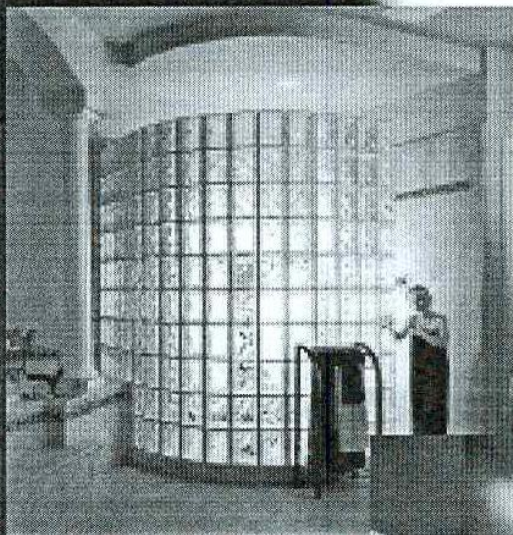


# Vinyl Stack®

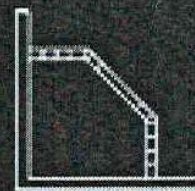
## Glass Block Spacing System

You've Always Had  
The Talent...

...It's Time To Put It  
To Good Use.



## Instruction Manual





## Overview

The Vinyl Stack Spacer system was developed to dramatically decrease the time and difficulty involved in building glass block walls. By replacing mortar with rigid spacers and silicone adhesive, the need for masonry skills is virtually eliminated.

Using this innovative system, glass blocks are simply stacked together in horizontal rows with the corresponding vinyl spacer between each block. Multiple designs of the vinyl stack spacer were formed to fit the various glass blocks used in your custom shower design, allowing for virtually any configuration conceivable. Two beads of silicone are applied between spacer and glass block prior to assembly.

Horizontal runs of Vinyl Stack spacers continue the length of the build by the connection of long, straight pieces with the tabs found on all angled spacers. These tabs are designed to push in snug but can adjust laterally to fit small variables in shower curb construction. Specially designed anchors fit into the hollow end of spacers on every other horizontal row, and attach to the adjacent framed wall with screws.

Vertical Spacers are pre-cut relative to the height of the blocks. These short vertical spacers come in a variety of shapes to fit either straight or custom shaped glass blocks.

After wall is assembled and has cured over night, grout is applied to the surface joints between all blocks. With a rubber float, the joints are filled and sponged smooth to the desired finish. Grout is not applied at the perimeter where glass block meets the framed wall and curb.

Caulking is applied in the perimeter joint between glass block and curb or wall for a pliable, watertight seal. This joint is tooled smooth for an appropriate appearance.

Your glass block wall is now complete. What was once a difficult and messy task has become a fun and rewarding project you can enjoy for years to come.



## Tools Needed:

- Screw Driver/Gun
- Razor Knife
- Rubber Mallet
- Level

## Tool Kit:

(optional purchase)

- Caulk Gun
- Rubber Float
- Bucket
- Sponge
- Caulk-rite Tool
- Cheese Cloth
- Rubber Gloves

