

# Pro Advanced Custom MUD Tiled Shower Kit



## Installation Instructions

Applies to any sized MUD waterproofing kit  
(800) 369-5458      www.prosourcecenter.com

**Please read all instructions thoroughly before beginning. If you have questions, please call.**

### Tools & Materials Required or Recommended

- Jigsaw (for subfloor drain hole) & Drill (for pilot hole)
- Premium Modified (Latex/Polymer) Thin-set Mortar (no premixed)
- Dry-pack mortar mix (consisting of 1 part Portland cement, 4 parts clean sand)
- Lathe with backing or lathe and 15 lb felt paper (for wood subfloors only)
- 15 lb felt paper to protect wood curb core (if building concrete curb)
- Concrete board, gypsum or other hard board for walls, drywall screws, etc.
- 5-Gallon Bucket
- Wheel barrel, box or large bucket for mixing dry-pack mortar
- Mixer
- Shovel (for dry-pack mortar)
- 1/4" x 3/8", 3/16" x 3/16" up to 1/4" x 1/4" square or V-notch trowel
- Margin Trowel (optional) - may use flat edge of standard trowel
- Utility Knife
- PVC or ABS Cement, and section of coupler pipe for connection
- Level
- 2x4 or other straight-edge component for screeding
- Industrial double-stick tape (for concrete subfloors)

### Your Kit Includes:

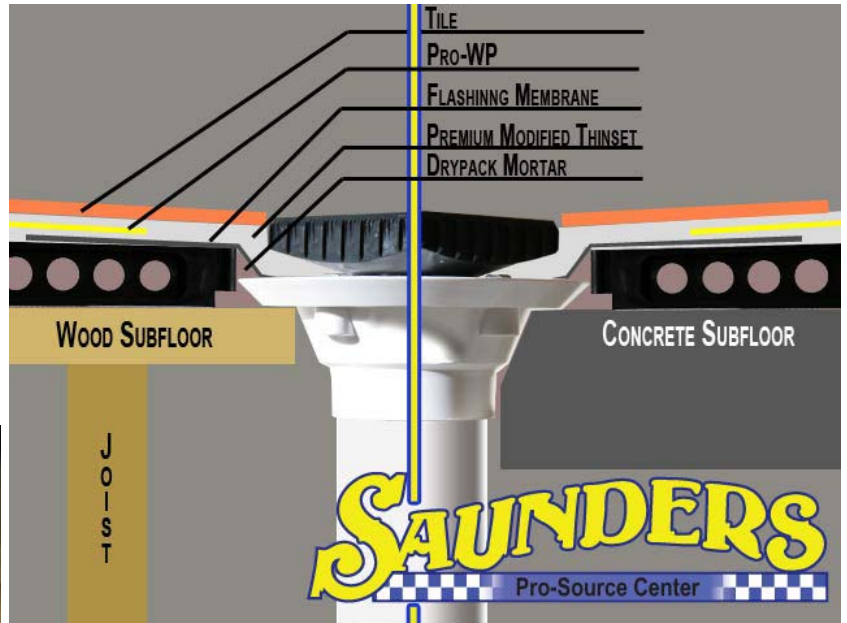
- 6 or More Float Sticks appropriate for size of kit
- Extension Float Sticks if appropriate for size of kit
- 108 - 323 SF Pro WP waterproofing membrane (based on size)
- 33 - 98 LF Pro WP waterproof joint band (based on size)
- 4 Pro WP pre-shaped inside corners
- 1 Clamping drain flange with ABS/PVC neck
- 1 Transition Drain Flange Flashing
- 1 Pro WP Universal Pipe Seal
- Drain Grate riser with construction plug
- Hair Trap & Choice of Drain Grate cover
- Quick Clips for some kits
- *Curb pieces if optionally ordered*
- *2 outside corners with curb purchase*

