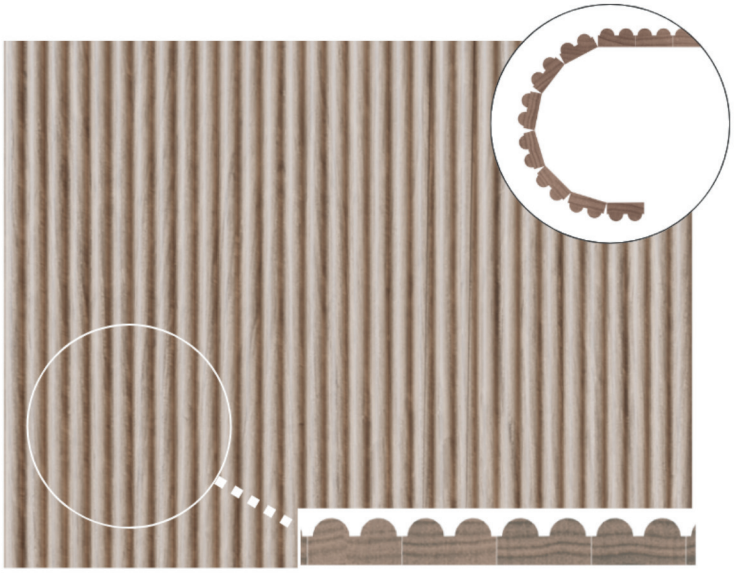
Designs of distinction® by BWI
Kitchen, Bath & Home

Flexible Tambour
Safety, Installation and Maintenance

Flexible Tambour Safety Information



Installation of tambour should only be performed by a licensed professional. Failure to properly and securely install tambour panels may result in avoidable damage or serious injury. It is recommended all installation work be done by at least two people for ease and accuracy. Always wear personal protective equipment when performing installation. Read through all instructions prior to the assembly and installation process. Please contact us at 800-328-5858 with any questions.

Properly installed tambour should be able to remain on the surface it is attached to without any sort of loosening or unforced removal. **NEVER** install tambour onto a ceiling or horizontal surface. Tambour designed to installed vertically only.

When installing tambour, be sure to perform each of the following tasks thoroughly:

- Assure all adhesives and fasteners have adhered or attached to the surface you're applying the tambour to.
- Wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (not included) as you perform each task. **NEVER** allow yourself to be caught off guard by potential accidents.
- Read instructions all the way through prior to installing. Familiarize yourself with each step prior to actual installation and seek clarification if necessary.
- Assure your work area is clean and free of debris and potential obstacles.
- Clean both the backing of tambour and the surface you're attaching the tambour to – free them of dust, dirt, moisture and debris.

⚠ Proposition 65 for Wood Products

Tambour is made from raw wood which may contain traces of wood dust on its surface – which may become airborne during handling. Likewise, any alteration to the tambour (sanding, sawing, etc.) may cause wood dust to be generated.

WARNING: Drilling, sawing, sanding or machining wood products can expose you to wood dust, a substance known to the State of California to cause cancer. Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a dust mask or other safeguards for personal protection. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/wood.



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Storage & Handling

- Flexible Wood Tambour is intended for interior use only and is not designed for wet areas or locations with high humidity such as showers, bathrooms or pools.
- Upon receipt of material, tambour panels must be stored in a controlled environment and should be allowed 24 to 48 hours to acclimate. This is best done with the panels lying flat on a horizontal surface.
- Prior to installation or shop finishing, tambour panels should be lightly rolled/unrolled to flex the backing sheet. Hold for 5+ seconds in rolled position before returning to flat.

Finishing

- Flexible Wood Tambour panels can be finished using standard wood finishing techniques, either before or after installation.
- Panels can be allowed to roll or “slump” slightly to allow finish to reach between wood slats.

