

# WoodTrac Direct Mount Ceiling System

## Assembly Instructions



• All product is Class C rated and some product is available Class A rated. Check the ordering information to obtain the class rating for your product.

**DO NOT RETURN YOUR UNIT TO THE STORE**

**Contact us first**

**[www.woodtrac.com](http://www.woodtrac.com)**

For **immediate** service, our website is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to **order replacement parts**, access **assembly tips**, register your product, and view Sauder products.

Mon-Fri - 9am-5:30pm ET

United States and Canada (except holidays)

Consumer Services 1-855-854-7465

Most replacement parts ship from our facility in one or two business days.

**WOODTRAC**  
ceiling system by sauder

\* U.S. Patent No. 8,359,802 B1

Lot #: **361666**

04 / 01 / 14

Date Purchased: \_\_\_\_\_

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ BEFORE INSTALLATION

WoodTrac™ Ceiling System by Sauder is intended for interior use only. For best results, do not install WoodTrac™ Ceilings in areas where they will come in contact with high moisture. **WoodTrac™ Ceilings are not suitable for bathtub or shower enclosures.**

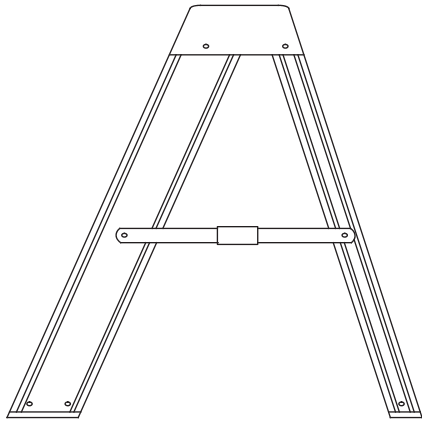
1. **Before Installation:** Follow all recommended safety instructions, including the use of safety glasses.
2. Consult local building codes for any applicable codes before installation of the system.
3. **Conditioning:** Like all wood-based products, engineered woods will expand and contract with changes in humidity. Therefore, prior to installation, panels must be conditioned. Unbox the products and fully expose all sides to air for 24 hours (above grade) or 48 hours (below grade) before installation. Permanent air conditioning and heating systems should be in place and operational. The installation site should have a consistent room temperature of 60-80 degrees Fahrenheit (16-27 degrees Celsius) and humidity of 35-55%. If installation is done during the dry season, expansion gaps of 0.1 inches per 10 feet of molding should be left at the ends of main and edge molding runs.
4. Cut panels and moldings face up with a fine-tooth handsaw or table saw; face down with a fine-tooth portable power jigsaw or portable power circular saw.
5. The ceiling panels and moldings are not designed to carry any weight. Can lights and hanging lights must be mounted so the weight of the fixtures is supported directly by the ceiling joists or OSB/plywood.
6. **Cleaning:** Remove dust using a hand duster or vacuum cleaner attachment.
7. For more information about our ceiling products, please visit [www.woodtrac.com](http://www.woodtrac.com).

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### 5-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY (WoodTrac™ Ceiling System by Sauder Products)

1. Sauder Woodworking Co. (Sauder®) provides limited warranty coverage to the original purchaser of this product for a period of five years from the date of purchase against defects in the materials or workmanship of WoodTrac™ Ceiling System by Sauder components. As used in this Warranty, “defect” means imperfections in components which substantially impair the utility of the product. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.
2. There is no warranty coverage for defects or conditions that result from the failure to follow product assembly instructions (including proper WoodTrac™ Ceiling Systems by Sauder product installation using an existing or third-party grid system), information or warnings, misuse or abuse, intentional damage, fire, flood, alteration or modification of the product, or use of the product in a manner inconsistent with its intended use, nor any condition resulting from incorrect or inadequate installation, maintenance, cleaning, or care. There is also no warranty coverage for any products purchased “used” or “as is”, at a distress or going-out-of-business sale, or from a liquidator.
3. As the exclusive remedy under this Warranty, Sauder will (at its sole option) repair or replace any defective WoodTrac™ Ceiling system by Sauder component. Sauder may require independent confirmation of the claimed defect and proof of purchase. Replacement parts will be warranted for only the remaining period of the original Warranty. SAUDER SHALL HAVE NO LIABILITY for ANY INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OF ANY KIND and all such damages are EXCLUDED FROM THIS WARRANTY, such as loss of use, disassembly, re-installation or repair labor costs, transportation, labor or damage to property on or near the product. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.
4. This Warranty applies only to warranted defects that first arise and are reported to Sauder within the warranty coverage period. The Warranty cannot be transferred to subsequent owners or users of the product, and it shall be immediately void in the event the product is resold, transferred, leased or rented to any third party or person other than the original purchaser.
5. THERE ARE NO OTHER WARRANTIES APPLICABLE TO THIS PRODUCT. Under the laws of certain states, there may be no implied warranties from Sauder and all implied warranties, INCLUDING ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE are disclaimed where allowed by law. TO THE EXTENT ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES ARE APPLICABLE, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE DURATION OF THIS EXPRESS WARRANTY or the minimum period allowed by law, whichever is shorter. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied Warranty lasts, so the above limitation may not apply to you.
6. For warranty inquiries or claims, please visit our website [www.sauder.com](http://www.sauder.com). You can also contact Sauder at 1-800-523-3987. Sauder may require Warranty claims to be submitted in writing to Sauder Woodworking Co., 502 Middle Street, Archbold, OH 43502 USA. Please include your sales receipt or other proof of purchase and a specific description of the product defect.

## PROPER SAFETY EQUIPMENT



STEP LADDER



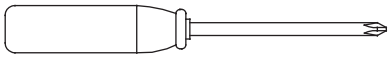
SAFETY GLASSES



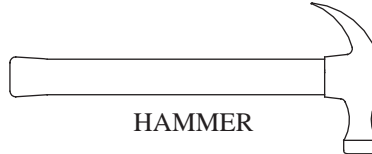
DUST MASK (if using table or jig saw)

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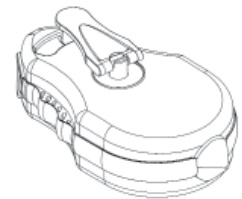
## ASSEMBLY TOOLS REQUIRED



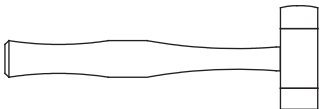
NO. 2 PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER



HAMMER



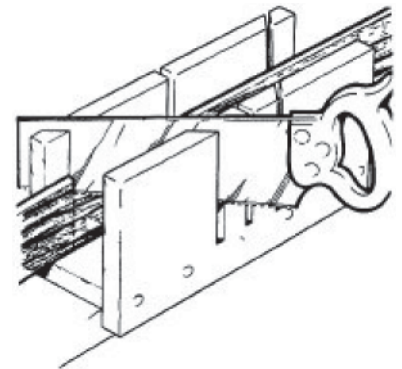
CHALK LINER



RUBBER MALLET



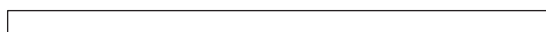
JIG SAW



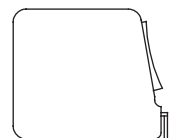
HAND SAW and MITER BOX  
or POWER MITER SAW



