

HOW TO INSTALL AN IMPERIAL MARBLE SHOWER BASE

Step #1 – CONFIRM THE ROUGH OPENING WALL DIMENSIONS: All Imperial shower bases are installed stud to stud. If the shower base is to be installed between two walls you should make sure the walls are square and plumb so that the base can be easily set on the front edge as a pivot and gently swung down towards the back wall. This requires enough room up the walls for clearance to swing the base. It can be very difficult to slide base in position while flat and the drain pipe can interfere.

NOTE: Upon completed installation of the base, the outside surface of wall board material must be even with the inside surface of wall flanges on the base or extend inside the base so the finish panels or tile can extend down inside the wall flange for a leak proof installation.

The shower base wall flange is 1/2", the same as 1/2" cement wall board or moisture resistant drywall. This allows the finish marble shower panels or tile to be installed on the wall board and drop down inside of the base wall flange for a leak proof installation. For ease of fitting the base into the opening, if possible you should allow one half inch over the width of the base when base is between walls. Plan on sliding the base to the back corner where plumbing wall meets back wall tight against studs for final position. After shower base installation is complete you can then fir out the opposite wall that has the one half inch space left over with strips of wall board or other material before installing wall board.

If it is not possible to add space for the rough opening and then fir one wall after completed, it is recommended to make the rough opening 1/8" wider overall than the width of the base and make sure that it is square. In addition it is recommended that you make sure you have a perfectly level and flat floor that you can slide the base into position while flat without disturbing any leveling materials or shims. (Step #8)

NOTE: Be sure to check the list of standard IMPERIAL shower base sizes available and determine whether you can adjust the wall dimensions to accommodate a standard shower base. It is usually less expensive to adjust walls to a standard base than to order a custom base to fit a non standard rough opening.

Step #2 – SUB-FLOOR PREPARATION: Verify that the drain is in the correct location. If the drain is NOT properly located, relocate the drain. **NOTE: Relocating the drain is usually far less expensive than having a custom pan cast to accommodate your existing drain location.**

The hole in the sub-floor needs to be larger than the drain pipe. A **maximum** of a 6" diameter hole or the size of a coffee can is recommended but no larger as a larger hole in the sub floor can jeopardize adequate support for the base. This larger opening allows room for the drain assembly that extends below the bottom of the pan. Most drain pipes are 2" PVC. The PVC pipe allows for some flexing within the 6" opening in the sub-floor. This flexing is desired and makes the pan installation easier. The PVC pipe should extend above the finished sub-floor by a minimum of 1/2".

The sub-floor can be wood, plywood or concrete. If the subfloor is wood or plywood, it must be a **MINIMUM** of 3/4" thick. If not, additional plywood should be glued and fastened in the area of the base for support and to reduce possibility for deflection in the floor. The sub-floor must be level and free from debris. To ensure a level floor, check the floor with a long level as shown in Fig. 1. The longer the level, the more likely that the sub-floor will be level at its greatest dimensions. Check front to back at the left and right sides and at the center. Do the same from side to side. Finally, check the diagonals. At a minimum, 8 readings should be taken. If the floor is not perfectly level and consistently flat, you will need to add leveling material in step #8. To prepare for step #8 at this point install shims under the level at the outline of where base hits floor and either glue or nail shims to floor so that they do not move in the leveling process of step #8.



**INSTALLATION IS
FAST AND EASY.**

**IMPERIAL shower bases install
on a flat sub-floor or may be set
on a raised platform as shown
in Fig. 1.**



Fig. 1

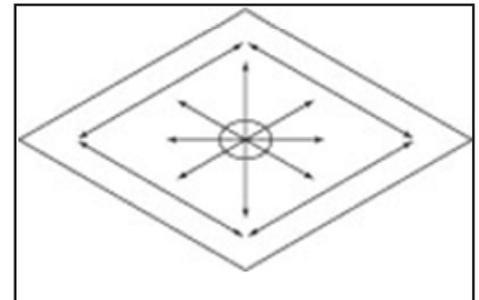


Fig. 2

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Step #3 – ATTACH DRAIN ASSEMBLY TO PAN: A standard two-part Brass Drain Assembly is recommended, as shown in Fig. 2. Disassemble the drain assembly. Keeping the components in order makes reassembly faster and easier.

