- When starting the second row, cut some length from the first plank in order to stagger the seams. To maintain staggered seams from row to row, use the remaining piece of material cut from the last plank in the previous row to start the next row.
- Place a clip on every other track to secure the plank flanges. Clips must alternate tracks on every row and not be further than 24” apart.
- Snap a clip onto each track before inserting the last row of planks, and push flush with the end wall.
- Cut the last row of planks 1/2” short of the end wall. Measure and cut the face of the plank.
- Install end wall border planks and use a screwdriver next to the wall to embed the clip into the cut edge of the plank. (ILLUSTRATION G)

STEP 3 INSTALL WALL MOLDING

Install Wall Molding

- Paint or stain decorative molding before installing.
- Install molding at the joint between the ceiling and walls.
- Nail molding into the wall studs at least every 24”. (ILLUSTRATION H)

For additional information on installing suspended ceilings, including special installation tips, please visit our website at ceilings.com or call customer service at 1 877 ARMSTRONG (276-7876).

For warranty information, please visit ceilings.com
BEFORE YOU BEGIN:
- Store and install ceilings in areas with a temperature range of 60° to 85° F and not more than 70% relative humidity.
- Remove ceiling tile from cartons 24 hours before installation and allow to adjust to normal interior conditions of the installation area.
- Do not apply loose fill or batt insulation so that it rests directly on the back of the tiles.
- Do not install ceiling tiles below embedded radiant-heat coils.
- Keep hands clean during tile installation to avoid fingerprints and smudges.
- Handle ceiling tiles carefully to protect the face and edges from damage.
- Always cut ceiling tiles face up with a sharp utility knife.
- For Adhesive Applications of mineral fiber only tiles directly to existing drywall or plaster ceilings: Ceiling tile adhesive recommended, such as Henry 237 AcoustiGum™ Acoustical Ceiling Tile Adhesive. Please follow adhesive manufacturer’s instructions for application and usage. Armstrong does not guarantee the performance of this or other adhesive products, either alone or in conjunction with Armstrong products.

SAFETY TIPS:
- Establish and maintain adequate ventilation in the work area. If high dust levels are anticipated during installation, such as with the use of power tools, use an appropriate NIOSH-designated dust respirator. All power cutting tools must be equipped with dust collectors.
- Wear long-sleeve, loose fitting clothing and gloves.
- Persons who are sensitive to odor and/or chemicals should avoid the work area during this process.
- Wear safety glasses to minimize the risk of eye injury.
- Use a sharp utility knife to ensure clean cuts. When not in use, store properly.

MAINTENANCE HINTS:
- Remove dust and loose dirt with a soft brush or vacuum hose with a soft brush attachment.
- Remove pencil marks, small smudges, or clinging dirt with an ordinary art-gum eraser.
- Wash with a damp sponge, mild soap and lukewarm water if necessary. Do not soak tiles with water.

Tools Needed To Install Your Ceiling

Begin Installation
Locate ceiling joists
Tap on the plaster or drywall ceiling until you hear a solid thud, or use a stud finder. Generally, joists are spaced 16” or 24” on center.

Determine border tile size for a balanced appearance:
1. Measure room width in feet and inches
2. Disregard full feet measurement
3. Add 12” to the remaining inches
4. Divide result by 2
5. Record your border tile width (side wall)
6. Repeat 1-5 for opposite wall

Example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Calculate Your Room (Side To Side)</th>
<th>Calculate Your Room (Front To Back)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10' 8”</td>
<td>________________________________</td>
<td>____________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9' 6”</td>
<td>________________________________</td>
<td>____________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8’+ 12”</td>
<td>________________________________</td>
<td>____________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20” / 2” = 10”</td>
<td>__________________</td>
<td>__________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10”</td>
<td>________________________________</td>
<td>____________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Easy Up® System Installation Instructions
12" x 12" Ceiling Tile

STEP 1 INSTALL TRACK

1 Run Easy Up track in the opposite direction of the joists. Install track with #6 coarse thread screws. Screw length may vary, depending on your existing ceiling type. Over plaster – 3" screw; over drywall – 2" screw; direct to joists – 1 5/8" screw.

