

WALL NICHE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Century niches are made from either fiberglass or a high-density polyurethane composite material. Niches are highly detailed, single piece construction and are factory primed, ready for finishing.

Tools & Materials You Will Need *Read Appropriate Application Instructions for Tool & Material List*

Sponge or clean cloth
Caulking gun
Brown kraft paper or butcher paper
Level
Drywall knife or keyhole saw
Circular saw or carpenter's saw
Mineral spirits
2x4 lumber
1x2, 1x3 or 1x4 lumber

Elastomeric adhesive caulk [White Lightning® 3006 recommended]
Polyurethane construction adhesive [PL Premium® recommended]
Bright common or bright box framing nails

Shims

Optional Tools & Materials

Screwdriver
Extra fine sandpaper
Flat head wood screws - #6 x 1-1/4 - 2" [must penetrate substrate min. 1/2"]
Drill with fine cutting drill bit

Before Installation

- 1 Check local building code requirements to ensure compliance. It is installer's responsibility to conform to all code requirements.

Surface Preparation

- 1 Clean all surfaces free of dirt and loose particles with a clean cloth or sponge.
- 2 Make sure area is completely dry before installing product.

Niche Preparation

- 1 DO NOT NAIL the fiberglass niche as nailing will cause damage to the surface.
- 2 We recommend that you finish [paint or faux finish] niche before installation.
- 2 After installation touch-up any area as needed.

Flush Wall Mount Installation

Niches - NU1020 Italia and NU3030 Kensington

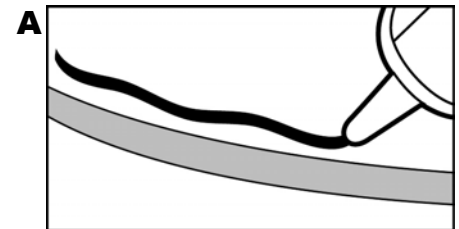
- 1 Position niche on wall and mark position.
- 2 Niche can be installed as you would a picture, hanging niche on a nail or screw or as described below.
- 3 Apply a 1/2" continuous bead of latex adhesive/caulk along the back edge of niche [A].
- 4 Using level, make sure niche is level before you press into place.
- 5 Using adhesive/caulk, caulk around niche edges. Wipe clean with damp sponge or cloth.
- 6 Finish or touch-up niche using a high-quality latex or oil-based paint.

Wall Cut-Out Installation - Wall Preparation

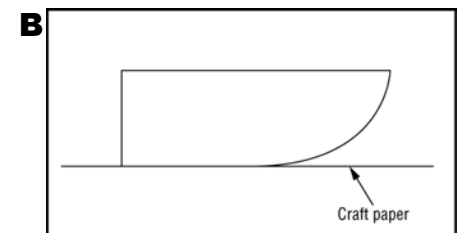
All other niches

- 1 Make a paper template. Lay niche on top of the craft paper, with the niche right side up. The niche will lie on the paper like a bathtub [B]. Trace around the niche that touches the paper. Measure and adjust the template line to accommodate the curvature width of the niche. Cut the template out.
- 2 Most niches will not fit between 16" on center studs. When installing niche it is best to install to one existing stud if possible. Tape the template to the wall where niche is to be installed, trace template on wall and remove pattern [C]. Make sure template is plumb with studs.
- 3 Cut the opening with a drywall knife or keyhole saw and remove drywall, also remove studs if needed.
- 4 Using 2x4's, frame out area with top and bottom cross braces and vertical supports on both sides of opening [D].

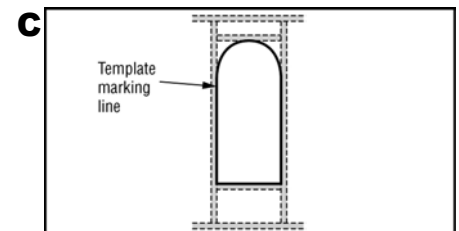
**NOTE: NEVER STRIKE
FIBERGLASS NICHE
WITH HAMMER OR
OTHER SHARP OBJECT**



Apply continuous bead of adhesive to edges



Making a paper template



How to mark template

WALL NICHE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Century™
ARCHITECTURAL
SPECIALTIES

2197 Canton Road, Suite 209 - Marietta, GA 30066
770.590.1999 phone- 770.590.8190 fax
www.architecturalspecialties.com

Wall Cut-Out Installation - Wall Preparation - continued

- 5 Check the hole for level by placing the niche into the wall cutout. Level niche left to right and front to back. It is critical that niche shelf is level front to back, if it isn't the niche will pull away from the wall. You may need to cut the bottom edge of opening to level niche and/or use shims on the backside of niche shelf. NOTE: back of niches will be rough and not even.