1. Ensure that your subfloor is flat, clean and level to within 1/8" variance. If not, use leveling compound before beginning installation. You will need to check several locations in the floor area. Starting with an out-of-level subfloor could later create hills and valleys that don't drain properly. Locate drain position and test fit for preparation of installation of your drain flange onto the 2" waste outlet pipe. Some older buildings may have 1-1/2" waste pipe that will need to be converted to 2" ABS or PVC depending upon code requirements for your area. Your code may require that you have a plumber physically complete any of this work to include gluing the flange onto the drain pipe. Please check all local codes to ensure legal compliance.
2. When working with a wood sub-floor, also ensure that it's design is structurally sound to meet building codes and to properly support the concrete that you will be using over it. Before continuing installation on a

wood floor, you should install a paper or barrier-backed lathe onto the sub-floor to protect the wood from undue moisture and to add some strength. If only plain lathe is available, first staple down 15 lb. felt or tar paper then screw down the metal lathe. The top of the lathe should now be considered your sub-floor height.



- If you are working with a wood subfloor, mark the center of your drain area and draw a circle with approximately a 4-3/4" diameter (2-3/8" radius). You may alternatively start with a tighter hole and relieve material in the four corners with a drill or other tool for the drain-flange body's bolt-thread reinforcements. The base of the flange will need to rest on top of the subfloor. Test fit drain flange to ensure it will properly drop down. Ensure that you leave enough subfloor for the outer edge of the flange beyond the thread reinforcements to rest on the subfloor.



These photos do not show the lathe layer on the wood substate



- If you are working with a slab floor, a 2" drain pipe with sufficient or excess length should be in place within a depression in the slab. This exact configuration will vary depending upon the builder's preferences and other requirements. The drain flange will need to be test fitted and the drain pipe appropriately cut in order for the base of the flange to set horizontally on level with the subfloor once glued into position. A slightly wet mixture of dry-pack mortar (4 parts sand, 1 part portland cement) can be used to form additional support for the drain flange within the depression. You will not require lathe or felt for a slab floor.
- You have many choices of wall boards suitable to cover your walls including drywall. We prefer concrete board because of its additional strength compared to drywall, but its use is not a requirement. Please avoid any pre-waterproofed substrates and do not apply any type of topical or liquid waterproofing over the board. The Pro WP membrane included in this kit provides a complete waterproof barrier. Additional waterproofing barriers behind the Pro WP can dramatically slow cure times of your thin-set mortar.
- If you are planning for shampoo/soap niches, ensure your studs are set as necessary to accommodate for desired niche location(s). We recommend pre-waterproofed ready-to-install niches (see web site) over building out a niche due to the additional waterproofing complexities involved with a built space. Complete installation of all walls and curbing (read next section) before starting floor or waterproofing installation. Use shims to bring walls up 1/4" from the subfloor. It is helpful to apply self-adhesive fiberglass drywall tape or equivalent over all seams to help make membrane installation even easier.
- If you will be using the optional standard curb form, install stacked 2x4's to establish your curb threshold. To protect your wood curb from moisture damage from the cement, cover with 15 lb. felt paper or other appropriate vapor barrier. A staple gun may be used to hold down the barrier. Additionally, if you did not order a concrete curb form, you will not require vapor barrier over the 2x4's. Instead, attach a board substrate (concrete board, drywall, etc.) over the 2x4 curb section. Do not apply Pro WP over bare wood.



8. If you are installing the standard cement curb form(s), install now. These sections are 30" long and come in three pieces. Assemble the top and two sides of each section and place over the protected 2x4's. Use a hand or power saw to custom cut any section that needs to be less than 30" to custom fit your curbing installation. Use 1-1/2" galvanized nails to nail the outside section of the curb form onto the 2x4's.
9. If installing a handicap curb form, interlock the multiple pieces together (if more than a single 30" section) and use a hand or power saw to cut the end of one section to fit the curb threshold area. Test fit the position of your curb but do not attach to the floor yet. You will need to leave the form in position to help determine the pitch stick layout.



10. Layout the sticks included in your kit starting with the small or notched end at the wall or curb and crossing over the drain flange area to get a good idea of length for each stick. For areas longer than 36" from the drain flange, you will need to lock in an extension stick that will give you up to another 36". You will want to arrange the sloped float sticks so that there is a stick in each corner crossing to the drain area. Additionally, you will want to position a stick so that the distance between each adjacent stick is no more than 30". Having sticks closer than 30" will allow for easier screeding.



