# WATSON & GABB

# INSTALLATION GUIDE

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#### Please read this guide prior to installing Watson & Gabb panels.

If you need further information about the installation process please contact us at:

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#### enquiries@watsonandgabb.com

Tel: 01380 859484 www.watsonandgabb.com

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# I. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing a surface panel from Watson & Gabb.

Each panel is made to order by hand, no two panels will be identical. Large panels will contain a number of tones, shades, surface undulations and tiny pores.

There are two types of panel:

- I. Poured
- 2. Organic & Blends

#### \* Standard Substrates: **Poured & Blends**:

#### BIRCH PLY

l8mm

#### \* Standard Substrates: Organic:

or

#### BIRCH PLY

#### **PHENOLIC** (Laminate)

l8mm

lmm

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\*ALTERNATIVE SUBSTRATES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. Charges may apply.

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On receipt of goods, check the contents of the crate against the packing list and against the layout diagram if applicable.



Never use sharp objects to cut away protective wrapping.



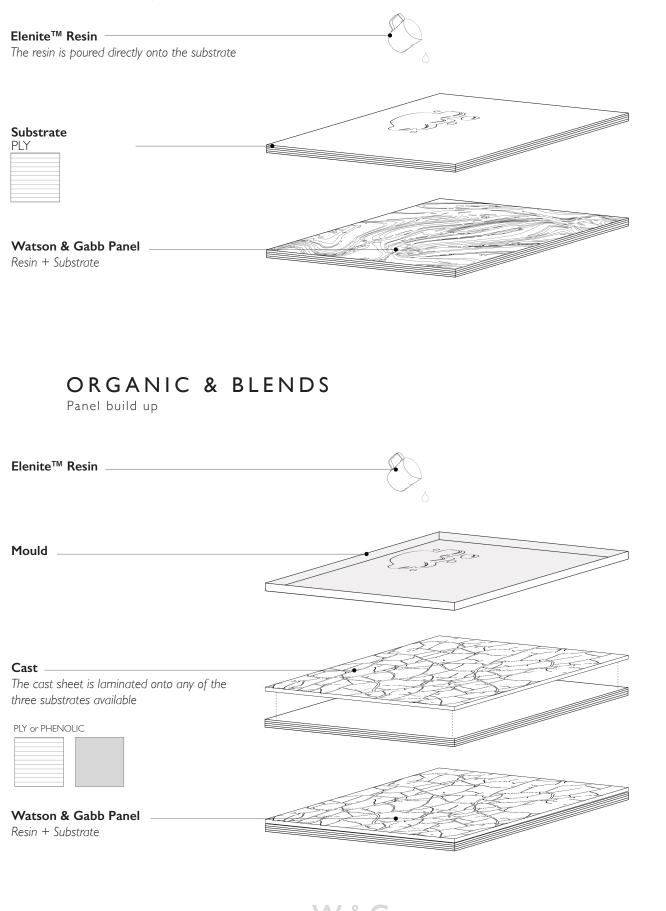
Please notify us within 24 hours of receipt of goods if there is a problem.



To understand the materials you will be working with please see below an overview of how they are manufactured:

POURED

Panel build up



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## 2. HANDLING

- Treat panels with care.
- Do not slide panels. Lift panels when moving.
- Avoid dirt on and between the panels.
- Use adhesive stickers for marking / coding and remove immediately after installation.
- Edges can be sharp, always use cut resistant gloves.



Always use clean gloves when handling the metal surfaces to avoid fingers marks.

Handling and moving panels should only be undertaken by trained personnel using the correct equipment. Watson & Gabb panels are decorative laminates; they should be handled with care to prevent damage to the surface.

## STORAGE

- Always store panels flat, in stacks of no more than 3 panels.
- Keep panels away from sources of heat.
- Store panels in a dry, clean, frost-free room.
- Prevent a film of moisture from forming between the panels.
- Do not place any moisture-sensitive (paper) layers between the panels.
- Allow panels to acclimatise to the site temperature for 72 hours before installation.

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## 3. CUTTING



Panels can be cut using normal woodworking tools.

For best results on all substrates we recommend using a veneer saw blade or a fine tooth blade on a skill saw.

We suggest to always use electric power tools.

Use a cutting guide to obtain optimum cuts. Ensure to put a protective layer of non-abrasive material beneath any guide rails and the finished face of the panels.