PENCIL



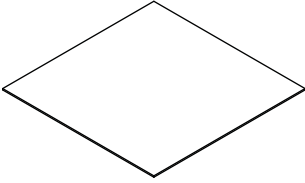
STRAIGHT EDGE



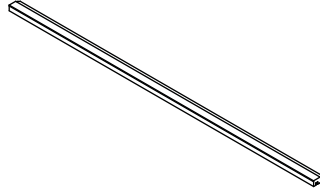
TAPE MEASURE

# PART IDENTIFICATION

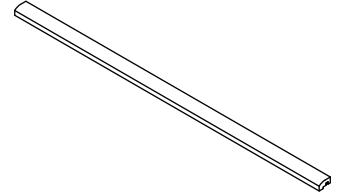
**A** PANEL



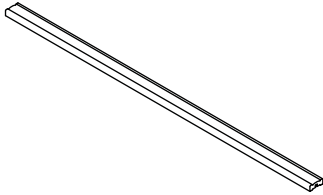
**B** WALL MOLDING



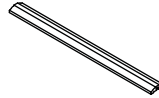
**C** CLOUD MOLDING



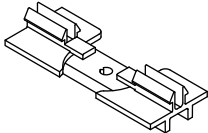
**D** MAIN MOLDING



**E** CROSS TEE



**F** DIRECT ATTACH (DA) CLIP



**G** WASHER



**H** 1" SCREW

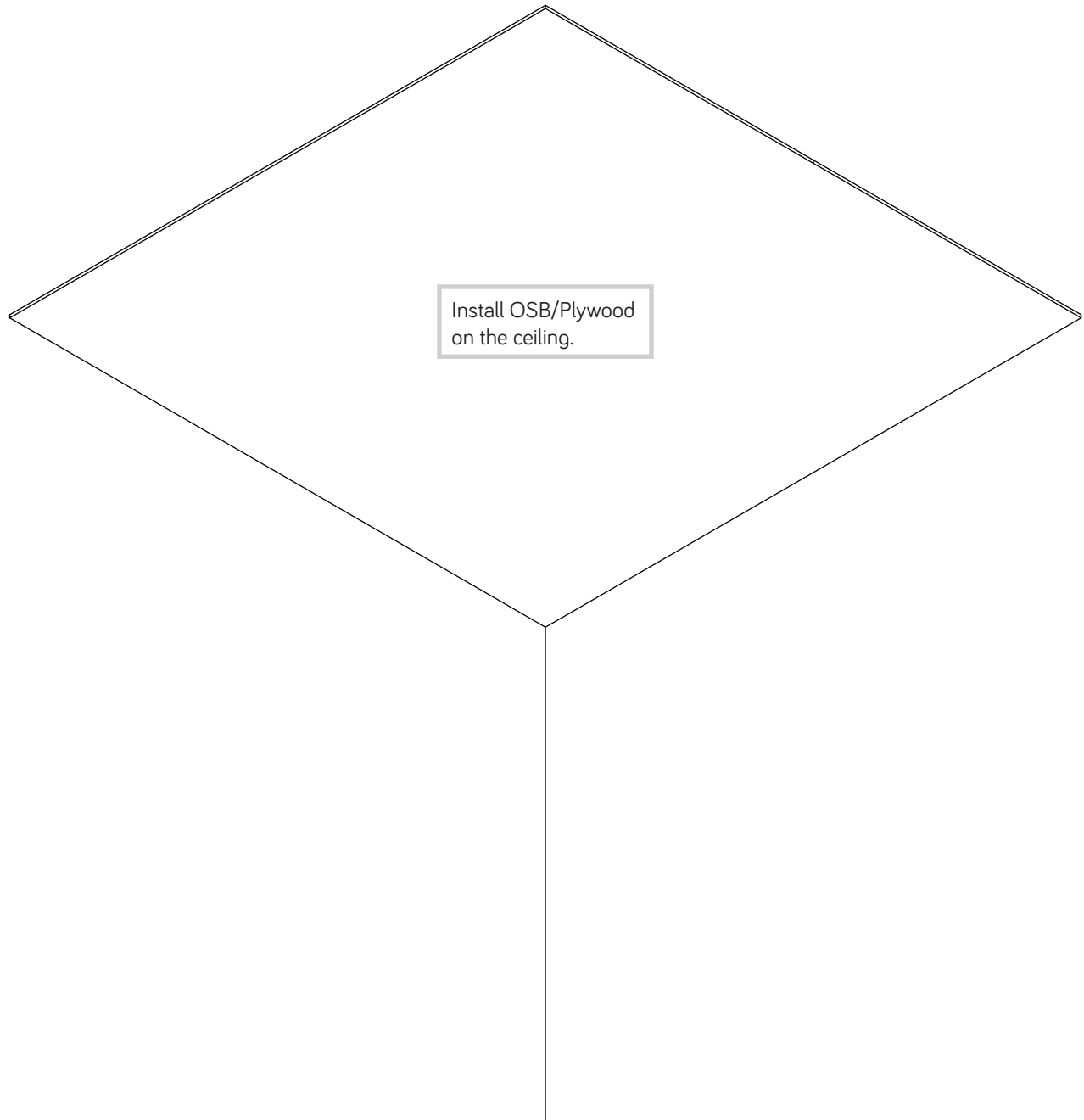


# 1 Install OSB/Plywood on the ceiling

Bare ceiling joists: Install OSB/Plywood ceiling with a minimum of 1/2" thick material according to the ceiling diaphragm design for the job. Consult with a qualified engineer/architect.

Over existing drywall: Install OSB/Plywood ceiling over the drywall with a minimum of 7/16" thick material according to the ceiling diaphragm design for the job. Consult with a qualified engineer/architect

The uniform loading for WoodTrac is approximately 1.25 lb/ft<sup>2</sup>

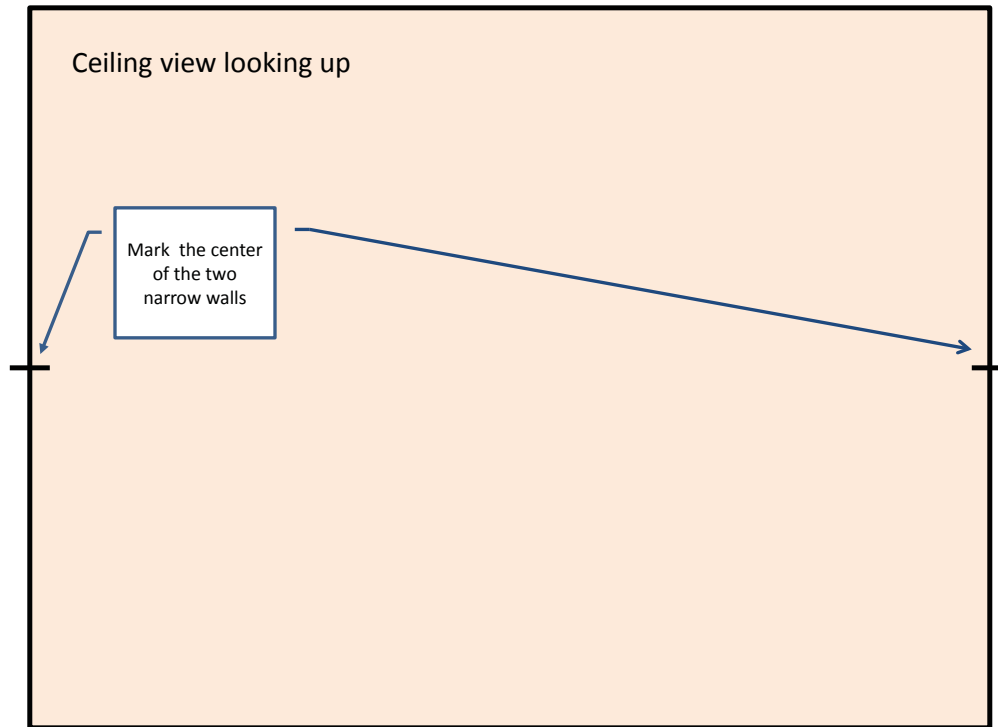


Visit [www.youtube.com/user/woodtrac](http://www.youtube.com/user/woodtrac) for detailed install videos and tips.