11. Reverse mark the largest end of each stick or float + extension assembly where it contacts or crosses the edge of the drain flange. You may then cut with a PVC pipe cutter, hacksaw or other appropriate tool at your indicated mark. It is better to be a little loose than too tight. Reverse the stick assembly direction so that small or notched end rests against the drain flange and the other end touches the wall or curb. It is preferable but not critical that the notch on at the drain flange faces down. Fasten each stick assembly to concrete floors using double-sided stick tape. For wood subfloors, use the included quick clips to fasten each stick assembly down with a screwdriver.



12. Cover the top of your drain flange with masking tape or some other cover to protect it from excess mud. Mix the dry ingredients of your mud (1 part Portland cement and 4 parts clean sand) with your shovel or trowel. Add enough water to the dry admix (or premix) to bring this floor floating material to the consistency of a compact snowball (see figure). This consistency will allow the material to be easily distributed, troweled and tamped. Shovel this mix into the pan area - bury the float sticks slightly.





13. Starting at the back furthest from the entrance to the shower, spread and pack the mix fully between and around the sticks with a flat trowel. Using a straight edge, 2x4 or other suitable tool that is large enough to span the stick gaps, screed the packed mix to the top surface of the sticks. Be careful not to allow any dips, valleys or high points between sticks. Be sure to pack in mud in and around where the float sticks make contact with the drain flange and the sloped edge of the drain flange. Continue screeding until area is smooth and properly sloped with no hills or valleys.



14. For the standard curb form, make your mud mixture a bit wetter and pack the form around the encased and protected 2x4's with this mixture. Then screed the curb smooth. Let the entire mud job dry for 24 to 48 hours.



15. For the handicap curb form install, remove the handicap form from its test-fit position and shovel a row of mud along the length of the handicap curb run. Press handicap curb form into mud and into its proper position. Screw down the handicap curb form into position with 1-1/4" screws (Tapcon screws for concrete) subfloors. Fill and pack any remaining voids in the form with additional mud and screed smooth with a trowel.



16. After installation has dried 24 to 48 hours or more, partially unscrew bolts holding the clamping top of the drain, rotate and remove clamping plate. Place membrane transition flashing into position on the drain flange, replace the clamping plate and clamp down by tightening each bolt in an even cross pattern. Torque down until the bolt is snug and tight with a hand tool - do not over torque or strip out the threads. The following photo shows the flashing over the float sticks without the mud yet installed for reference.



17. Using high-quality modified thin-set mortar and a 3/6" square or v-notch trowel, trowel thin-set all around the flange under the flashing. Be sure to move final notches radially away from flange to help avoid trapping of air. Press the flashing into the thin-set with the flat edge of the trowel squeezing out the excess. Peel back the flashing to ensure that you are achieving 100% coverage.
18. These instructions show the installation from the floor up. We highly recommended to allow the floor installation to cure 24 hours before proceeding with the wall and other installation steps. If you need to complete this installation more quickly - to avoid risk of disturbing the floor installation, we recommend reversing the installation order (walls first starting at the bottom and going up) then finish with the floor install. Please be sure to set aside the correct quantity of membrane for your floor section if using this method.
19. Your waterproofing membrane is 1 meter or 39.5" wide. The integrity of the your entire shower kit installation will rely on overlapping membranes at least two inches from section to section or piece to piece. On shower kits up to 39.5" wide you can precut a single sheet of membrane and precut enough relief for the drain hole if desired. On all other shower kit configurations or on larger mortar bed layouts, you will need to plan for at least two sheets with a minimum of a 2" overlap. Ensure that the two pieces DO NOT overlap at the center of the drain location to help ensure installation integrity.
20. With a single piece membrane for 39.5" wide or narrower installations, trowel premium modified thin-set over the entire pan area including the top of the drain-flange flashing with a 1/4" x 3/16" v-notch up to a 1/4" x 1/4" square trowel. Ensure that the hole you cut in the center allows for at least a 2-3" overlap with the center flashing - preferably more. Lay the precut pan piece over the pan area paying careful attention to the alignment of the drain hole over the center flange and flashing area. Use the flat side of your trowel or a margin trowel to press the membrane into the thin-set on the subfloor and the drain flange flashing. During installation, run hands over membrane to ensure that no air bubbles are trapped. Test installation by peeling back membrane to ensure 100% coverage. Keep working in membrane or adding additional thin-set if necessary to ensure 100% thin-set coverage.
21. For pan areas larger than 39.5 on the shortest side, trowel premium modified thin-set mortar onto one side of the pan area with a 3/16" x 3/16" or 1/4" x 3/16" V-notch trowel up to a 1/4" x 1/4" square trowel. You may use the "traditional" 1/8" x 1/8" square trowel but will be adding extra work to ensure 100% thin-set coverage of membrane. Lay one of your sections into the mortar and press vigorously into the thin-set with the flat section of your trowel. Peel back membrane as a test to ensure you have achieved 100% coverage. Keep working and/or add thin-set to achieve 100% coverage. During process, run hands over membrane to ensure no air bubbles form. Work out any excess thin-set with the flat edge of your trowel if necessary.