#### Always cut with the finished face up.

We recommend the below blades or equivalent available in your market and appropriate to your tools:

#### PLY



ATS 150mm x 22.23/20mm Turbo Diamond Blade Bushboard M Stone Max-Top Quartz. *www.atsdiamondtools.co.uk* 

#### PHENOLIC



FREUD PRO LP40M 006 160x2.4x16mm. www.cromwell.co.uk

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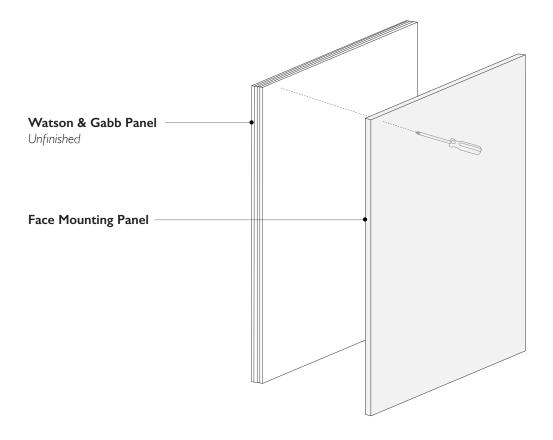
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# 4. INSTALLING

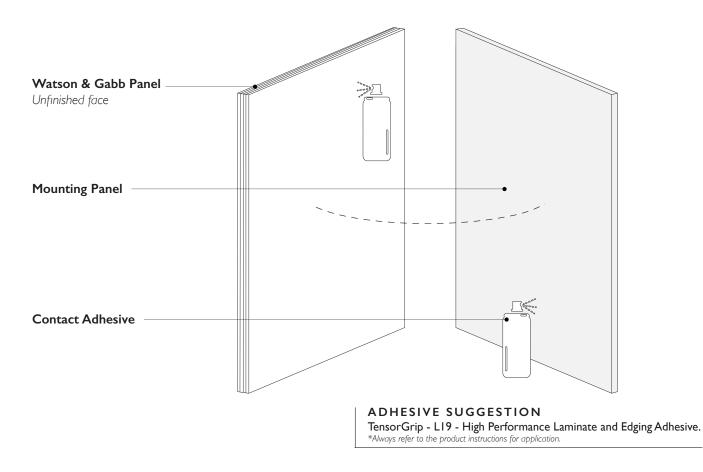
### PLY

A. Panels supplied ply are best mounted by back screwing from the rear of the panel (unfinished side).

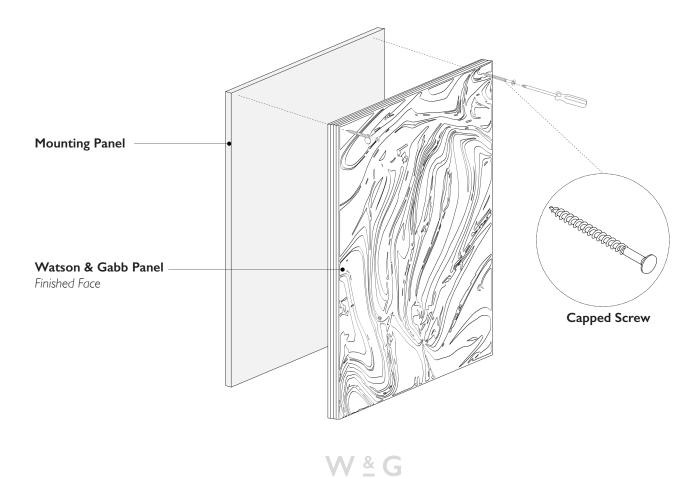


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**B**. Panels supplied ply can also be bonded using **contact adhesive**.



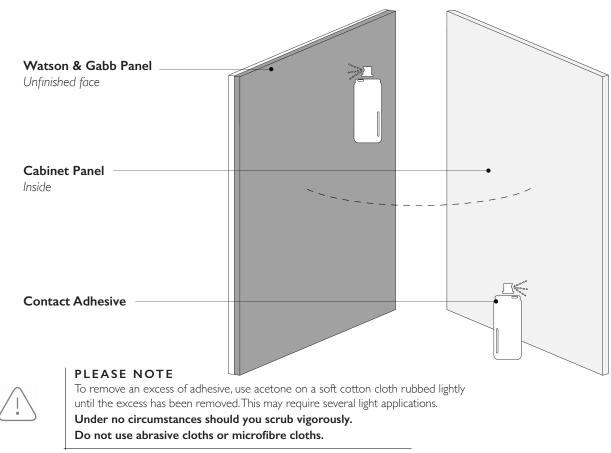
C. If face fixing is the only option we suggest using **capped screws**.