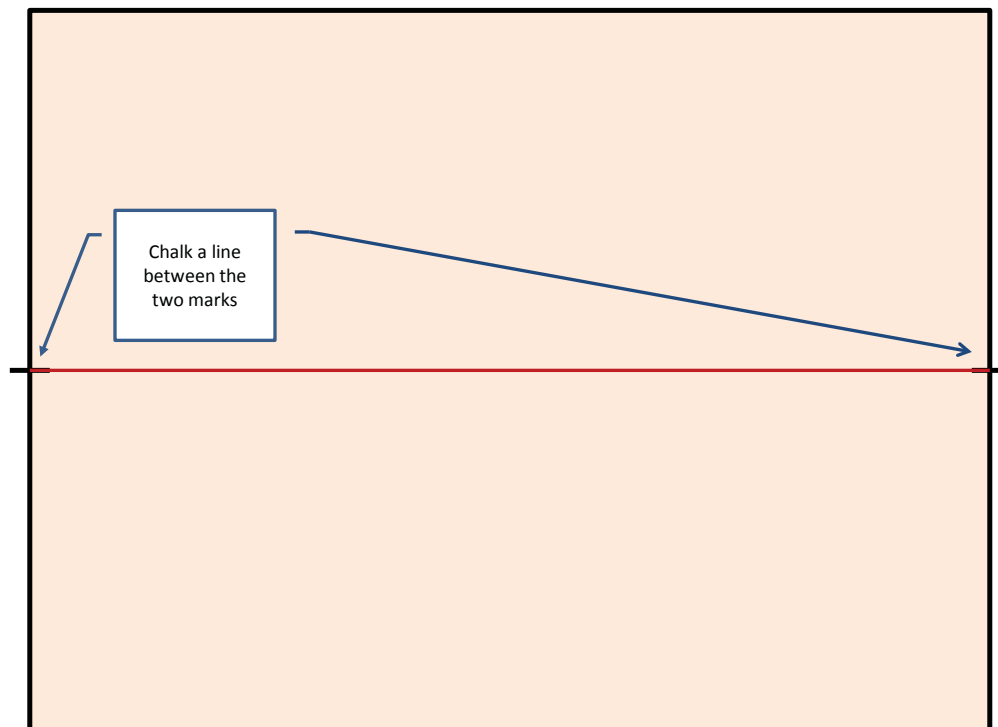
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## 2 Chalk line a 2' x 2' grid on the ceiling (step 1 of 5)

Step 1 – Mark the center points of the narrowest walls



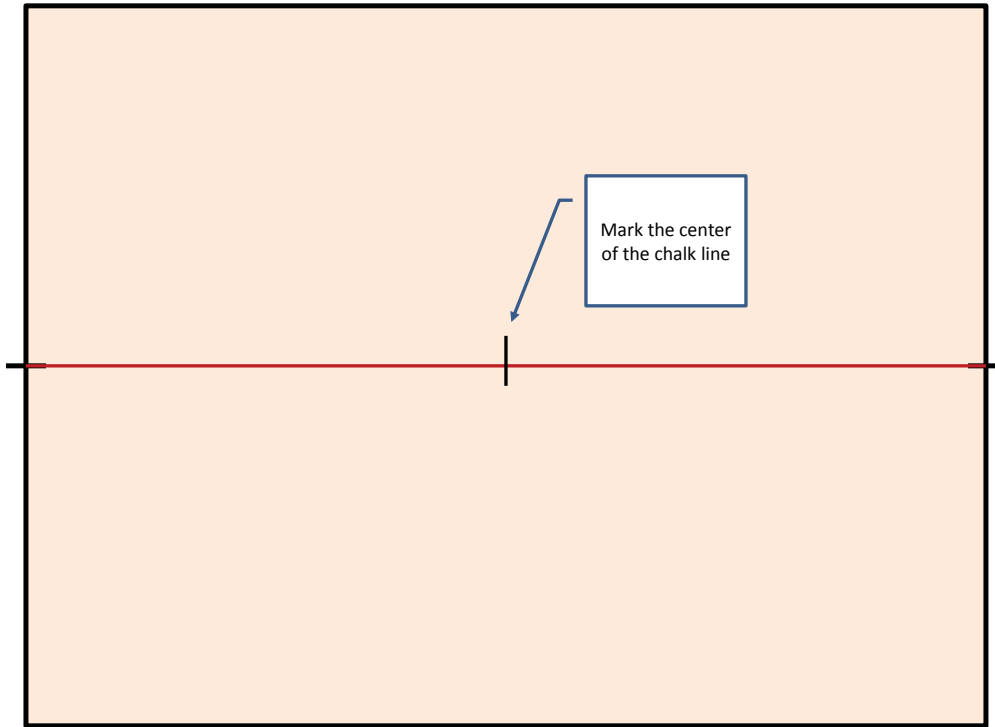
Step 2 – Chalk the center line



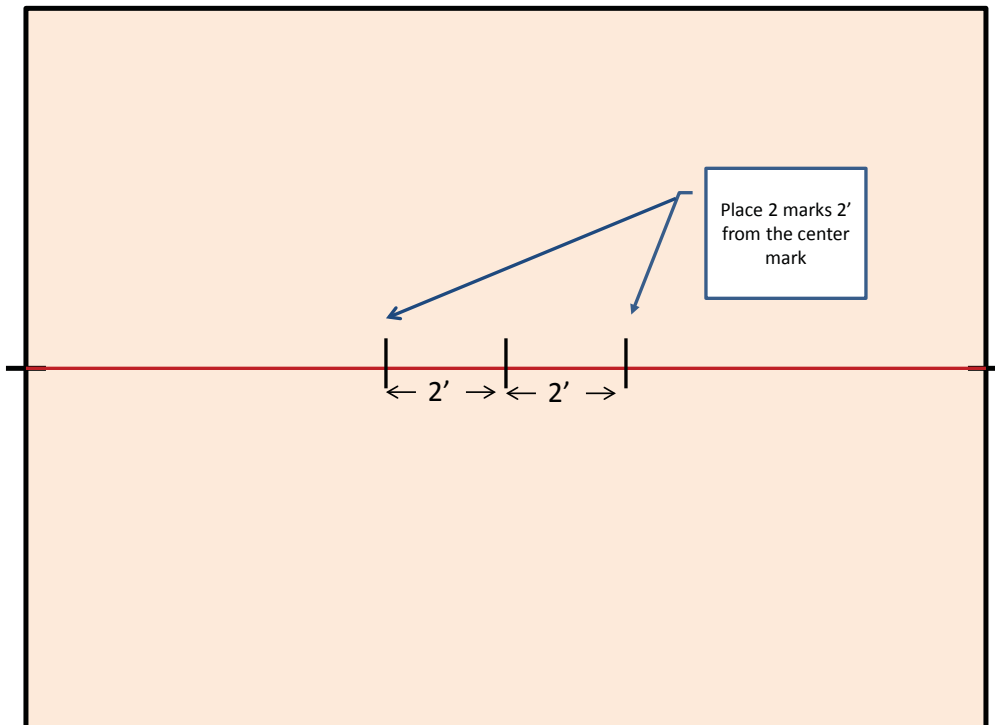
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# 3 Chalk line a 2' x 2' grid on the ceiling (step 2 of 5)

