



Technical Tips for Installing the CrystalLine Custom Hinge System

- ❖ Before starting any installation, assess the situation fully. Verify that all curbs are level and that all walls are plumb. Proper familiarity with the bath enclosure opening allows the installer to address out of plumb and out of level conditions prior to beginning an installation.
- ❖ The effect of out of level door openings can be minimized with shims under the door threshold. The clear J-channel setting blocks for mirrors are made in varying thickness and can be used to address radical or minor out of level conditions.
- ❖ Hinging or striking a door to walls only slightly more than ½" out of plumb can be addressed in a similar manner, if needed. The same holds true for panels placed against a severe out of plumb wall, although manipulating the heights of the setting blocks in the threshold is the traditional manner used to address this problem. That is, flipping the setting block closest to the wall in question makes the top of the panel glass lean toward that wall. A severe condition may impose the need for out-of-square glass panels.
- ❖ The normal reveal at the bottom of all crystalline doors is 7/16" from the top of the threshold. Knowing this can help you install the door with an even reveal. Though wood or a dense plastic material is recommended, placing a temporary support that is 7/16" thick across the door threshold will act as a support for the bottom, strike-side corner of the door. In effect, when you hang the door, this will keep the reveal even and allow the installer to move the door laterally for adjustment. This is also a good tip when one person is attempting to install a rather large door.
- ❖ During door installation, it is possible to hang a door plumb, yet have the hinge jamb bowed either in or out of plumb. This can cause tension on the mating of the hinge pieces, and has been known to cause the door to squeak. To deter this from occurring, after initially placing the hinge jamb over the corresponding vertical member, attach the door by inserting only the top and bottom screws in the hinge jamb. Then cycle the door from the open and closed positions several times to induce the hinge jamb to straighten. Once you feel that the hinge jamb is straight, then proceed to install the two remaining hinge screws.
- ❖ When installing units with return panels on buttresses, it is advisable to begin at the rear wall. Installation of the buttress panels is generally the most critical facet of a typical bath enclosure installation. Positioning the rear wall jamb correctly will greatly increase the probability of a smooth and trouble-free installation.
- ❖ When inserting the glazing vinyl. Use a good glass cleaner for lubrication and place the horizontal bead first, as this will preclude the glass from moving laterally. When inserting the vertical glazing vinyl on the first side, use the cork pads on the custom flat glass panels as shims between the glass and the metal on the opposite side. This will create enough resistance for the vinyl to compress and stay in place until the opposite side is glazed.
- ❖ When cutting headers for return panels, it is important to understand that cutting the header short and forcing it against the rear wall will make the entire front of the enclosure lean toward that wall and out of plumb. Similarly, headers that are too long force the front of the enclosure to lean toward the outside of the shower. Checking corner posts for plumb, in both directions, will verify the degree to which the headers were properly cut.
- ❖ To reduce the gaps at the header joints, it is important to start with good miter cuts that meet at the proper angle. Then, try fastening the screws at a slight angle through the corner bracket and into the header. Start this process with the two screws that are farthest from the miter, then fasten the two interior screws. It is important to use all four screws provided. This should help to keep the corner tight, without unsightly gaps.



Technical Tips for By-Pass Enclosures

General Installation Tips

1. Cutting the threshold:

Use a carpenter's folding ruler with a slide to assure the most accurate measurement from inside wall to inside wall. Use the following deductions to find the threshold measurement. Commit them to memory for extra speed.

Parklane Bypass	-5/16"
CrystalLine and Classic Bypasses	-15/16"
Signature Bypass	-9/16"

2. Fitting the curved corners on an acrylic or fiberglass stall:

It is very important for the wall jambs to fit securely on both ends of the threshold. To do this correctly, you need to cut and/or file the bottom corner of the wall jambs to fit the contour of the corners. Parklane and Signature wall jambs can easily be cut with a chop saw or with a hacksaw and miter box. The backside of the CrystalLine and Classic wall jambs can be clipped with a pair of tin snips for extra speed. After the rough-cut has been made, file the corners to fit the contour of the stall.

Here is a trick that will ease this process. Look at the change in your pocket. The quarter, nickel, dime, and penny each have different radiuses. Place each of them next to the corner in question. Choose the coin that best defines the radius of the stall corner. Usually one of the four will be very close. Then, use the chosen coin radius to mark, cut, file, and check your progress on contouring the wall jamb to fit. This is most helpful when installing a unit on a retail sale. If the customer is living in the house already, you do not want to keep making trips in and out of the house contouring the wall jamb and checking how close it fits the stall, nor do you want to leave file shavings on the bathroom floor.

3. Secure the wall jambs to an acrylic or fiberglass stall:

Because acrylic and fiberglass are weaker materials than tile and cultured marble, do not use the gray anchors included in the hardware pack. Instead, simply drill 9/64" holes (1/8" holes for Parklane Bypass) about 1/16" to 1/8" lower than needed. This will cause your screws to pull down on the wall jambs as they are fastened to the wall securing the threshold in place. Start your screw slowly into the 1/8" hole so as not to crack or oyster the fiberglass. Apply the last bit of torque with a hand held screwdriver to prevent stripping the hole.

4. Securing the wall jambs to tile and cultured marble unit:

First use a carbide tipped scribe or punch to scar the surface of the tile. This will prevent your 3/16 masonry bit from dancing across the surface of the tile. There is no need to scribe a cultured marble surface. Then, drill your hole about 1/16" to 1/8" lower than needed. This will cause your screws to pull down on the wall jambs as they are fastened to the wall securing the threshold in place. Always use the gray anchors included in the hardware packet when installing on tiled surfaces. It is suggested to use the gray anchors in cultured marble surfaces as well. However, some installers prefer to use a 1/8" hole without anchors. If you choose this option, be careful. The cultured marble is easily stripped when using a drill gun to install the screws.