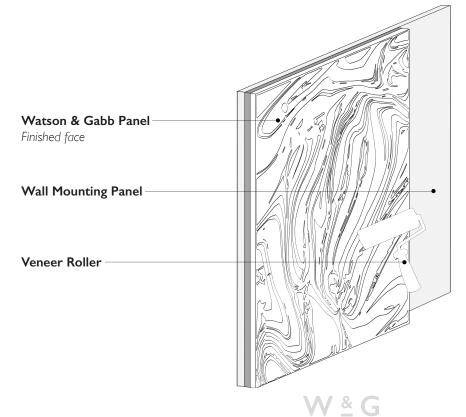
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## PHENOLIC

We recommend using **Tensorgrip** or equivalent – contact adhesive.This is an **instant grab.** Please refer to and follow the product's instructions to ensure a good bond.



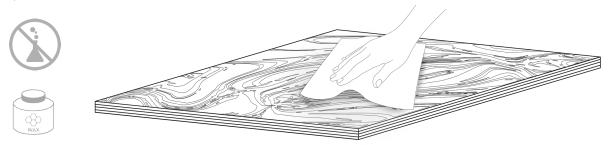
When the panel is fixed in position, **veneer rollers** should be used to ensure adhesion between the two surfaces. Work from the centre of the panel outwards to the edges for maximum strength of bond.



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# 5. CARE & MAINTENANCE

All panels should be cleaned using **soft cotton cloths** and **non-solvent based** cleaning products.



#### **CAST METAL PANELS** Organic Collection

In the case of metal panels, a **renaissance wax** or a **beeswax polish** can be used to maintain a sheen.

Polish should be applied and rubbed with a **microfibre cloth** to remove build up.

Oxidation caused by finger marks and chemical spillage can be removed using a non-solvent degreaser applied with a soft cotton cloth and rubbed gently until the marks are no longer visible.

Any removal of finger marks or patina should be done as soon as they are noticed; the longer the marks remain the more cleaning will be necessary.

For the removal of surface dust use a **tack cloth.** 

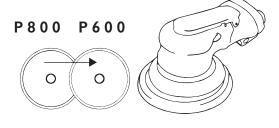
Sealants and coatings are available for wet or high traffic areas.

Nano coatings and lacquers should be applied off site in **dust-free environment** and can be retouched on site.

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Deep scratches may be removed by sanding and polishing.

If you require detailed information on how to achieve a perfect finish, please contact us directly and we will be happy to give you a method statement.



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## 6. FAQs

#### WHAT IS ELENITE™?

Poured Elenite<sup>™</sup> is a polyester based resin material that contains various pigments, fillers and powders.

Cast Elenite<sup>™</sup> is an epoxy based resin material that contains various pigments, fillers and powders.

#### ARE THE MATERIALS EASY TO CUT?

Yes. Our surfaces will cut with ease when using the correct tools. See the cutting sheet for further information.

#### HOW DO I AVOID SEAMS?

We work project by project so can view drawings and advise on the best placement of materials to avoid obvious seams. Using natural, hand-crafted products often means there will be seams. Alternatively, it could be cost effective to enquire about custom mould-making for bespoke sizes.

#### HOW DURABLE IS THE POURED ELENITE™?

Our research & development team have developed an extremely hard-wearing material. However, like all highly polished surfaces it is liable to scratch when put in contact with abrasive objects.

#### WILL THE METAL PATINATE?

Natural patination will occur if the surface is not sealed with a top nano-coat or lacquer. We can achieve a patinated effect upon request. We can recommend products or supply surfaces coated.

#### ARE THE PANELS FIRE RATED?

We use a variety of materials to make our panels, some of which are fire rated. Please contact us for more detailed information.

#### ARE THE FINISHES SUITABLE FOR TABLE TOPS?

Our products are suitable to be used as table/counter tops; direct heat above 60°C will mark the surface. The use of place mats or coasters is strongly advised.

#### ARE FINISHED EDGES POSSIBLE?

Yes we can supply panels with the edges finished; there is an additional charge for this and they cannot be cut. All edge finished panels are made exactly to specified size and cannot be altered once shipped.

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