Step 3 – Mark the center of the chalk line



Step 4 – Chalk a perpendicular line

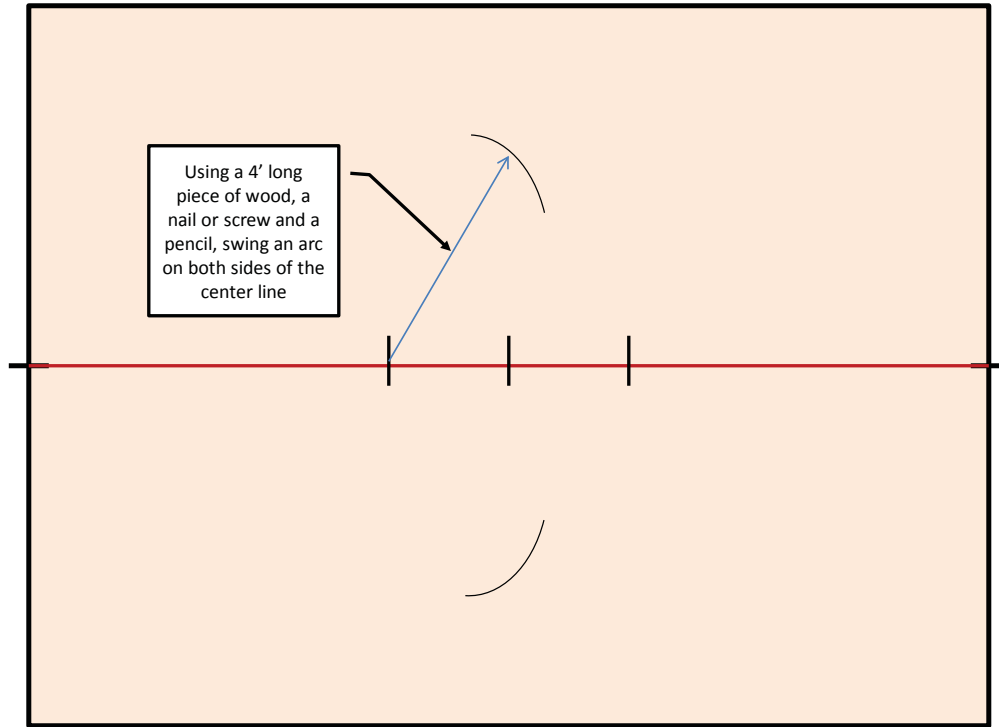


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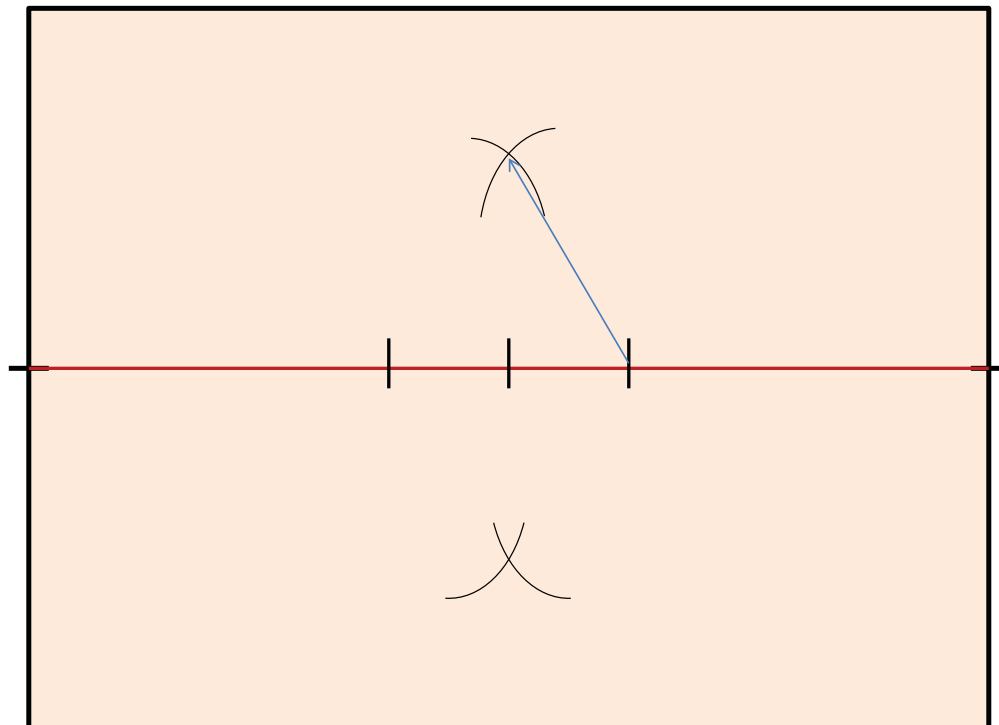
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# 4 Chalk line a 2' x 2' grid on the ceiling (step 3 of 5)