## Included in Kit:

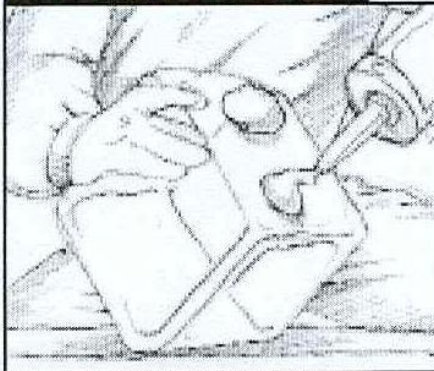
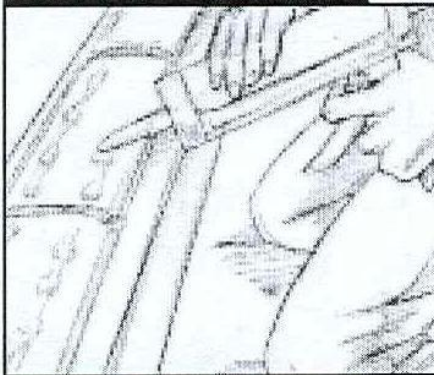
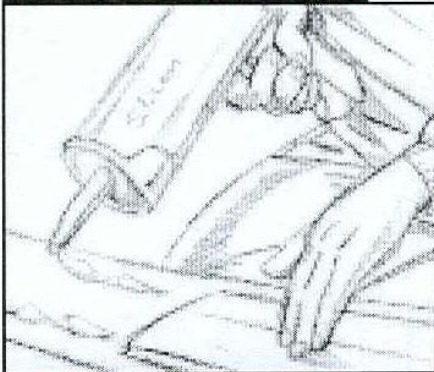
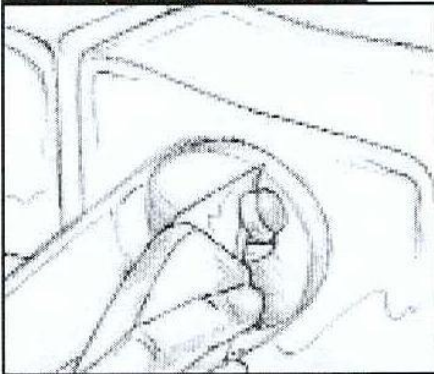
- Glass Block
- Vinyl Stack Spacing System
- Silicone
- Anchors and Screws
- Grout
- How-to video and written instructions
- Maintenance Kit for Glass & Grout
- Plastic Shims



## Glass Block Assembly:

### #1

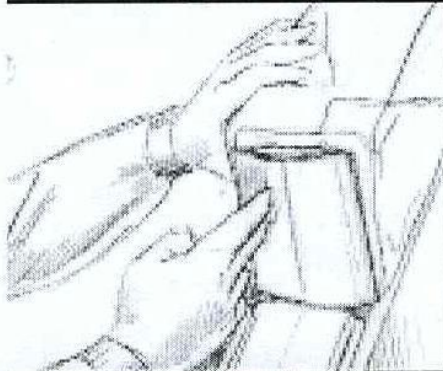
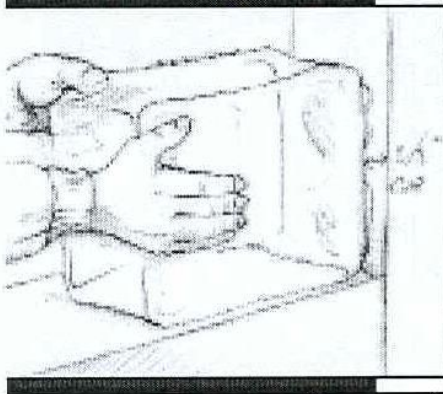
Cut approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$ " off the tip of a few tubes of silicone to prepare for assembly. Begin by running two beads of silicone on top of curb to receive the first horizontal spacer then set it into position. Always attach parts immediately following application of silicone to avoid poor adhesion. If silicone starts to skin over, simply scrape off bulk of silicone and re-apply a fresh bead.



### #2

Apply silicone to top of horizontal spacer to receive first glass block units. The first glass block will need a flat spacer applied to its vertical edge that meets the framed wall. Apply silicone to flat spacer and press on to block. Apply two large globules of silicone roughly 2" diameter to flat spacer on exposed (framed wall) side. This will act as a shimming agent as well as an attachment to the framed wall.



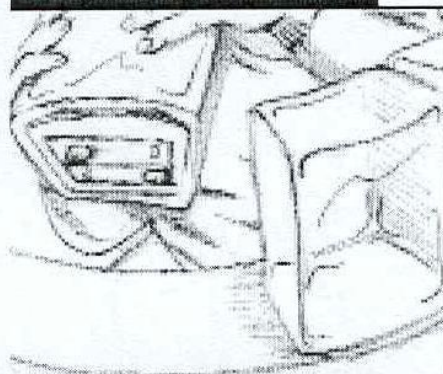


### #3

Set bottom of first block to siliconed horizontal spacer with flat-spacer side to framed wall with an 1/8" gap between block and framed wall. (Leave a larger gap if framed wall leans out of plumb toward glass block, anticipating gap to diminish the higher the glass block wall is assembled). Affix vinyl stack vertical spacers to glass block edges with silicone and set blocks repeatedly on horizontal spacer to its end.

