

FAQs

Shower Pan Liners



Q What adhesives are approved for use with the PVC and CPE liners?

A Oatey has approved the three following Liquid Nails products for this application:

1. LN - 609 / Panel & Foam Adhesive
2. LN - 715 / Tub Surround & Shower Adhesive
3. LN - 915 / Tub Surround & Shower Wall Adhesive

Q What solvent cement do I use for seaming PVC liner?

A Oatey X-15 Shower Pan Liner Adhesive.

Q What solvent cement do I use for seaming CPE liner?

A Oateyweld.

Q How thick should I pour concrete below shower pan liner?

A This depends on the quality of the cement products you are using and the minimal thickness recommended by that specific manufacturer. The normal rule is 1/4" thick starting at the outside of the flange, then the concrete is sloped up and away from the drain at 1/4" per foot.

Q How thick should I pour concrete on top of liner?

A The recommended thickness for this pour is between 2" to 3". This is the minimal thickness starting at the drain, then sloping up and away from the drain at 1/4" per foot. This is not always possible due to curb heights. If this is true, pour as thick as possible and consider a higher quality cement which will allow for a thinner pour while maintaining strength.

Q Can I install tile on top of liner without concrete?

A No. Thinset or tile glue (adhesive) should never be applied directly to the shower pan liner.

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Q How do I seam two pieces of liner together?

A Once you have the two pieces of liner cut square and laid flat on a warm hard surface (above 50°F), you must overlap one of the pieces over the other at least 2". If you are seaming PVC liner, use Oatey X-15. If the liner is CPE, you will use Oateyweld. Fold back the top piece of liner and wipe any debris or foreign substance off both surfaces with a damp cloth and then dry thoroughly. Apply the proper cement for the application to both surfaces. Allow 1 to 3 minutes in hot weather and 6 to 8 minutes in cold weather, then join them together. Immediately apply pressure on the seam for 15 to 30 seconds with a 2x4 or equivalent. Let this seam cure for 12 hours before installing. After one hour, there is good handling strength and you can move the liner.

Q How high above the drain should I end the liner?

A The drain is not the determining factor for finished pan height. The curb (threshold) is the determining factor of this application since it is always above the finished height of the drain. The pan liner should finish a minimum of 6" above the framed or (roughed-in) curb height. This height allows for the application of concrete base and finishes to be applied.

Q Can I glue the liner to the wood sub-floor?

A No.

Q How do I fold the inside corners when installing the liner?

A Once the liner is pushed tightly into an inside corner, there will be a triangular section left over. The first step will be to cement the inside of this triangular piece to itself creating a flap. The second step is to then choose a direction right or left and cement the flap to the liner on the straight wall, then nail/staple top of flap to a stud.

Q What type of concrete do I use when I install the shower pan liner?

A The approved products for this application are bagged Portland Sand mix, or cement mix for the base and top coatings. If you are going to mix and match, you must use Portland sand mix under the liner.

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Q How do I install the outside corners (dam corners)?

A The outside corners are PVC material, and you will cement them to PVC and CPE liners with X-15 cement only.

Q What is an approved caulk to use between the liner and shower drain flange?

A Oatey 100% silicone caulk. If Oatey product is not available at your retailer, any brand of 100% silicone caulk.

Q Can I use pipe solvent cement to solvent weld shower pan liner together?

A No. The formulas are very different and cannot be interchanged.

Q Can you place roofing paper (tar paper) under the shower pan liner instead of concrete?

A You cannot use any tar paper when installing the shower pan liner because the petroleum in the tar paper will dry the liner, and the liner will become brittle and crack if there is prolonged exposure.

Q Instructions for installation (step-by-step)?

A If you contact our customer service department, they would be happy to send you a full set of step-by-step installation instructions. You can also visit our website and watch our how-to video showing a shower pan installation.

Q How can you get the creases out of the prepackaged shower pan liner before installation?

A Whenever possible, you should purchase a piece of shower liner from a roll which all the Home and Garden stores stock. However, if you do get a piece that has a crease in it, lay it on a flat surface in the sun or heat with a hair dryer. Then lay a flat heavy object on top of the crease for 30 minutes. This step may have to be repeated a few times in order to create new material memory. If the creases are too large, **DO NOT** install the liner. Large creases left in the liner will cause water to puddle under the concrete which could affect the integrity of the cement base, or mold growth which will transfer up through the grout joints. The pan liner must be self-draining.

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Q Can you install the pan liner when the floor has radiant heat?

A Yes. Only CPE liner is approved for this application because of its ability to withstand high heat.

Q What is the best way to wrap the shower pan liner over the curb?

A There are two ways to complete this application. The first is to use one of the approved adhesives from Liquid Nail product line; apply this product with a 1/8" trowel up the front, back and top surfaces of the curb. Then press the liner down to conform to the curb shape, and finally nail the liner at the top edges and on the outside curb surface. The second method is to cover (wrap) all three sides of the curb with a cut (scrap) piece of liner and nail it into place. These nails can be located anywhere because they will be covered by the second (finished) piece of pan liner. All the nails must be flush or recessed into scrap piece of liner, without any sharp edges exposed. Then after cutting your finished liner to size and reaching the curb wrapping step, apply the appropriate solvent cement for that material and cement the finished liner to the scrap liner.