Step 4a – Chalk a perpendicular line



Step 4b – Chalk a perpendicular line

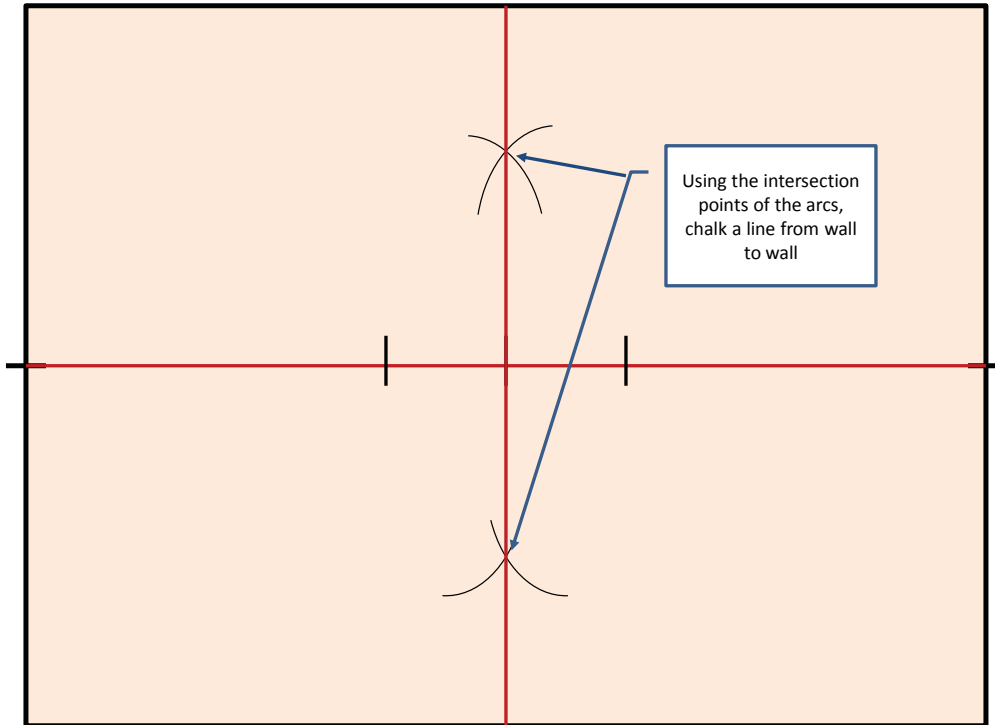


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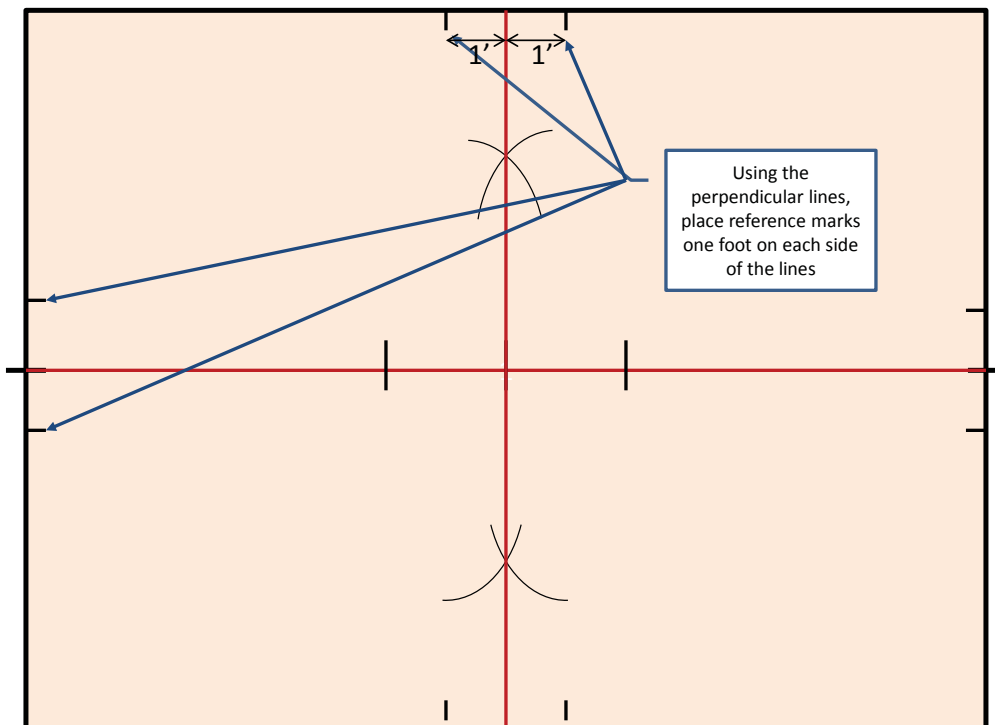


# 5 Chalk line a 2' x 2' grid on the ceiling (step 4 of 5)

Step 4c – Chalk a perpendicular line



Step 5 – Layout 2' x 2' grid – place reference marks

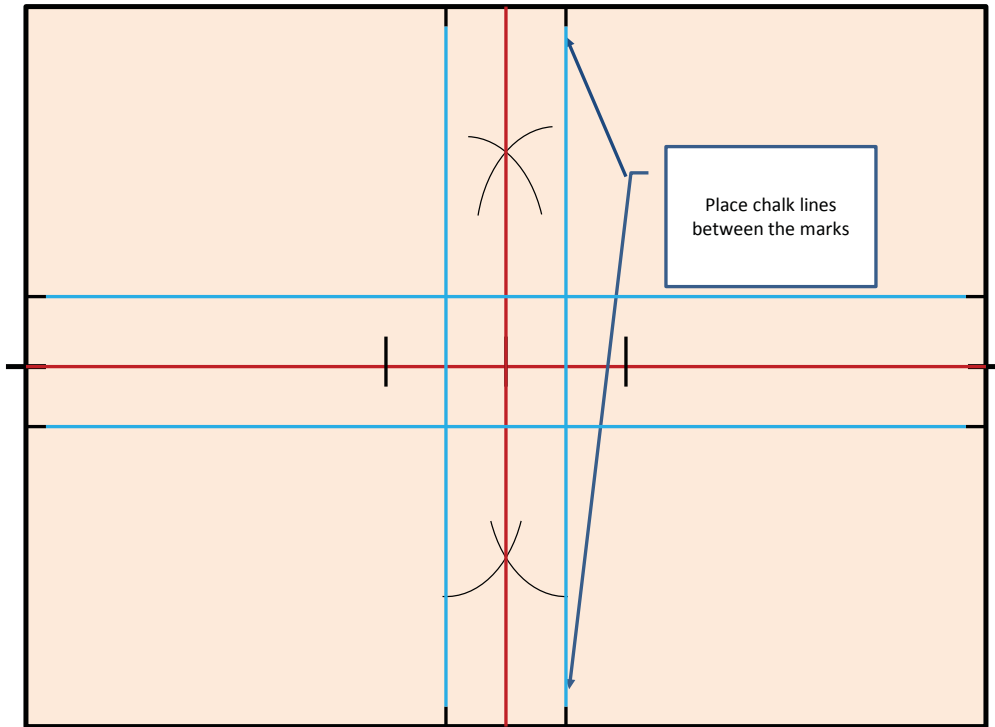


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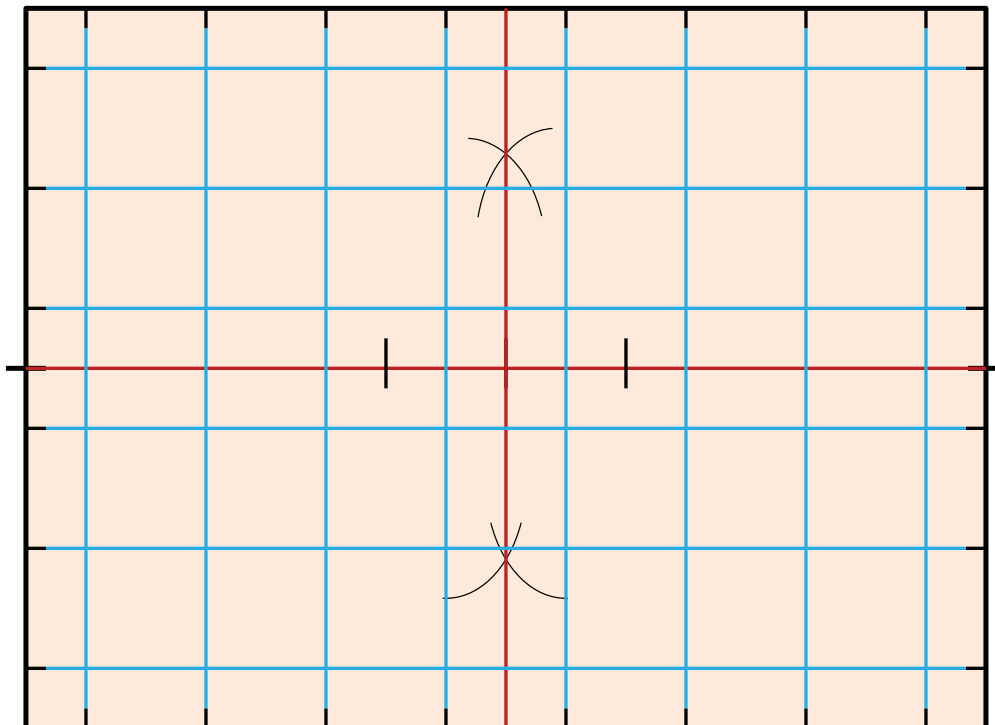
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# 6 Chalk line a 2' x 2' grid on the ceiling (step 5 of 5)