**NOTE:** If necessary, you can shim Easy Up tracks to improve the flatness of your existing ceiling.

2 Screw first row of track 2" from the side wall. Use a screw at every joist. Continue installing first row of track end-to-end or overlapped side to side. **(ILLUSTRATION A)**

Track should be installed flush to the front and back walls. To finish a row of track, cut to fit using tin snips or a hacksaw.

3 From the side wall, measure border tile width minus 2". (Border tile width was calculated on the first page.) Install second row of track parallel to the first at that point. **(ILLUSTRATION B)**

4 Install remaining rows 12" on center. **(ILLUSTRATION B)**

5 Install the last track row 2" from the opposite side wall. **(ILLUSTRATION C)**

STEP 2 INSTALL TILE

**Guide String and First Border Tile Cut**

1 Install a guide string along the front wall. Position at the calculated border width from the front wall, about 3/4" below the tracks.

2 Familiarize yourself with the flanged edges of the tile before you begin cutting your first tile. **(ILLUSTRATION D)**

3 **Side wall:** Cut tile to the side wall border tile width, face-up with sharp utility knife. Do not cut off flange sides of tile. **Front wall:** Cut tile to front wall border dimension.

4 The flange is not part of the border tile measurement. Measure tile face only.
Install First Border Tile (Tile 1 in ILLUSTRATION E)

NOTE: Refer to ILLUSTRATION E for proper order of installing tiles.

1. Snap a clip onto the first two tracks, teeth facing out.
2. Push clips flush against wall.
3. Push first tile firmly into corner (ILLUSTRATION F) by embedding clips into cut edge.
4. Snap 2 new clips onto tracks and slide teeth over flange to secure flange side of tile. (ILLUSTRATION G)
5. Lightly tap clips with hammer to seat tile tightly to front wall. Make sure the tile face edge is aligned with guide string. (ILLUSTRATION H)

Install Second Border Tile (Tile 2 in ILLUSTRATION E)

1. Follow the same procedure as first border tile, measuring and trimming along front edge only (not flange edge). Push flange edge firmly into first border tile.

Begin Installing Row Two (Tile 3 in ILLUSTRATION E)

1. Trim tile to the side wall border tile width.
2. Install with clips.
3. Slide into place making sure the face edge is aligned with tile 1.

Install First Full Tile (Tile 4 in ILLUSTRATION E)

1. Align tile squarely with the adjacent 3 tiles. Make sure all face edges are aligned.

Install Remaining Tiles

Complete first row (border) keeping tile face edge, not flange edge, flush with guide string. (ILLUSTRATION E and ILLUSTRATION H)

1. Continue installing tile using diagonal sequence shown. (ILLUSTRATION E)
2. Snap a clip onto the track before inserting the last row of tile, and push flush with end wall.
3. Cut the border tiles against the end wall 1/2" short to allow for expansion as room conditions change.
4. Install end wall border tiles and use a screwdriver next to the wall to embed the clip into the cut edge of the tile. (ILLUSTRATION I on next page)
STEP 3 INSTALL WALL MOLDING
1. Paint or stain decorative molding before installing.
2. Install molding at the joint between the ceiling and walls.
3. Nail molding into the wall studs at least every 24". (ILLUSTRATION J)

HELPFUL HINTS:
Keeping the tiles “square” to one another is a key part of the installation process.
- Proper installation will have all the edges of the tiles in line, with no staggering or gaps, and the entire tile edge in full contact with the neighboring tile.
- By installing the ceiling in this manner, you can ensure a visually appealing ceiling.
- When installing the string line to guide the first row of tiles, check that the string is close to square with the side wall.
- You can do this by using the 3-4-5 triangle method.

3-4-5 Triangle Method
- Measure 3 feet from the corner in one direction and make a mark.
- Measure 4 feet from the corner in the other direction and make a mark.
- Measure the distance between your marks.
  - If the distance is 5 feet, your corner is square.
  - If the distance is less than 5 feet, your corner has a measurement of less than 90 degrees.
  - If the distance is over 5 feet, your corner has a measurement of more than 90 degrees.
- If the walls are out of square by a large margin, you may want to balance out the difference.
- It is critical to get the first row of tiles straight.
- This is accomplished by following the string line and not the wall.
- Walls can be irregular throughout a room, especially in corners.
- Trim tile to fit as you follow the string.
- Use a scrap piece of tile to “tap in” and line up the good tile.
- You can tap the scrap tile gently with a hammer to avoid damaging the tile you’re installing.