22. Trowel at least 2" wide path of thin-set to prepare for the membrane overlap. Repeat previous process of laying overlapping membrane into thin-set and pressing in with flat end of trowel. Many times throughout the entire kit installation, peel back the membrane to ensure you are achieving 100% thin-set coverage of the membrane. Finalize the overlap installation in this section of the pan floor by pressing and smoothing the overlapping membrane section at the seam.



Repeat the installation process on any remaining sections of the pan area until the entire all sections of membrane are completely overlapped at least 2" in every direction and properly seated into the thin-set.

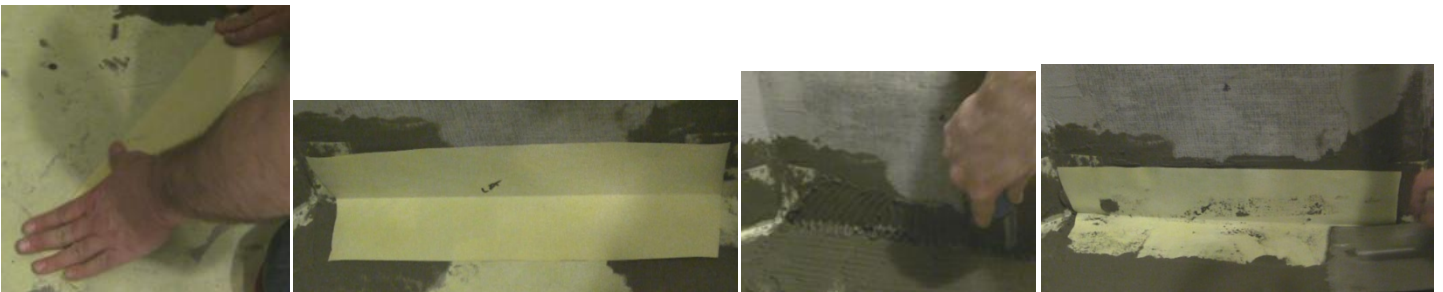
23. Trowel thin-set into an inside corner to prepare for the pre-shaped inside corner piece. Fit the corner piece into position by hand. Using a margin trowel or the flat section of your trowel, press the corner into the thin-set area to ensure a complete bond. Be sure to peel a section back to check for 100% coverage. Smooth the corner out and check for air bubbles. A properly installed corner blends into the installation as shown in the picture. Repeat for all 4 inside corners.



24. If you received or purchased pre-shaped outside corners, install them where the top section of the curb meets the adjoining wall. Use the same technique as used with the inside corners to install outside corners. If your kit did not include a pre-shaped outside corner (e.g. you didn't order a curb with the kit) or if you need additional corners you do not have on hand, you may create one by cutting out a rectangular piece of Pro WP then cutting a slit half way down the middle lengthwise with a razor knife. Then crease the piece down the same line as the partial cut. The crease will "ride" the inside ridge of the top of the curb with each "leg" of the corner contacting the wall.