Step 5 – Layout 2' x 2' grid – place chalk lines



Step 6 – Complete the 2' x 2' grid – place more reference marks and chalk lines



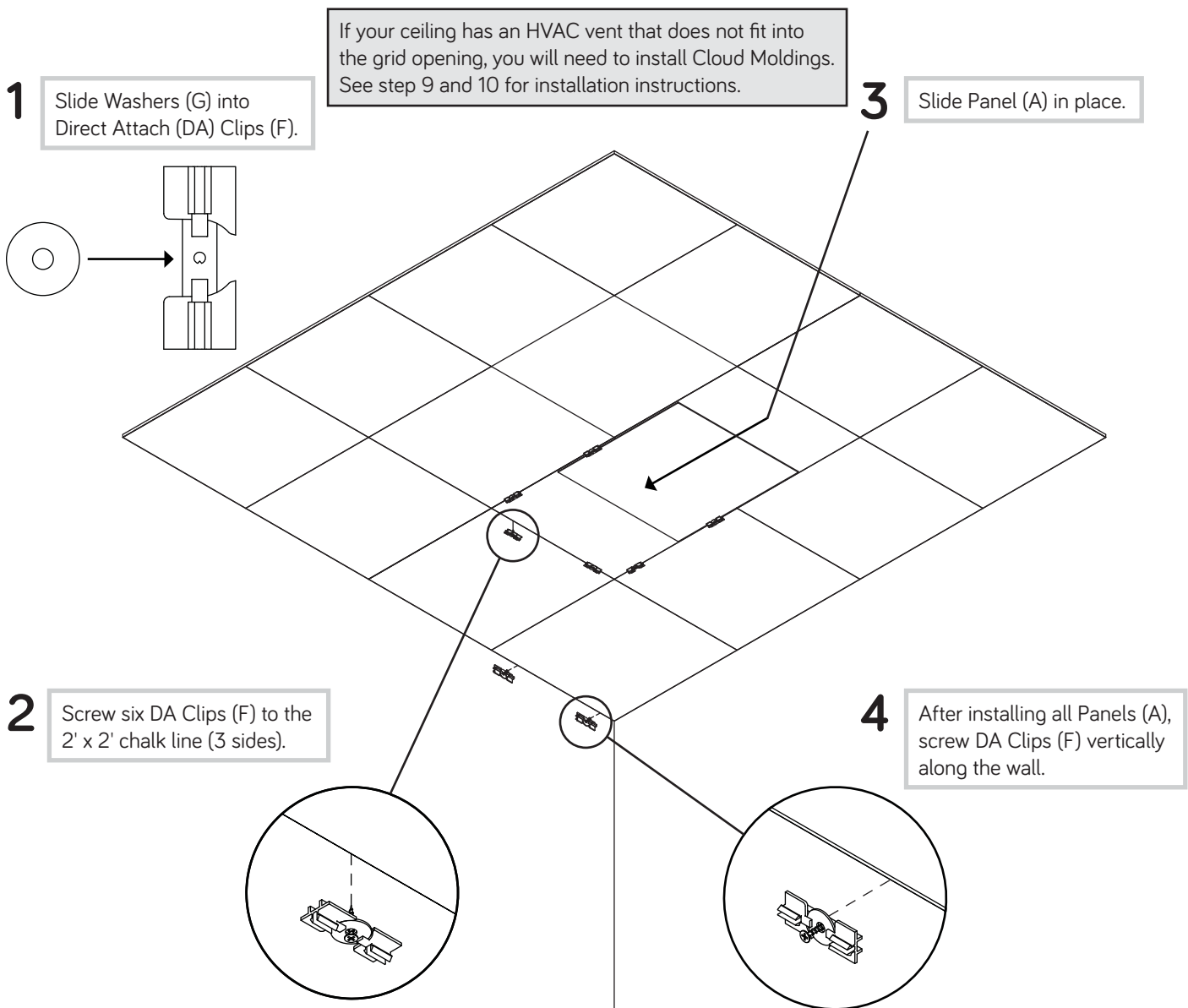
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# 7 Starting in the center of the room, install the panels

Direct Attach (DA) clips will be placed 3" – 4" from each panel edge. Each panel will be attached with a total of 8 DA clips and shares the clips with the adjacent panel. The screw for the clip will be placed on the chalk line to provide proper spacing between the panels. As with any wood product, the panels and moldings will shrink and grow with changes in relative humidity. A small tolerance has been built into the system so the panels must be installed using the chalk line grid on a 2' center.

Start by loosely installing six DA clips on the ceiling where the first panel is located (3 sides). Slide the first panel in to place engaging the clips. Loosely screw in the two remaining DA clips to hold the panel in place. Install the second panel in a like manner by loosely installing 4 more DA clips (2 on 2 sides) and slide in the second panel. Loosely install two more DA clips on the open end of the second panel. Now tighten the DA clips on the edge where the first two panels meet.

Continue installing panels in a similar fashion until the rows of panels against the wall. Cut these panels to size to fit flush to the wall. Install DA clips as required to hold the panels to the ceiling. Along the wall install the DA clips vertically to hold the panels up and in preparation for the next step – installing the wall molding. If the DA clip screws will not engage the 2x4 framing plate, install the DA clips to engage each stud along the wall. The DA clip screws may need to be longer depending on the wall thickness. Any length #6 bugle head drywall screw will work with the DA clip.



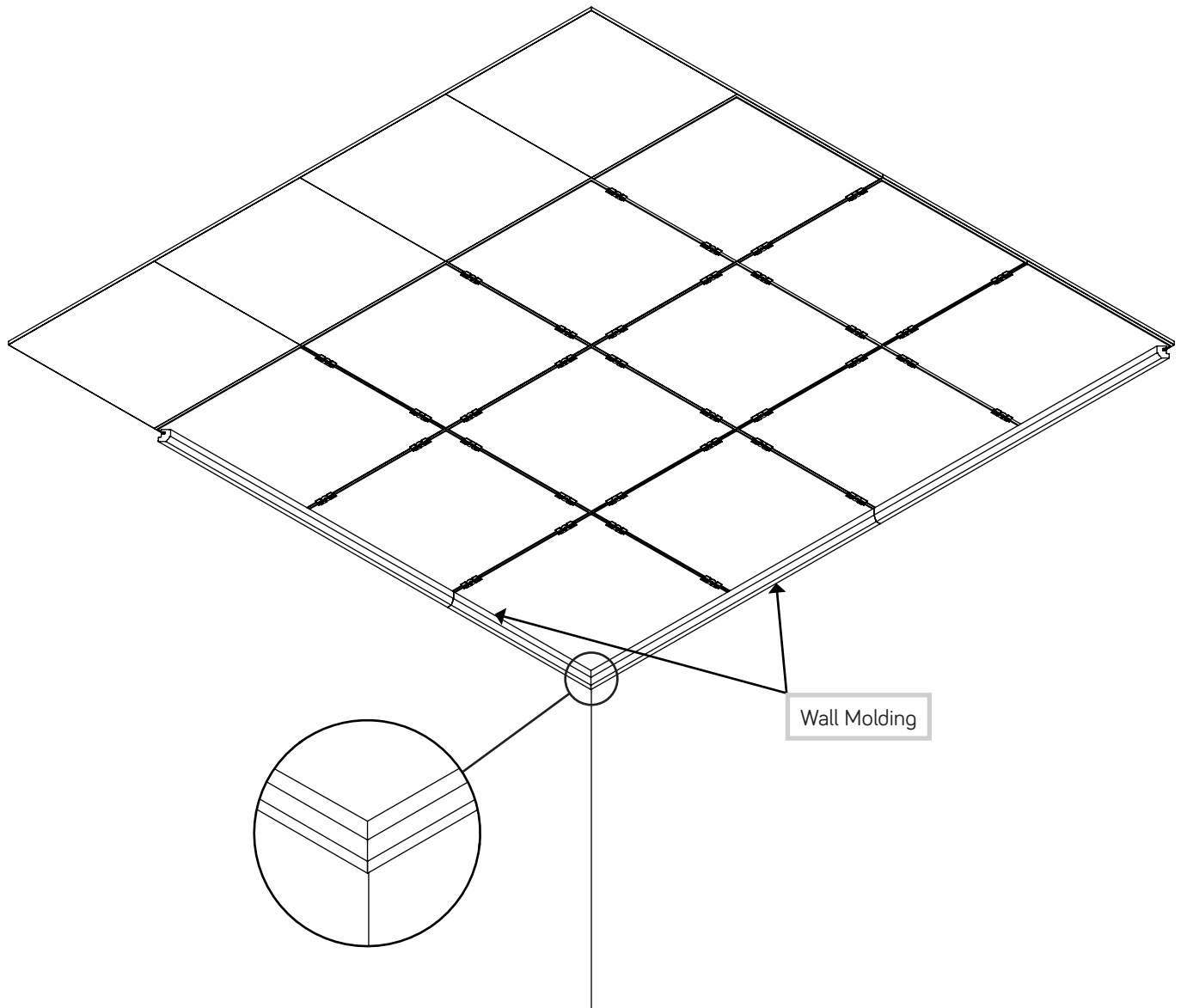
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## 8 Install the wall moldings

