

COMPOSEAL GRAY 20 MIL PE **SHEET MEMBRANE**

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR INSTALLING POLYETHYLENE (PE) SHEET MEMBRANE ON SHOWER WALLS

This guide will walk you through the proper installation of polyethylene sheet membrane for waterproofing shower walls. The membrane should be installed vertically for optimal performance. These instructions are designed with professional tile installers in mind and cover multiple substrate types.



MATERIALS AND TOOLS REQUIRED

- ◇ Polyethylene (PE) sheet membrane
- ◇ Seam tape
- ◇ Thin-set mortar (ANSI A118.4 or A118.15 compliant)
- ◇ Compotite Elastiseal Pro
- ◇ Notched trowel (1/8" x 1/8" square-notch recommended)
- ◇ Utility knife or scissors
- ◇ Measuring tape
- ◇ Straight edge
- ◇ Rubber roller or flat trowel
- ◇ Clean sponge and bucket of water

PREPARATION

1. INSPECT SUBSTRATE

- ◇ Ensure the wall substrate (cement board, drywall, or fiberboard) is flat, plumb, and clean, free of grease, dust, loose particles, or moisture.

2. VERIFY SUBSTRATE SUITABILITY

- ◇ Cement Board: No additional preparation needed.
- ◇ Drywall: Use only in non-wet areas unless otherwise specified by local codes.
- ◇ Fiberboard: Ensure it is exterior grade and rigid.

3. PLAN MEMBRANE LAYOUT

- ◇ Measure and cut the PE sheet membrane to fit vertically along the wall.
- ◇ Overlap sheets by at least 2 inches (50mm) at seams.

INSTALLATION PROCESS

1. APPLY THIN-SET MORTAR

- ◇ Mix the thin-set mortar according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- ◇ Using a notched trowel, apply a consistent layer of mortar to the wall in the area where the first membrane sheet will be installed.
- ◇ Comb the thin-set with the notched side of the trowel to create uniform ridges.

2. INSTALL THE PE SHEET MEMBRANE VERTICALLY

- ◇ Immediately after applying the thin-set, position the pre-cut sheet membrane vertically on the wall.
- ◇ Press the membrane into the thin-set using a rubber roller or flat trowel to remove air pockets and ensure full contact.
- ◇ Smooth out the membrane from the center outward.

3. OVERLAP SEAMS AND SECURE WITH SEAM TAPE

- ◇ Where sheets overlap, ensure at least a 2-inch (50mm) overlap.
- ◇ Apply a bead of Compotite Elastiseal Pro along the overlap area for enhanced waterproofing.
- ◇ Place seam tape over the overlap and press it firmly into place.

4. WATERPROOF JOINTS, CORNERS, AND TRANSITIONS

- ◇ Apply a bead of Compotite Elastiseal Pro to all corners, seams, and transitions (e.g., where the shower pan meets the wall).
- ◇ Embed the seam tape into the Elastiseal Pro, ensuring it adheres fully without gaps.
- ◇ Use a flat trowel to press and smooth the tape into the Elastiseal Pro.

5. TREAT CURBS, BENCHES, AND NICHEs

- ◇ Apply thin-set to these areas as described earlier.
- ◇ Cut and position the PE membrane to cover the surface, extending it onto the wall membrane to maintain continuity.
- ◇ Use seam tape and Elastiseal Pro at all edges and corners to ensure complete waterproofing.

FINAL STEPS

1. INSPECT INSTALLATION

- ◇ Ensure there are no wrinkles, gaps, or air pockets in the membrane.
- ◇ Verify all seams, corners, and edges are fully sealed.

2. CURE TIME

- ◇ Allow the thin-set mortar and Elastiseal Pro to cure according to the manufacturer's recommendations before tiling.

3. WATERPROOF TESTING (OPTIONAL)

- ◇ Conduct a flood test in accordance with local building codes to verify waterproofing integrity before proceeding with tiling.

TIPS FOR A PROFESSIONAL FINISH

- ◇ Work in manageable sections to prevent the thin-set from drying before the membrane is applied.
- ◇ Maintain a clean work environment; remove excess thin-set from seams and edges promptly.
- ◇ Always follow manufacturer recommendations for the thin-set, membrane, and Elastiseal Pro.

By following these steps, you'll achieve a fully waterproof shower installation ready for tiling.