

# Panels Pre-Install

## Installation Manual

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**Please read the following Pre-Installation Instructions before you install a CertainTeed ceilings system.**

### **Environment**

- Make sure that the temperature and humidity are consistent with the limits printed in the CertainTeed Architectural product warranty. As a general rule, no CertainTeed ceiling product should be installed in uncontrolled conditions, in temperatures below 60°F or above 85°F, rooms not exposed to the exterior, or in areas where the relative humidity is more than 70%.
- The respective product warranties are available for examination in the CertainTeed Ceilings Product Catalog or on the web at [www.certainteed.com/ceilings-and-walls](http://www.certainteed.com/ceilings-and-walls).
- The product should be stored in a dry, clean, and controlled area protected from the elements until it is ready for use.

**Note: Prior to installation, CertainTeed ceiling panel & suspension system products must be stored in a dry and clean area, and protected from possible damage caused by rain, snow and/or excessive moisture.**

# Installation for Panels Pre-Install

## Installing Your Ceiling Panels

Installing your ceiling isn't difficult, but it does take careful planning. Read through all the instructions in advance and follow them carefully for a ceiling you'll be proud of.

### Tools and Supplies

- Main Runners
- Cross Tees
- Wall Angle
- Hanger Wire Hooks
- 12 Gauge Hanger Wire
- Drywall Screws
- Carpenter's Square
- Safety Glasses
- Utility Knife
- Tape Measure
- Carpenter's Level
- Metal Snips
- Chalk Line or Laser Level
- Hammer
- Drill and Drill Bits
- Pliers
- String and Clamps



### Estimation Guide

Room Size	8'x10'	8'x12'	8'x14'	10'x10'	10'x12'	10'x14'	10'x16'	12'x12'	12'x14'	12'x16'	12'x20'	14'x16'	14'x20'	14'x22'	14'x26'	16'x16'	16'x18'	16'x20'	16'x24'	16'x28'	18'x18'	18'x20'	18'x24'	18'x28'	18'x32'
<b>2'x2' Layout</b>																									
2'x2' Panels	20	24	28	25	30	35	40	36	42	48	60	56	70	77	91	64	72	80	96	112	81	90	108	126	144
2' Cross Tees	10	12	14	14	15	18	20	18	21	24	30	28	35	41	48	32	36	40	48	56	36	45	54	63	72
4' Cross Tees	8	10	12	10	13	15	18	15	18	21	27	25	32	35	42	28	32	36	44	52	36	41	50	59	68
<b>2'x4' Layout</b>																									
2'x4' Panels	12	12	16	15	18	21	24	18	24	24	30	28	40	44	52	32	40	40	48	56	45	50	60	70	80
4' Cross Tees	9	10	12	12	15	18	21	15	20	21	27	25	36	40	48	28	35	36	44	52	40	45	55	65	75
<b>12' Wall Angle</b>																									
12' Wall Angle	3	4	4	4	4	5	5	4	5	5	6	5	6	6	7	6	6	6	7	8	6	7	7	8	9
<b>12' Main Tees</b>																									
12' Main Tees	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	3	4	4	5	6	7	4	6	7	8	9	6	7	8	10	11

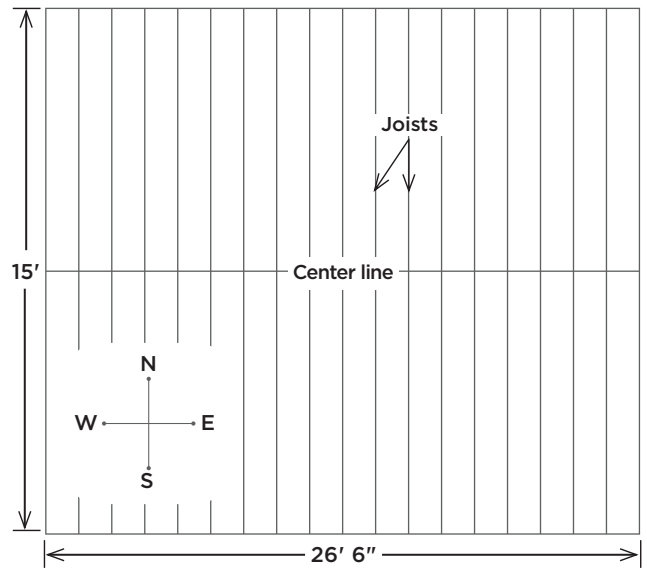
# Installation for Panels Pre-Install Planning

Use graph paper to plan your grid and panel placement and ensure a trouble-free installation.