The wall moldings snap into place by engaging the DA clips installed in the previous step in a vertical fashion on the wall. Carefully align the molding T-Slot with the barbs on the DA clip and snap into place by rapping with a fist or a soft tool.

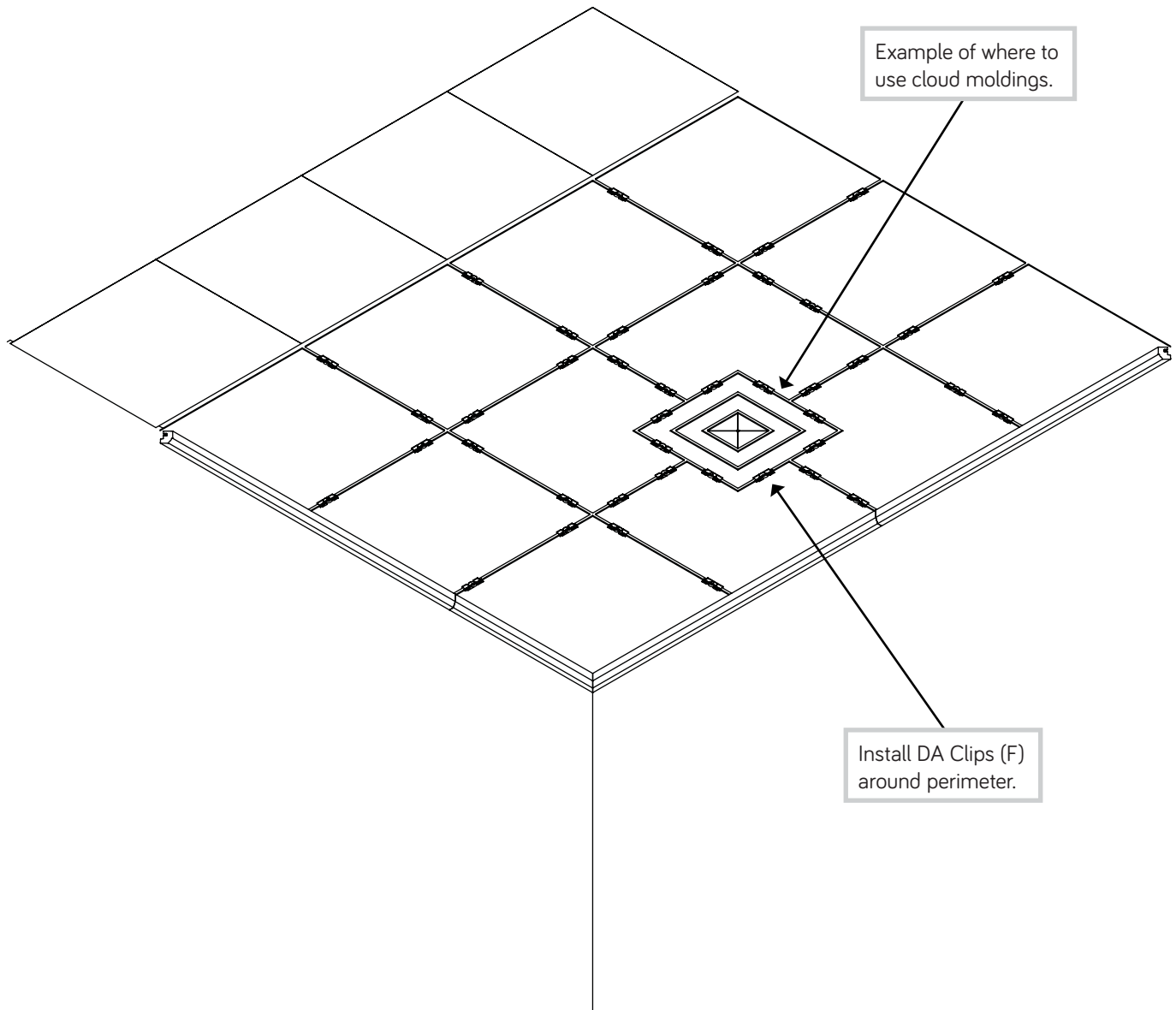
The wall moldings for two opposite walls may be full length and the other two moldings must be installed by coping the moldings so they will snap into the DA clips. Any outside corners may be mitered.



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## 9 Install any cloud moldings required (step 1 of 2)

