# Vanderbilt Installation Instructions

**(NOTE: Thin cast stone mantels are produced with a texture and color that replicate the appearance of natural stone. Due to the natural characteristics of the material and manufacturing process, variations in color shade and surface texture are normal. We do NOT recommend that gypsum based fireplace mantels be placed next to vent free or direct vent fireplaces without a <u>hood</u> and a <u>circulating fan</u>. Failure to do this will void the warranty.)**

**Construction adhesive will be needed to mount your surround. Use one that works for the types of materials you will be bonding to. You will also need a screw gun to mount the product.**

**New Package: Each surround is packaged in its own crate.**

**Before unpacking: Carefully remove each piece from the package without scratching the exterior finish.**

**Always carry or transport the header and hearth vertically and not flat like a table. We don't want to put too much stress on these long pieces and possibly cause cracks.**

**START WITH THE HEARTH**



Measure center of firebox



Apply adhesive to hearth



Center hearth on firebox

**Prepare the surface to receive the hearth. The hearth can set on the sub-floor or hardwood flooring but not on carpet or easily combustible material. Make sure the floor is clean and has nothing sticking up that would not let the hearth set flush on the floor. You can use a mastic or construction adhesive to set the hearth. Keep it away from the edges of the hearth so it won't squeeze out from under the hearth.**

**Set the hearth and center it on the firebox so that the entire mantel will be centered around the fireplace.**

| Measure to top of opening or to the top of the louvers depending on box style | Cut to length with powered hand saw such as a Skill saw with carbide blade | Apply adhesive | Pre drill holes and screw to wall |

**NEXT FACING KIT: They frame the sides and top of the fireplace opening.**
**Filler legs can be trimmed up to 4" or a total height of 32".**
**The 2 facing LEG panels have a rounded finished edge. This edge goes to the inside left and right of the fireplace opening.  Align them with the fireplace opening on each side. Glue the back of one panel and stick it to the wall next to the fireplace opening and secure with screws. Do the same for the other side. Let the panel's adhesive set up before proceeding. Don't let them fall off the wall while setting up!**



Apply adhesive to header, pre drill holes and screw in place

**1 larger HEADER facing panel that sits on top of the 2 side panels.  Center and glue it to the wall above the 2 side panels and secure with screws. Let it sit on them. Don't let it fall off the wall. Make sure it is set before proceeding.**

Apply adhesive

Install L bracket to top of leg and screw to wall

**Put adhesive on the back of one of the surround legs. There is a left and a right leg. Let the glue set a little so the legs will stay on the wall, but not so much so that you can't move them. Set one leg at a time so they won't fall off the wall until the adhesive sets. The inside bottom of each leg should be aligned approximately 3 ½" from the inside opening of the firebox.  In other words, approximately 3 ½" of your facing material you just put up will be exposed on either side of the firebox opening.**



Apply adhesive and use L brackets to attach to wall

**Put adhesive on the back perimeter of the Header (the large piece that goes over the legs) and make sure you keep it away from the finished outside edge so that it won't squeeze out and be seen.**

**Set header on legs carefully. The top of the legs have lego type blocks to go into recesses in the bottom of the header. Be careful to hold the header in place until**

**you get some screws in place to hold it on the wall. Be careful how you set the header, you don't want to smear adhesive all over the wall.**

Line up legs and header so they are evenly spaced around the firebox.
2 "L" brackets are included to fasten the header to the wall. These brackets
attach the top of the header to the wall.  Find a stud on each side of the wall to
attach the header to the wall. The bracket should be screwed to the wall first
and then the top of the header.



Dry fit shelf and mark the top of the shelf



Place another mark below the top mark the thickness of the top



Screw mounting strip to the wall into the studs



Apply adhesive to the top of the mounting strip



Attach shelf with screws through pre drilled holes



**SHELF INSTALLATION:**

Set the shelf in place on top of the header. Be careful not to drop the shelf on the
header or force the fit. Ease it in place and hold it there. Have someone mark
with a pencil where the top of the shelf is on the wall. Do this where the two
studs on either side are located. Remove the shelf –Carefully!--

Measure the thickness of the top of the shelf, on the back side. This will tell you
where to mount the 2" X 2" mounting strip (included) will be screwed to the wall.
If you do this correctly your shelf will sit square on top of the header.  Screw the
mounting strip to the wall, into the studs with some adhesive behind the strip to
hold it better to the wall. Dry fit your shelf to make sure it lines up right. Don't let
it go; hold on! If it works, take it down.

Now put construction adhesive on top of the mounting strip to help hold the shelf
in place.

When you set the shelf for the last time use the screws provided.

When screwing the shelf in place make sure you don't over tighten or the shelf
may crack!