## Locate Center Line

1. Draw the room to scale on graph paper. Be sure to note the room dimensions on the drawing.
2. Determine the center line of the room (preferably perpendicular to the ceiling joists) and add it to the drawing. Installation will be easier if main runners are aligned perpendicular to the ceiling joists. Main runners should be located 4 ft. on center.



## Locate Main Runners

3. Divide the width of the room by the length of the panel. The result is the number of panels across the width of the room, plus a remainder.

Divide the remainder by 2. If the result is at least half the length of a normal panel, that result is the length of your border panels.

If the result is less than half the length of a normal panel, take the original remainder and add it to the length of a single panel. Once done, divide this new dimension in half, and that will give you the length of the border panels. Note: This will result in one less full panel (see example below).

### Example: for 2 ft. x 4 ft. panels

(room width) 15 ft. ÷ (panel length) 4 ft. = 3 panels, remainder of 3 ft.

$$3 \text{ ft.} \div 2 = 1 \text{ ft. } 6 \text{ in.}$$

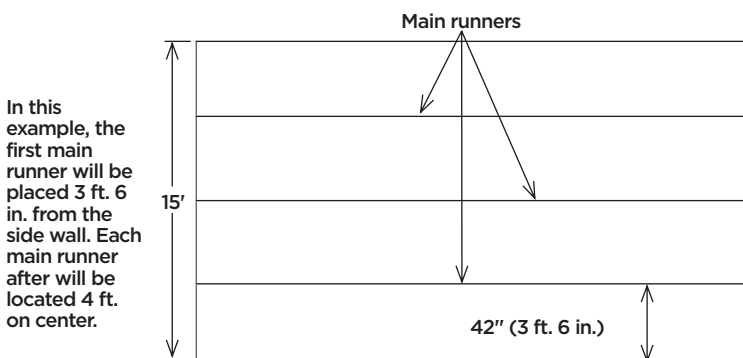
Since 1 ft. 6 in. is less than half of the length of a panel, add the original remainder (3 ft.) to the length of a normal panel and then divide by 2.

$$3 \text{ ft.} + 4 \text{ ft.} = 7 \text{ ft.}$$

$$7 \text{ ft.} \div 2 = 3.5 \text{ or } 3 \text{ ft. } 6 \text{ in.}$$

So you would have 2 full panels across the room, with 3 ft. 6 in. wide border panels on both sides.

This method will produce the least amount of scrap/ wasted material.



In this example, the first main runner will be placed 3 ft. 6 in. from the side wall. Each main runner after will be located 4 ft. on center.

# Installation for Panels Pre-Install Planning

## Locate Cross Tees

4. Use same method outlined in step 3 to determine the number of panels down the length of the room and the width of border panels. (For both 2 ft. x 4 ft. panels and 2 ft. x 2 ft. panels, the width is 2 ft.)

### Example:

(room length) 26.5 ft. ÷ (panel width) 2 ft. = 13.25 or 13 panels, remainder 6 in.