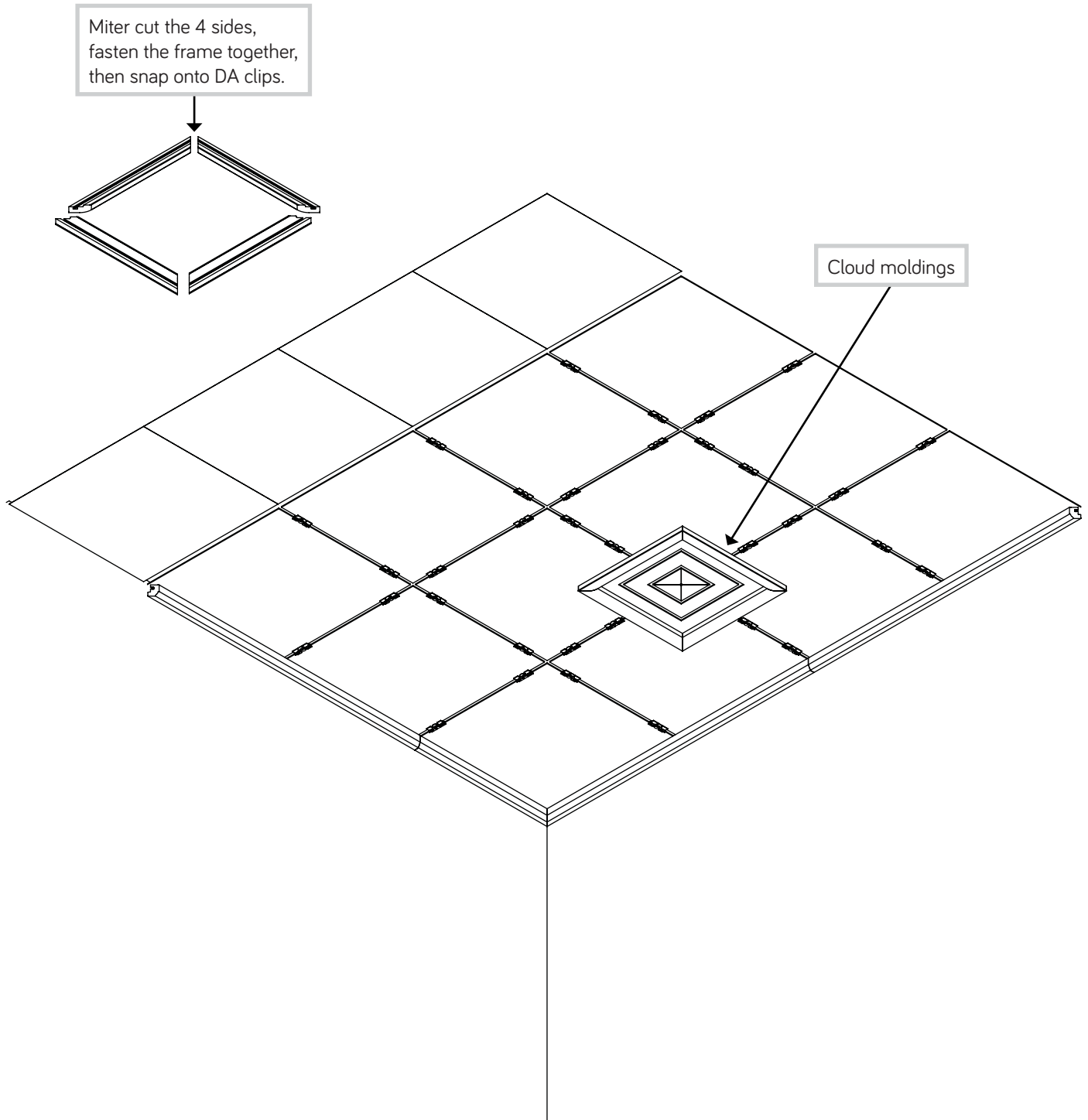
Cloud moldings are used to frame in rectangular areas on the ceiling such as HVAC vents. If cloud moldings are needed, install DA clips accordingly.



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## 10 Install any cloud moldings required (step 1 of 2)

Cloud moldings are installed by miter cutting the 4 sides and snapping them onto DA clips. The particular application may require gluing, pin or brad nailing the frame together.



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# 11 Install the main moldings

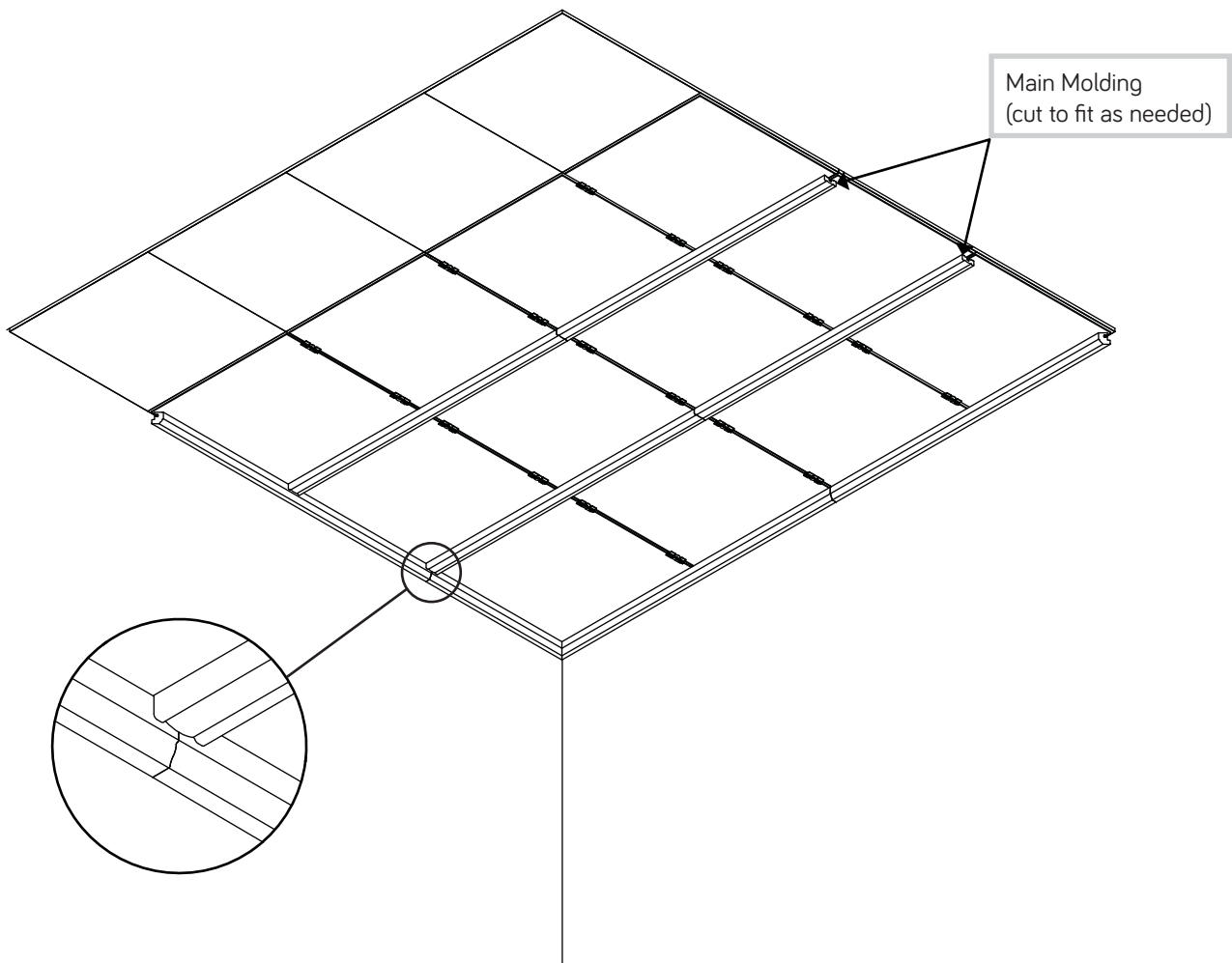
Main moldings traverse one direction in the room and cross tees traverse perpendicular to the main moldings.

Starting at one end of the room, snap main moldings onto the ceiling. The main moldings are 12' long. If more than one molding is required to traverse the room, cut the molding ends such that they meet on a DA clip location. Cut the last main molding to fit. You may want to stagger joints from main molding to main molding so the joints are less noticeable.

Swings in relative humidity cause the moldings to change in length. For example, a 30% change in relative humidity will cause the length of a 16' main molding to change about 1/4". The moldings should be acclimated to the area of installation for 2 or more days. If the installation is done during the wet season, install the moldings tight to the walls. If the installation is done during the dry season, install the moldings with a 1/8" gap at each end for every 16' of length.

Example calculations for a 16' (192") molding:

change in relative humidity	%change in length		Change in length in inches
10%	0.05%	$192 \times 0.0005 =$	0.09
20%	0.09%	$192 \times 0.0009 =$	0.18
30%	0.14%	$192 \times 0.0014 =$	0.27
40%	0.19%	$192 \times 0.0019 =$	0.36
50%	0.24%	$192 \times 0.0024 =$	0.45



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## 12 Install the cross tees

After the main moldings have been installed, install the full length cross tees by snapping them on to the DA clips in a similar manner to the main moldings. The cross tees along the wall will need to be cut to size.

This completes assembly.