25. Measure your joint seam band section and cut your 5" or 6" wide band to measurement. The following photos show a very short section for more practical viewing. Fold strip in half lengthwise and press to crease. Test fit pre-creased section to ensure proper fit. Trowel thin-set onto the section to prepare for the pre-creased joint band section. Fit the joint band piece into position by hand. Using a margin trowel or the flat section of your trowel, press the section into the thin-set area to ensure a complete bond. Be sure to peel a section back to check for 100% coverage. Smooth out and check for air bubbles.





26. You may wish to wait for the floor to cure a bit before proceeding (please previous comments regarding alternative install order to avoid risk of disturbing floor). In any case, take care when moving over your freshly-installed floor sections. After completing all lower horizontal joint strips, proceed to installing vertical joint strips using the exact same techniques. If you are not taking your tiling all the way up to the ceiling, be sure to mark where your tiling will end and measure the correct length for each piece. Repeat for any vertical corner surfaces. Note: If you run short on band, you can create your own out of any excess membrane.



27. With all joints and corners complete, begin to install the wall pieces starting from the bottom up. Ensure at least a 2" overlap on any adjoining sections. Installation continues exactly like it did for floor sections. As always, peel back membrane to ensure 100% coverage and constantly run hands over membrane to feel for any trapped air bubbles.



28. Allow installation to dry / cure. Although modified thin-set provides a superior installation, it does take longer to cure than unmodified thin-set. A box fan in the room circulating air will help speed cure time. You probably will need at least 24 hours for a reasonable cure. You may test an exposed bit of thin-set with the point of your razor knife to test cure progress. After installation has completely cured, most codes require proper flood testing. Please check for your local requirements.



29. When ready, thread in your drain riser with construction plug. Use spacers to dry fit your floor tile within a grout-space width of the riser-construction plug. During this process, thread your riser so the drain plug is flush with your tile install. This might be a good time to swap your construction plug for the actual grate to ensure you have the riser height you need. To remove construction plug (black cover) at any time, drive a dry-wall screw a few turns into the center indent of the cover, grab the screw (with pliers if necessary), and pull. Our example photo shows an installation involving complex cuts.



Finish Setting the remainder of your tile around the riser. After the thin-set mortar has completely cured, your installation is ready for grout.

## Additional Considerations

- **Choosing the highest quality premium modified (latex/polymer) thin-set you can find will make your installation much easier and yield better results. After decades of using every brand available, we highly recommend TEC brand adhesives which are available on our web site(s). However, we certainly understand the high cost of shipping heavy materials. If purchasing locally - as of 1/1/2013, your local retail price for a high-quality 50# bag of thin-set generally ranges from \$25 to \$35. Please question the quality of anything costing less unless you have special purchasing power.**
- **Despite claims to the contrary regarding waterproof membranes, modified thin-set is recommended by the Tile Council of America (TCA) for most modern tile installations and provides contemporary standards of performance. Fortunately, your Pro WP is fully tested and backed for use with these superior thin-set mortars. Maximizing air flow in the work area will really help accelerate cure times of your thin-set.**
- **If you are installing very large, heavy tiles on your walls (12 x 18s, 12 x 24s), we highly recommend purchasing our TEC Ultimate Performance large-format Latex Modified Mortar - the 40 lb bag yields the same coverage as a 50 lb bag of standard-style mortar. This mortar is rated for thin-set or medium-set beds. No other mortar compares to the non-slump holding power of this product.**
- **Rather than sealing and resealing and scrubbing grout, we recommend the use of TEC's Power Grout. This grout has been engineered to perform like very expensive epoxies and urethane grouts but offer lower pricing and much easier installation. Power Grout is VERY stain resistant, permanently sealed, won't effloresce or discolor, is easy to install like standard grout, and cures very quickly - 4 hours for dry traffic, 24 hours for wet.**
- **If your installation requires a grout color not available in the Power Grout family, use TEC Grout Boost Advanced Pro. Although it will not offer fast cure times, this product will dramatically improve the stain resistance and permanently seal your standard grout (guaranteed for TEC Accucolor standard grouts. This product is available in a 70 oz. liquid designed to treat exactly 25 lbs of dry grout (use instead of water - but may add extra water to achieve desired consistency.)**