Installation

- Flexible Wood Tambour panels can be installed vertically or horizontally and should be dry-fit prior to applying adhesive.
- Be sure the substrate/wall surface is clean from any debris/dirt/dust/grease.
- Install tambour panels only in a controlled environment (standard room temperature/humidity).
- Off-the-shelf PVA, contact adhesive, epoxy, or high-quality panel adhesives such as TiteBond Fast Grab FRP Adhesive may be used.
- If using panel adhesive, troweled-on, full-coverage (80-100%) to within ¼” of panel edge is recommended. If applying with a caulk gun, include continuous bead around perimeter as well as horizontal beads every 4-6”.
- Clean/remove any excess adhesive to prevent “spill-over” from getting on the face of the tambour slats.
- For best results, test a small area for proper adhesions prior to full installation.
- Trim screws or nails are highly recomended for optimum hold and security.•Apply full and firm pressure over the entire panel to ensure continuous bond. A ¾” thick sacrificial board should be used when tapping/hammering the tambour panel in place.
- Adjacent panels should not be butted against one another too tightly, as some minor movement in service is expected.
- Do not mount/fasten furniture or cabinetry through tambour panels to the wall. Movement of the furniture or cabinetry can cause buckling or improper fit/adhesion of the tambour panels and will void warranty

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Step #1:
Stretch out the panel prior to attachment. Roll tambour panel to the inside.

Step #2:
Bend tambour panel to the outside. Use a good amount of force to really flex the panel and stretch out the paper or fabric backing. Once properly stretched the panel should feel more flexible in both directions.





Step #3:
Allow for small gaps between panels during installation. A gap thickness of 2 business cards is a good reference. Small gaps allow the wood to expand and contract after installation.



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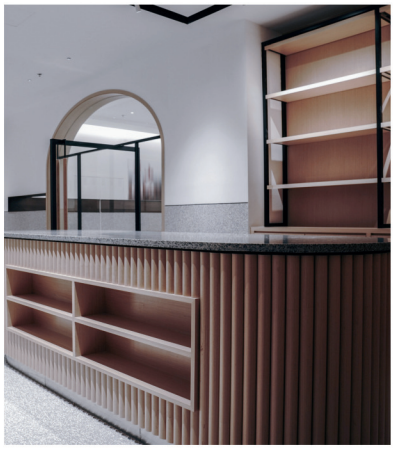


Storage and Pre-Installation

Hardwood Tambour should be allowed to acclimate to the environment it will be installed in (like all raw hardwoods) for 2-3 days prior to finishing while STILL in its original packaging. The environment should be minimal in humidity and temperate in climate. Tambour should be finished within 24 hours of unpackaging to assure moisture and particulates do not affect the surface. Tambour should be inspected once received and allowed to remain within its packaging up until finishing. Never store tambour near a direct heat source, open window, ventilation openings or any other source that may impact the area. *

Treating

Hardwood Tambour, like all raw hardwood components, should be coated in a sealant prior to project completion. This is in order to maintain the wood's quality of color, applied paint/stain and surface integrity. Use of oil or lacquer-based sealants is not recommended on flexible panels as this may compromise the strength of both the wood and flexible backer. Water-based sealants can be used in for these applications. *

Maintenance

Once sealant has been applied, Hardwood Tambour can be maintained with regular cleaning and conditioning. To clean sealed tambour surfaces, use a damp cotton cloth and use long, consistent streaks for best results. For tougher stains, warm water and simple soap can be used. It is recommended all liquid spills onto a sealed tambour surface be cleaned and dried immediately to avoid damage to the sealant or wood. *

**Once Tambour has been stored, sealed and/or installed by the purchaser, Brown Wood, Inc.® no longer assumes warranty over the product – meaning any cracking, discoloration, peeling warping, installation failure, etc. are not covered by our warranty terms. Always assure condition of tambour as soon as it's delivered.*

You can find warranty terms here: https://www.brownwoodinc.com/dod/warranty-returns/

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