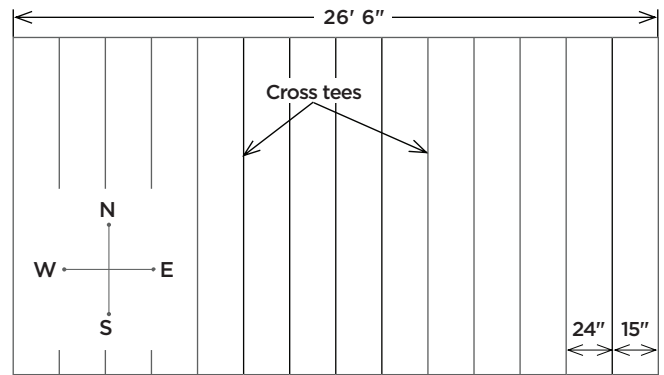
Since 6 in. is less than half of the width of a panel, add the original remainder to the width of a normal panel.

$$6 \text{ in.} + 24 \text{ in.} = 30 \text{ in.}$$

$$30 \text{ in.} \div 2 = 15 \text{ in.}$$

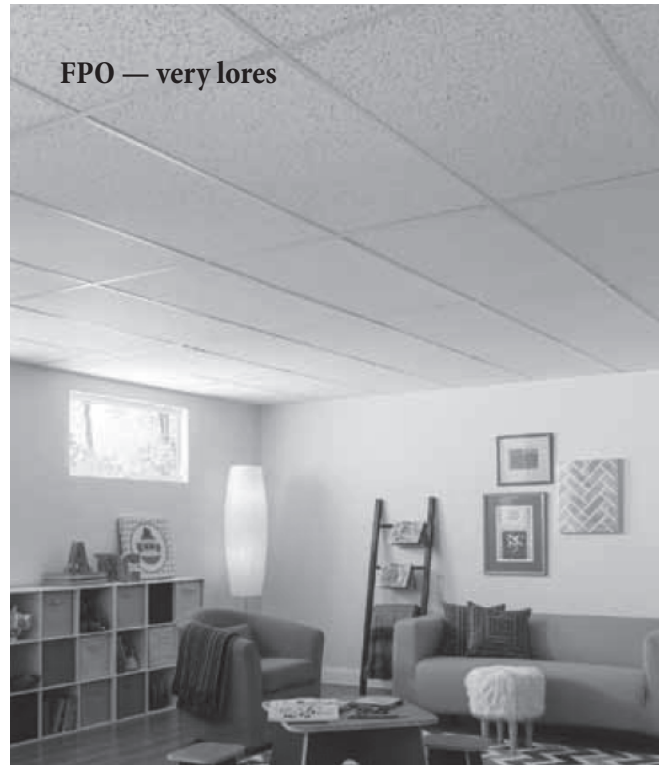
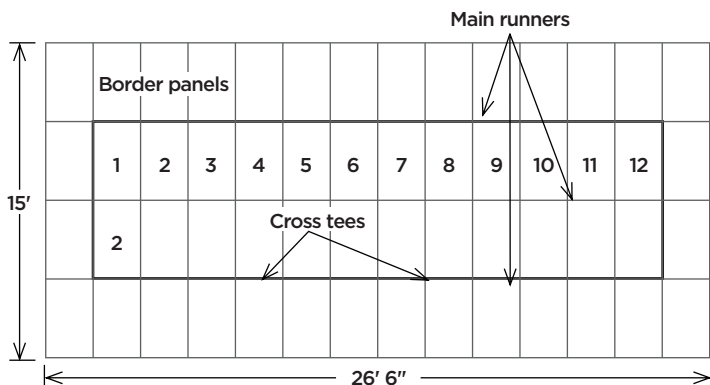
So you would have 12 full panel widths down the room, with 15 in. long border panels at both ends.

In this example, the first cross tee will be placed 15 in. from the end wall and snapped into the main runners.



## Calculate Materials

5. From the diagram, determine the number of pieces of wall angle, main runners, cross tees and ceiling panels you'll need to finish. Main runners come in 12 ft. lengths, cross tees in 2 ft. and 4 ft. lengths (2 ft. cross tees are required only if 2 ft. x 2 ft. panels are used) and wall angle in 12 ft. lengths. Also, you will need one hanger wire and screw eye for every 4 ft. of main runners.



**For Product and Installation Questions:**

Call 1-800-246-7978 (Monday-Friday: 8am - 6pm EST)  
Or email [ceilingtechnicalservices@certainteed.com](mailto:ceilingtechnicalservices@certainteed.com)



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