NOTE: All Armstrong 12” x 12” ceiling tiles can be painted with latex paint. The front and back of the tile should be painted. Armstrong cannot guarantee that the published surface-burning characteristics, fire-resistance ratings, acoustical performance, dimensional stability/sag, or light reflectance will remain the same after repainting. Field painting will void the warranty.

For additional information on installing suspended ceilings, including special installation tips, please visit our website at ceilings.com or call customer service at 1 877 ARMSTRONG (276-7876).

For warranty information, please visit ceilings.com
We recommend installing WoodHaven™ planks using the Easy Up® track and clip system. However, the clips and screws included in the box, when used with furring strips and shims, are suitable for installations that meet the following conditions:

- Ceiling surface is easily leveled with furring strips and shims.
- Room will not experience broad humidity and temperature differences from season to season.
- Planks installed on non-flat ceilings, such as vaulted or cathedral ceilings. If you have a sloped surface (not covered in these instructions) contact Techline at 1-877-ARMSTRONG (276-7876) for guidance.
- WoodHaven Planks can also be installed on 15/16-in ceiling grid, using the Easy Up® clips.

**SPACE CONSIDERATIONS – BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

- The system is a floating system that allows for natural movement of a home. Ensure that the surface is level and planks are able to slide freely within their clips. Unlike lumber, which can twist and warp, this system does not require nails/screws at each edge to stay flat.
- Never span more than 21-ft without an expansion joint (cover with trim). **NOTE: do not attach the planks directly to trim, molding, or wall.**
- Open cartons 2–3 days prior to the install and allow material to adjust to the relative humidity in the space where it will be installed. Maintain humidity levels after installation.
- Installation must not be direct to exterior roof joist. Furring strips or Easy Up® tracks will provide the required 1/2-in gap between planks and above surface. Do not allow anything to touch the back of the planks, such as insulation.
- Planks should not be installed below embedded radiant heat coils.
- Allow for a 1/4-in gap around all columns, beams and obstructions.
- Plan for lighting or other fixtures that may be included in your room:
  - Mount electrical boxes so they are 3/8-in lower than the surface to which you will attach planks. (Remember to add for height of Easy Up track (1/2-in) or furring strip. With Easy Up tracks, total drop will be 7/8-in).
  - Use light fixtures that will not raise the temperature of the planks above 230° Fahrenheit to prevent discoloration of the plank. Contact the lighting manufacturer for any questions about the amount of heat generated by the light.
  - Allow for a 1/4-in of space around the perimeter of the fixture, to be covered by the fixture trim or facer.
- Uncertain of how these considerations impact your project—call for guidance at 1-877-ARMSTRONG (276-7876).

**SAFETY TIPS:**

- **CAUTION: Wood Dust.** Sawing, sanding and machining wood products can produce dust. Airborne wood dust can cause respiratory, eye and skin irritation. Establish and maintain adequate ventilation in the work area.
- Wear long-sleeve clothing and gloves.
- Wear safety glasses to minimize the risk of eye injury.
- Store cutting equipment properly when not in use.
- Follow manufacturer’s instructions when working with adhesives for beaded plank installation. Armstrong does not guarantee the performance of adhesives.

**MAINTENANCE HINTS:**

- Wipe with a damp cloth

**Tools Needed To Install Your Ceiling**

- Hand Saw
- Saber Saw
- Drill/Screw Gun
- Pencil
- Chalk Line
- Screwdriver
- Stud finder
- Gloves
- Glue
- Screws
- String/Jet Line
- 4’ Carpenters Level
- Straight Edge
For can lights/ceiling inserts: jig saw or dremel
Crown molding >1.5-in
Be sure to follow the manufacturer’s recommendations when using power tools.
For WoodHaven™ Plank with Easy Up® track and clips instructions only: Armstrong® Easy Up tracks and clips.
For WoodHaven Plank Clips and Screws instructions only: also add furring strips and shims

