Thermalux

The quick and simple way to create chimney breasts and install inset stoves

- **Easy to work:** Thermalux is worked just like wood and can be cut with skill saw, jigsaw or hand saw.
- **Easy to join:** simple to join to itself to make larger sheets or shapes
- **Self supporting:** no need for battens or studwork
- **Insulating:** no need for rockwool bats
- **Light & easy:** to move and assemble
- **Plaster or face it:** just like plasterboard

Thermalux boards are used for creating chimney breasts, freestanding stove recesses and for the installation of insert stoves and can be installed using common building techniques familiar to any builder or carpenter.
Thermalux boards are 50mm thick and can be be glued or screwed together to form the front section for the installation of an inset stove, or to form a whole chamber or false chimney breast. Installation is quick and simple and the sheets are self supporting, fully insulating and can be plastered.
Thermalux sheets have a rough side and a smooth side, they should be used with the rough side outwards to accept the plaster.

Thermalux can also be used to insulate combustible materials.

Working with Thermalux

When cutting Thermalux it is best to work outside as it creates dust - and wear a dust mask.

Rough handling of thermalux sheets can damage the edges but any gaps, mis-cuts or mistakes are easily filled with thermalux adhesive/filler before plastering.

Screw Fixing

Use plasterboard screws or, if fixing to a masonry wall, 7.5mm star headed masonry screws.
Use a cordless drill as normal and continue to drill the screw in to the sheet to countersink the head. Use Thermalux glue to fill in screw holes.

There is no need to pre-drill Thermalux when fixing to walls and two pieces of Thermalux can be glued or screwed together without using rawplugs.

Metal fixings transfer heat so if you are fixing Thermalux to a combustible

material then plan to place any screws at the edge of the sheet, away from the hottest part of the stove, and cover the screw heads with another strip of Thermalux.
Alternatively consider using a suitable alternative like dot and dab.
Remember, when using Thermalux against an inflammable surface a suitable ventilation gap should be left.

Sealing

Thermalux is very absorbent and so any surface that needs to be glued, plastered or dot and dabbed needs to be properly sealed first. If the sealing is not carried out effectively the plaster will craze due to the water being absorbed too quickly.

Once the sheets have been cut to size then they need to be laid flat, any dust removed and a minimum of two coats of Thermalux Sealer applied to the face due to be plastered and any edge to be glued.

Once the chamber has been built it is advisable to dust off and seal once again before plastering.

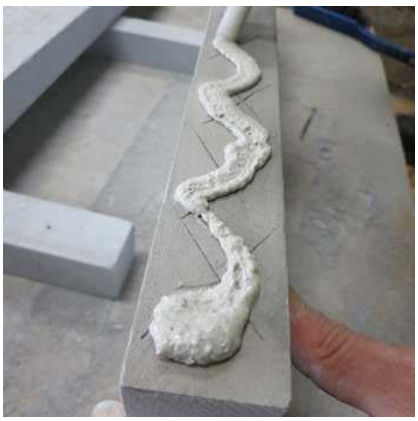
Plastering

Seal the surfaces to be plastered and fix standard corner beading to the corners.
Thermalux can be plastered using ordinary gypsum plaster but we recommend using a lime-based plaster, particularly around a freestanding stove, as it will withstand heat better. Surfaces can also be plastered using a heatproof plaster if they could be subject to higher temperatures.
Ensure that the plaster is left to properly dry before firing the stove - we recommend commissioning the stove before the Thermalux has been plastered.

Fixing Sheets Together

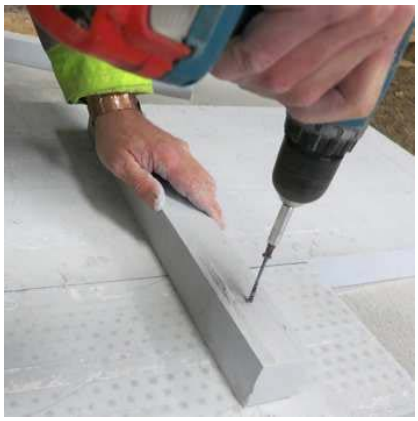
Thermalux kits come with 1200mm x 1200mm sheets so you will need to join two sheets to make up the sides of a chamber forming a new chimney breast. This is easily done. Thermalux glue comes ready mixed in a cartridge gun tube and can also be used to fill in small gaps and to finish joined edges.

- Cut 50mm x 50mm 'battens' of Thermalux from offcuts to use as strengthening pieces.
- Ensure each edge to be joined is flat and true.
- Score each of the edges and brush any dust off.
- Apply Sealant to each edge.
- Apply glue to one edge only and spread the glue evenly.