General Installation

- 1 Measure the width of side well on back of niche. Cut 5-7 pieces of 1x2, 3 or 4" lumber in 6" lengths. With construction adhesive, adhere the lumber blocks into the niche well - spacing evenly around the niche [E]. Make sure blocks are even with the side well edge.
- 2 Let the adhesive set completely. Most manufacturers recommend 24 hours.
- 3 Apply a generous amount of construction adhesive to lumber blocks.
- 4 As you place niche into wall opening, make sure niche is level again before you press firmly into place. Smooth excess construction adhesive around niche edge with your finger or putty knife, giving the niche the appearance of being part of the wall; clean excess with mineral spirits.
- 5 Finish or touch-up niche using a high-quality latex or oil-based paint.

Installation With Screws [NOT RECOMMENDED]

- 1 It is not recommended that niches be installed with screws, however in some applications it is necessary. Please follow General Instructions above and the following steps when installation requires screw mounting.
- 2 Niche **MUST** be pre-drilled for screw in installation. Failure to pre-drill will result in damage to the niche surface.
- 3 Pre-drill holes into niche, two [2] on right and left framing edge near shelf, one [1] at the center top of the niche, and if needed drill two [2] on right and left framing edges half way up niche [F]. **Drill from front to back with fine drill bit.**
- 4 Apply a 1/2" continuous bead of construction adhesive along the back framing edge of niche.
- 5 Using level, make sure niche is again level before you press into place. Smooth excess construction adhesive around niche edge with your finger or putty knife and clean with mineral spirits.
- 6 Countersink screws slightly and fill with adhesive/caulk. After adhesive/caulk dries and if needed, sand *lightly* and touch-up with paint.

Always Follow These Safety Suggestions

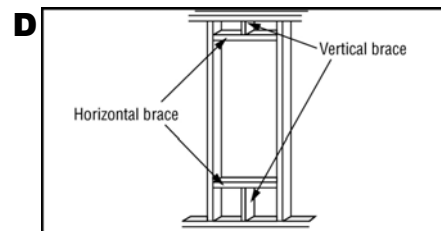
- 1 Follow good construction practices.
- 2 When using power tools, adhesives and finishing materials [such as paint or stain], be sure to follow manufacturer's instructions.
- 3 Always wear safety goggles when using a power tool or hammer.
- 4 Always use the right tool and/or equipment for the job.

Century niches function as decorative elements only, and are not designed to provide any load bearing capacity.

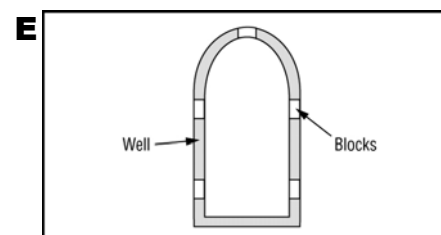
Century Architectural Specialties shall not be responsible if any failure to comply with these installation instructions results in the products failing to perform the purpose intended.

Warranty

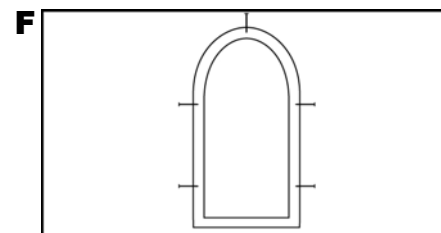
Century Architectural Specialties warrants all its products to be free from manufacturing defects for a period of three (3) years from date of purchase. This warranty does not include damage or other problems resulting from improper installation, misuse or normal wear and tear. Century's liability is limited to product replacement cost. It does not include freight or handling expenses, installation cost or any other costs or expenses incurred in connection with the purchase or use of our products.



Framing plan for wall niche



Insert blocks into back of niche side walls



Screw placement on niche