Begin Installation
Installing WoodHaven™ Planks with Easy Up® tracks and clips:
In this example, we are installing WoodHaven planks with Easy Up track and clips over unfinished drywall. You can also install planks direct to floor joists or studs, or other existing ceilings, using the same Easy Up tracks.
When installing directly to an existing ceiling, find joists and mark with chalk line. (PHOTO A)
Running perpendicular to the joists, mark where tracks will be placed. Start 2-in from the starting wall. Spacing is 24-in on center or less. (PHOTO B)
Ensure that you do not have tracks running directly over light fixture holes or other ceiling obstructions. Adjust tracks by reducing space between tracks (never greater than 24-in spacing) (PHOTO C)
Screw first Easy Up track, making screw connections at each joist location. Start on your mark, 2-in from the parallel wall, with the end of the track against the perpendicular wall. (PHOTO D)
Attach second track. No need to place end-to-end. Simply overlap tracks, side-by-side, by at least 1-in. Leave a 1/8-in gap between tracks. (PHOTO E)
If you need to cut track pieces shorter, use a chop saw or hack saw. Ensure you have the right blade for metal. Do not crush track, as clips would not fit. And remember your protective safety glasses and cut resistant gloves.
• It is imperative to level your tracks. Simply use a bubble level and insert shims (loosen screw and tighten to get a level track). Check both levels in the direction of the track (parallel), as well as across tracks (perpendicular). (PHOTO F)
• Continue screwing tracks to joists in the ceiling. At the finishing wall, install the last track 2-in away from the wall. (PHOTO G)
• (In this picture, note that the installers didn’t have to cut any metal pieces. Overlapping the track by more than an inch is fine!)

Determine Your Layout and Size of Your Border Planks. Measure the length of the room, in the direction of your tracks, and opposite the joists, to determine the size of your border planks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Calculation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Total room length</td>
<td>Room = 178&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Divide total by 5&quot;</td>
<td>178&quot; ÷ 5&quot; = 35.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Multiply the remainder by 5&quot;</td>
<td>0.6 x 5&quot; = 3&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Add 5&quot; to the result</td>
<td>3&quot; + 5&quot; = 8&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Divide result by 2</td>
<td>8&quot; ÷ 2 = 4&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>This is your border plank width</td>
<td>Border plank width = 4&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• This is your first row of planks.
• Cut the “tongue” side off of the length of the plank for your first border plank. **TIP: Using a table saw or circular saw helps to ensure a clean straight line. (PHOTO H)**
• Leaving 1/2-in from the starting wall (closest to the end of the plank), screw the 1st border plank in the center of the plank right up against your starting wall, with one screw connecting with the track. (PHOTO I)
• Only use one screw to hold the plank in place while you move the Easy Up® clips into the groove edge of the plank. Your future molding will hold the planks in place. **TIP: Another option is to use three finish nails as a ledge, located directly under the face of the plank, on which you can rest the plank while you slide the clips into place.**
• Snap an Easy Up Clip onto every track. (PHOTO J)
• Slide the clip on the track until it connects with the “Groove” of the plank. The clip should loosely hold the upper edge of the groove on the plank. (PHOTO K)
• Continue to build your ceiling by connecting the tongue and groove on the long side and end of the plank. Ensure a 3/4-in gap* on finishing wall to allow for expansion. This will be covered by molding. (PHOTO L)

*A 7-ft plank can expand/contract as much as 1/4-in under extreme humidity changes. This gap allows for normal expansion and will be covered by molding. Consistent humidity levels must be maintained after installation.

• Layout the room with staggered seams. In most installations, you should be able to use the leftover cut plank from one row to start the next row, with very little waste. Do not use planks smaller than 26-in to ensure attachment with two clips. (PHOTO M)

• The tongue of the new plank will slide into the groove of the receiving plank, hiding the Easy Up clip. (PHOTO M)

• Double check your math for the width of the last plank. Measure the remaining distance to the wall, and cut off the groove edge of the plank to fit the space. There should be a 3/4-in gap at the border. Tip the tongue of the plank into the groove of the receiving plank. (PHOTO N)

• Support the last plank by either screwing it to the Easy Up track with a single screw (TIP: Pre-drilling helps) or create a ledge using finishing nails hammered every 24-in into the wall directly below the face. (Molding will hide screw or nails) (PHOTO O)

• We recommend finishing the job with crown molding (not sold by Armstrong Ceilings), painted to match other trim in your space.

• A slightly damp rag will remove any dust from your install, leaving you with a beautiful new ceiling.

CAUTION: Wood Dust. Sawing, sanding and machining wood products can produce dust. Airborne wood dust can cause respiratory, eye and skin irritation. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has classified wood dust as a nasal carcinogen in humans.

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