



No Steam - ever again.

Fitting Tips for New Installers

PLEASE READ ALL THE FOLLOWING TIPS AND CAREFULLY PLAN AHEAD

Fitting a Showerdome is largely common sense and will usually be relatively easy for anyone with handyperson skills.

The Showerdome is made from high quality acrylic that by nature is difficult to cut and shape without risking damage. Do not attempt to cut this material without the correct tools.

The critical steps are measuring the Showerdome to fit the shower top, cutting the acrylic and fixing the necessary support rails if required.

- 1** Before cutting, mark the cut lines with a (non permanent) felt tip pen. Be sure to measure the side dimensions **and the diagonals** to determine if the shower is square. (Most are not)
Measure twice – cut once.
- 2** Making a cardboard or ply template may be a prudent move to ensure the Showerdome is cut and positioned correctly. First time private installers are recommended to **take particular care in measuring** and marking their Showerdome accurately before cutting.
- 3** After measuring we recommend that one of the easiest ways to ensure your Showerdome is cut accurately is to first cut the 2 sides that fit into the rear corner of your shower. After cutting, place the Showerdome on the shower and use a (non permanent) felt tip pen to draw along the remaining outside edges of the Showerdome that will now be overhanging the edge of the shower. This line should correspond to your original marked lines. When correct, cut the remaining sides.
- 4** The Showerdome should ideally be in the centre of the shower. Material may have to be trimmed from all sides to achieve this. However, in some instances (eg. Low ceiling on one side or high rose rail) it may be beneficial to offset the Showerdome on the shower.
- 5** **Do not cut acrylic that is below 10°C.** If cutting in cold conditions we recommend gently warming the material with a hair dryer or heater. Only warm – do not overheat.
- 6** The Showerdome flange (sides) may be cut to the required size of the shower using a range of fine toothed saws with appropriate blades.
 - a. A jigsaw will work with a fine blade. (carbide)
 - b. Fret saws, coping saws and most relatively fine toothed hand saws used for working wood will also cut this material. It may be sanded smooth after cutting.
 - c. **When cutting be sure to hold the edge of the material firmly so that it does not 'flap' or vibrate with the saw blade.**
- 7** Acrylic being cut with a high speed blade is likely to melt if care is not taken
 - a. In all instances it is prudent to constantly use a little water at the point of cut to **lubricate the blade** and to reduce the possibility of the acrylic melting.
 - b. Do not force the cut.
 - c. **Test and practice** the tool and cutting technique on a portion of the flange that is being cut to waste.

- 8 The cut edge may be planed, filed, ground, scrapped or sanded to remove sharp edges and corners. The critical point is not to attempt to remove too much material in any one stroke and, to avoid cracking, **always hold the material firmly.**
 - 9 Showerdome should be screwed onto the top of the shower to ensure they do not fall off after fitting. It is usually possible to screw down into the alloy rails around the top of the shower. Drill a hole in the alloy suitable for the screw and a larger hole in the acrylic. 2 small screws on the front corners or diagonal are adequate to hold the dome in position. Carefully drill the holes in the acrylic oversize and do not tighten the screws down against the material. This tolerance will allow for expansion / contraction of the material during showers. **Do not** use too many screws as this will inhibit expansion movement and cause the Showerdome to buckle.
 - 10 The Showerdome may be seated on 'L' or 'F' moldings within the shower cubicle a few millimeters above the height of the door or at the door frame. Alternatively it may be seated on the back edge of the shower cabinet and the resulting side gaps filled. In simple installations the sides of the shower will all be the same size resulting in the Showerdome sitting neatly on all sides without any gaps.
 - 11 Some showers, particularly older custom made units may present more challenges. The installer may have to be quite resourceful to establish a level fixing surface either inside, on or above the shower.
 - 12 To achieve maximum efficiency of the Showerdome it is critical to **minimize the amount of cold air that can enter the shower cubicle.** All significant gaps around the door and dome should be eliminated if possible.
 - 13 The principle that should always be remembered is that the Showerdome should provide a barrier between the warm, moist air inside the shower and the cooler air outside in the room. **The Showerdome does not need to be fully sealed** but should be a barrier to any significant air movements.
 - 14 Your Showerdome will be supplied with 'F' rails for the rear sides and 'L' rails for the front (if required). The rails should be cut to fit the full length of each side. The Showerdome will slide into the 'F' rails and sit on top of the 'L' rails.
 - 15 To fix support rails if required, use double sided tape (3 small pieces) and clear selant adhesive. When fixing, ensure the surfaces are very clean, mark the fixing line and take extreme care to position rails accurately before fixing. Do not fit the Showerdome until the adhesive has completely dried according to the manufacturer's specification. **N.B. Clean all surfaces with acetate or a similar cleaner** before applying adhesive.
 - 16 In most instances, particularly with modern shower cubicles, simply fitting a Showerdome on top of the shower will stop water vapour forming during hot showers. If visible moisture is seen venting from the shower it will be the result of the warm air currents being able to reach the cooler outside air. It may be cool air is entering near the base of the shower or warm air is able to escape through large gaps near the top. To fill gaps above, below or down the side of the door use a sealing product (often a clear plastic 'fin') available at extra cost if required.
 - 17 When showering the door must be closed to stop warm air escaping the shower cubicle. On exiting the shower close the door behind you to allow the warm air inside the shower to cool. Before leaving the room open the shower door to allow the cubicle to dry.
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