### #4

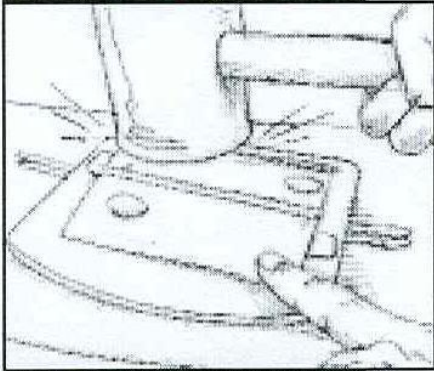
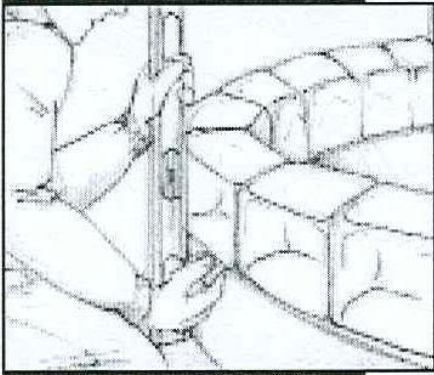
**First Row Only!** If your shower design includes custom shaped block such as 90 degree, 45 degree or radius blocks, it is imperative to note the following: The horizontal spacers used with these blocks were designed as two similar halves that need to be snapped together for all areas EXCEPT under the bottom row. Use only one of the halves here, since that is what will align in height with the adjoining straight vinyl stack spacer. Remove the barbed tabs from this half-spacer, as they are not needed for the bottom row. Apply silicone between the half spacer and under side of block and compress together.



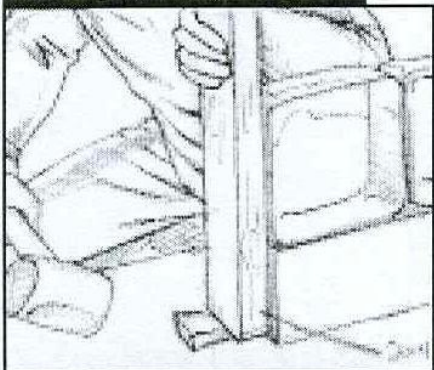
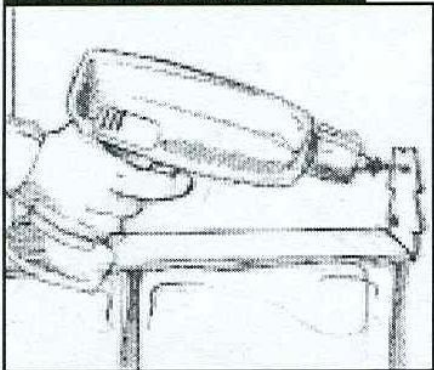
### #5

Adhere the corresponding angled block's "vertical spacer" to the angled block. In the case of 45 and 90-degree blocks, you will use a flat spacer between straight block and angled block. Place angled block on top of curb. Any adjustments need to be made soon after silicone is applied to provide proper layout and adhesion.





Repeat this process until 1<sup>st</sup> horizontal row is completed. Use a level to insure glass block is straight, plumb and level. Use shims under first row if necessary to adjust. Leave shims in until glass block wall is completed. Remove only after grout is applied and cured. Now is a good time to snap together the rest of the angle spacer halves. **Make sure they are fully snapped together by tapping with a rubber mallet. Angled spacers must be fully compressed to ensure correct spacing.**



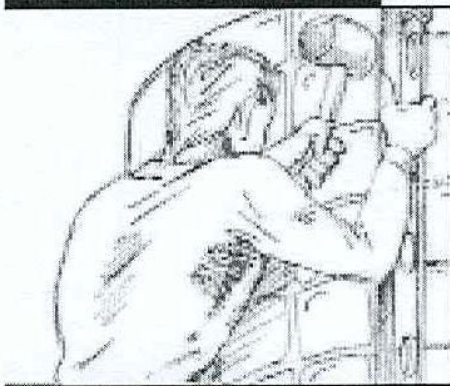
## #6

Second Row: Prepare horizontal spacer for top of first row by inserting wall anchor at one end. Aid of hammer may be needed.