Place the pan on saw horses or any raised platform that allows access to the top and bottom of the pan. Wipe the drain opening with rubbing alcohol, Fig. 3. With a clean rag, wipe the surface and interior edge of the pre-cut drain opening, to remove any dust or other contaminants from the pan's drain area. Around the drain opening apply a generous bead of 100% silicone, (Fig. 5).

Insert Brass Drain Body, Part #5 of the Brass Drain Assembly, into the drain hole and press firmly into place.



Fig. 4

Step #4 – REMOVE EXCESS SILICONE: Remove the excess silicone from the Drain Body, Part #5. Spray an alcohol mist over the drain area and the silicone. With a caulk finishing tool, scoop away the excess silicone. This step may have to be repeated several times to completely remove the silicone. Last, spray a mist of alcohol and wipe remaining film away from the Drain Body, Part #5, with a soft cloth.



Fig. 5



Fig. 6

Step #5 – MOUNT DRAIN LOCKING RING: Attach the Drain Strainer, Part #1, to ensure that the Drain Body, Part #5, is centered within the drain hole. From the bottom side of the shower pan, attach Parts #6, 7, & 8 to Part #5. Tighten the Locking Ring, Part #8 until snug. **DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN.** Over tightening may crack the shower pan. Remove the Drain Strainer, Part #1, and set aside.



Fig. 7



Fig. 8



Fig. 9

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Step #6 – DRY FIT THE SHOWER PAN: Lower the shower pan into place. With the level, confirm that the pan is sitting flat on the floor as shown. Lower the pan into place and check for level. **A LEVEL PAN IS ESSENTIAL FOR PROPER DRAINAGE.**

Once the pan is leveled and properly positioned, draw a pencil line onto the sub-floor at the front of the threshold.

Step #7 – TRIMMING THE PVC: The top of the PVC drain pipe **MUST NOT** extend above the Brass Drain Body, Part #5. If it is at the top of the Brass Drain Body, Part #5, or extends above the top, trim the PVC so that it is about 1/4" lower than the top of the Brass Drain Body, Part #5. Lift the shower pan onto its back edge and lean against wall. **CAUTION:** Handle carefully to prevent damage to the shower pan's flange. Trim the PVC as required.

Step #8 – POUR LEVELING / SUPPORT MATERIAL: If the floor is **uneven** or out of level, you will need to either:

1) **RECOMMENDED**, lay down a thick consistency of one bag mortar mix to the area and trowel material to a height approx 1/4" above shims that were used to level during dry set. Set the base on the wet mortar and tamp down lightly where necessary to level using a level on the wall flanges and threshold to check for level. Allow mortar to cure before further work.

2) **OR**, Form a dam across the front of the base area and around the opening for the drain and pour a self leveling thin-set material to create a consistently level support area. Allow the material to cure before setting base.

Step #9 – SET SHOWER PAN ON LEVEL FLOOR: After you have determined that the subfloor is perfectly level or you have leveled the floor with self leveling thin set material in method #2 above, you can now apply either construction adhesive or silicone adhesive to the sub floor in a minimum of a 3/8" bead no farther than 12 inches apart and around the perimeter of area as well as around the cutout in the floor for drain. Now lower the base into place and recheck the pan for level. Press down as necessary to re-level the shower pan.

Step #10 – CONNECT DRAIN PIPE TO DRAIN ASSEMBLY: Place the rubber gasket, Part #4 of the Drain Assembly, over the PVC pipe and slide down until the top of the Rubber Gasket, Part #4, is below the top of the PVC pipe. Apply a spray silicone lubricant to the inside and outside of the Rubber Gasket, Part #4, to lubricate the part and allow it to slide into place more easily. Screw the Locking Ring, Part #3 of the Drain Assembly, onto the Drain Body, Part #5. Tighten the Locking Ring, Part #3, with the Tightening Tool, Part #2, until the Rubber Gasket, Part #4, is seated and tightly in place.

Remove the Tightening Tool, Part #2, and press the Drain Strainer, Part #1, into place. **The installation is complete.** Excluding any sub-floor preparation, the installation should take about one hour or less.

Step #11 – CURING: Let the shower pan set for 24 to 48 hours to allow the adhesive or mortar to properly cure. Once cured, the wallboard and wall panels can be installed.



Fig. 11



Fig. 10



Fig. 15



Fig. 14