- Push the two edges together on a flat surface (can be done in situ too).
- Scrape any excess glue from the join and fill in any places where there is a visible gap. Apply a little more glue if needed for gap filling.
- Fix battens across the join to hold in place while the glue dries. You can now carefully move the joined pieces so that you can fix them in place.





Using Thermalux to install an inset stove

Refer to the stove manufacturer's instructions for calculating chamber dimensions. There usually needs to be an air gap around the stove to allow for airflow to carry the heat away.

Usually you need to ventilate the chamber with air vents at the bottom and the top to recover heat back to the room. You can incorporate the vent at the bottom into a lower log store and the vent(s) at the top can be built into the sides of the false chimney breast, or hidden behind uplighter shades.

Inset boiler stoves will need an access and inspection hatch to service electric and hydraulic components. This can be built into the side of the false chimney breast or incorporated into a shelving recess.

If you are installing against a wall then insulate the back wall with Thermalux using dot and dab or screw it to the wall if it is masonry.

Ceiling plate - when using twin wall insulated flue:
Precut the hole for the twin wall flue pipe. Make sure you make the hole is 4mm larger in diameter for expansion. When the flue goes through the hole seal that gap using a high temperature silicone sealant.

The Thermalux sheet covering the ceiling should be fixed to the side sheets to avoid the need to put screws up through it into the ceiling.

If you are using a twin wall flue that can be installed using solid ceiling supports (such as Selkirk STC) then fit the ceiling support as normal but with the lower plate below the thermalux (with the telescopic joist shield going up to the floor plate above)
If you are using a twin wall flue that requires ventilated ceiling supports then you need to have a 'false ceiling' above the stove, then a 250mm gap before the sheet fixed against the room ceiling. That space between the two sheets needs to be ventilated. The ventilated ceiling support can then be installed.

Bear in mind that metal fixings will transfer heat so, if fixing the Thermalux to a combustible wall or structure, then place screws where they will be covered over by another sheet of Thermalux, or use dot and dab or another form of suitable glue.

Mark up and cut holes for stove and vent frames by simply drilling a hole in each corner and using a pad saw. Make sure to leave a gap all round for expansion of the metal. Never try to force a frame into place: offer the frame up and if the hole is too small then make it larger using a pad saw or rasp.

Deliberately cutting the hole for the stove frame too small is an option which gives you a little leeway, allowing you to see the stove behind the sheet so that every cut is not just from measurements.

Thermalux 25 MM instructions

A QUICK AND EASY WAY TO REDUCE DISTANCES TO COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL

The distance from the stove to a combustible material can be halved by using 25mm Thermalux board.

- Easy to work: Worked just like plasterboard and can be cut with skill saw, jigsaw or hand saw.
- Light & easy: to move and assemble
- Plaster or face it: just like plasterboard
- Can be drilled and screwed

There should be sufficient room to accommodate a 12mm air gap between the Thermalux and the wall.

Working with Thermalux

When cutting Thermalux it is best to work outside as it creates dust - and wear a dust mask.

Screw Fixing

Use plasterboard screws or, if fixing to a masonry wall, 7.5mm star headed masonry screws. Use a cordless drill as normal and continue to drill the screw in to the sheet to countersink the head.
Use Thermalux glue to fill in screw holes.
There is no need to pre-drill Thermalux when fixing to walls.
Metal fixings transfer heat so if you are fixing Thermalux to a combustible material then plan to place any screws at the edge of the sheet, away from the hottest part of the stove, and cover the screw heads with another strip of Thermalux.

Sealing

Thermalux is very absorbent and so any surface that needs to be glued, plastered or dot and dabbed needs to be sealed first so use;
Thermalux Suction Control Primer, diluted 5:1. Application by roller is usually best but it can be brushed on. Coverage is approximately 35 ml (before dilution) per square metre (250 ml will do five 1200mm x 1200mm sheets). Once the primer has dried, the sheets can be plastered.

Plastering and Painting

Seal the surfaces to be plastered and fix standard corner beading to the corners. Use scrim on any joints.
Thermalux can be plastered using ordinary gypsum plaster but we recommend using a lime-based plaster, particularly around a freestanding stove, as it will withstand heat better. Surfaces can also be plastered using a heatproof plaster if they could be subject to higher temperatures. Ensure that the plaster is left to properly dry before firing the stove - we recommend commissioning the stove before the Thermalux has been plastered.