Run two beads of silicone to top of last assembled row of glass block. Immediately set first horizontal spacer, screwing anchor to framed wall. Repeat process of block assembly same as first row. When row is complete, re-check for straight edge, level, and plumb. Adjustments can be made by hand or with the aid of a rubber mallet. You will need to shim up a 2 x 4 stud from ceiling to curb at the end of the glass block wall. to act as a temporary plumb point for your wall to follow.

Repeat process for every row making sure to screw anchors at every other horizontal row until wall is completely assembled.

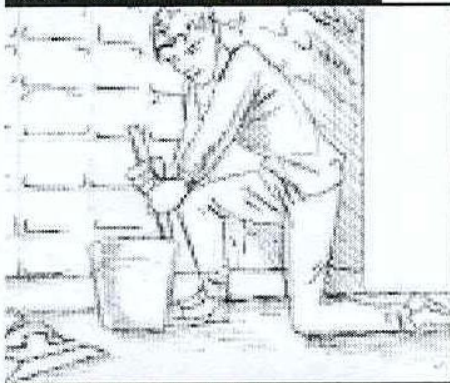




## #7

Check one final time for straight edge, level, and plumb. Use the soft rubber mallet to help aid in final alignment.

Once satisfied with final alignment, let the silicone dry over night.



Grouting:

Directions must be followed to detail. Mix dry grout with clean water till thoroughly mixed.

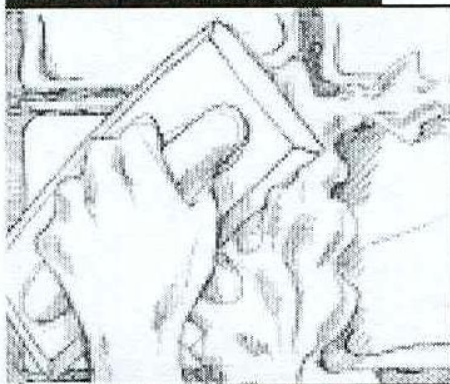
Approximately 10-cups grout

To

3 cups water

(Grout should be mixed to a toothpaste-like consistency.)

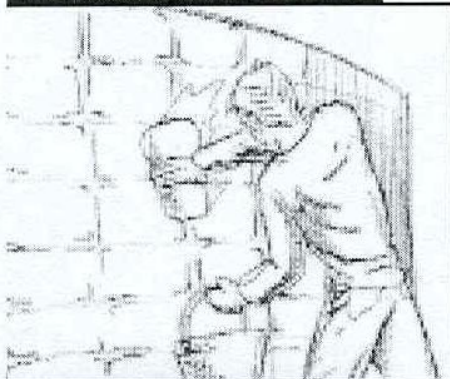
- Let grout sit for 10 minutes.
- Re-Mix grout till smooth.



## #8

Apply grout with a rubber float by pushing grout into all joints except perimeter joint between blocks and wall/curb. This will need to be caulked up after grout has cured. Make sure to push grout in using multiple angles to assure joints are FULLY packed with grout. Be careful not to move glass blocks while grouting, as wall will still be a bit flexible prior to grout cure.

Movement may cause grout to separate or squeeze out.



## #9

Wipe down with glass block wall using a tile/grout sponge and a clean bucket of water. Always wipe down wall in a diagonal direction. This will help to not wipe grout out of joints. Make sure to rinse sponge frequently, as it will quickly fill up with excess grout. Fully wring all water from sponge prior to wiping.

Wipe down should recur in multiple directions until all grout is removed from block, and joints are smooth.



Let glass block wall set for 15 minutes and wipe down again with a clean bucket of water.

### **IMPORTANT!!!!**

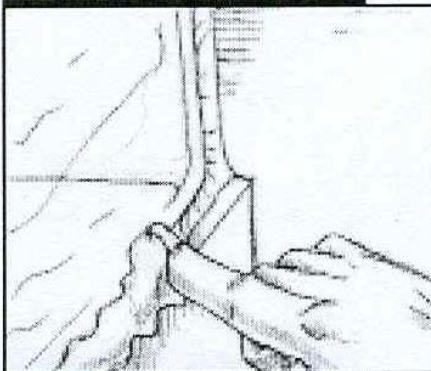
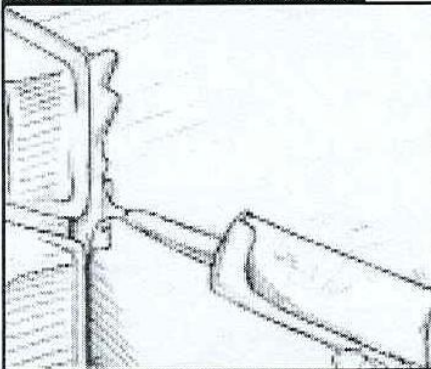
This is a fast cure grout and should be applied and completely wiped down within 1 ½ hours. Grout will cure very rapidly after this time period.

Grout will be cured within 3 hours. At this point you can begin polishing glass blocks by wiping down with cheesecloth, soft rag or towel.

### **#10**

Silicone now needs to be applied at all perimeters of glass block wall adjoining surfaces. This is mandatory for correct seal. Apply glass block silicone fully to fill voids.

Use the caulk-rite tool or your finger to take off any excess silicone and smooth out to satisfaction.

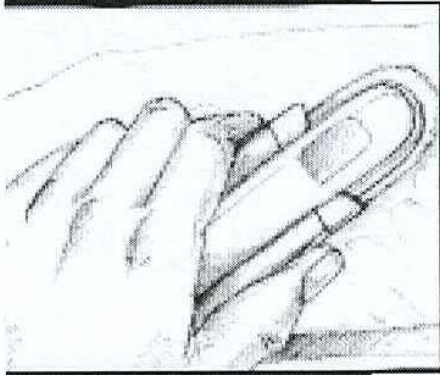




## Sealers:

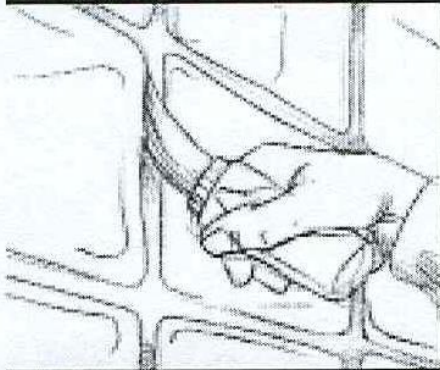
### Glass Sealer:

After thoroughly cleaning the glass surface, simply apply Aquapel sealer by first squeezing tabs on applicator until glass vial breaks to release sealer. Let it soak into cotton applicator and begin wiping onto all glass surfaces of shower interior excluding grout joints. After 15 minutes, remove excess with a clean dry cloth. One applicator will cover roughly 20 square feet.



### Grout Sealer:

Apply grout surface sealer by adjusting flow at tip of applicator bottle and brushing over all grout joints. Wipe off any excess soon with a clean, dry cloth to keep this product from adhering to glass surface. It is recommended to apply a second coat of sealer to assure full coverage.



Glass and grout surface sealers can be applied within 24 hours of build completion.

### Maintenance Tip

A majority of your maintenance issues go down the drain when you use soft soap over bar soap. Hardeners used in the manufacturing of bar soap coagulate on shower interiors, making them difficult to clean.

Please feel free to forward any comments and share your success and photos with us.

[www.glassblockshowerkits.com](http://www.glassblockshowerkits.com)



# Vinyl Stack

Notes: