

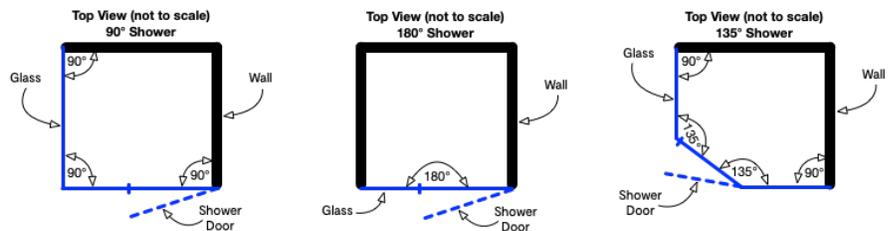
10 Things To Consider When Planning Your New Shower

How to Use This Guide

Discuss these topics with your builder or contractor when planning your bathroom build or renovation in order to make sure you get the most out of your new shower.

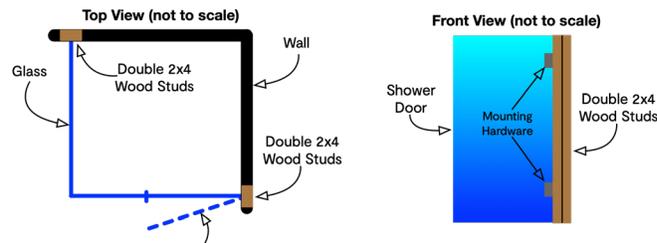
1 Angles to Use

Plan for your shower to be built using 90°, 135°, or 180° angles. Most shower hardware is designed to accommodate these angles, so planning ahead can help guarantee the enclosure will function correctly and remain cost-effective.



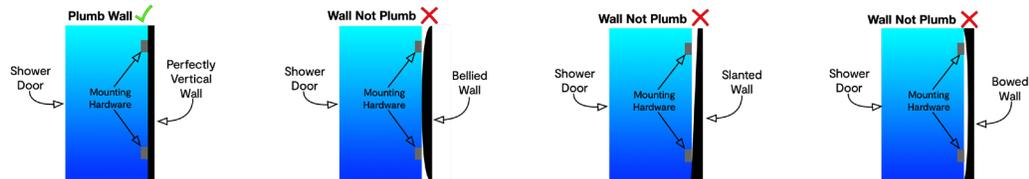
2 Shower Door Support

Make sure the wall where you plan to install your hinged door has the proper studding support behind it. Doubled 2x4s is best, but a single 2x4 will work. Additionally, provide wood studs or blocking where doors hinge or panels are anchored, especially if metal studs were using in the original construction of the wall.



3 Plumb Walls

In order to prevent gaps, uneven joints, and alignment issues, any wall that meets a door or glass panel must be precisely vertical (also called "plumb"). If the wall is more than 1/4" out of plumb, gaps can appear which may cause your shower to leak.



4 Width of Glass Panels

Each glass panel should be at least 4 1/2" wide, which is the minimum width for tempering glass and supporting the hardware. The door must be at least 22" wide but no more than 36" wide.

5 Glass Tiles

When designing your shower enclosure, avoid any plans that involve mounting door hinges and glass clips onto glass tiles. These situations often cause breakage, adding time and expense to your new enclosure.

6 Shower Head Position

Make sure to position your showerhead toward tiled walls or fixed panels in order to minimize leakage. Never place your showerhead opposite your shower's door or opening unless you have a low-flow showerhead or one that points straight down to the floor.

7 Shower Curb

Showers can be designed so they are flush with the floor or so that there is a curb that you step over to enter the shower. Eliminating the curb can be beneficial to planning a handicap-accessible shower enclosure, but the curb can help prevent water from leaking or pooling on the floor of your bathroom.



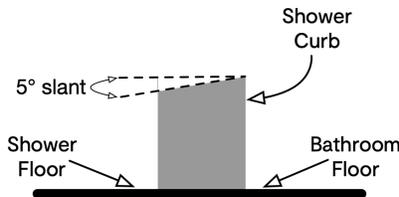
8 Curb Tops

Solid pieces of tile, marble, and granite are ideal for the curb top. Tiled curb tops increase the chance of leaking, and can lead to mildew or mold down the line. The shower door seal functions best on a solid, smooth surface.



9 Slope of Curb

Typically, curbs are sloped at a 5° slope to enable the water to flow toward the drain. Without this slope (sometimes referred to as the “pitch”) the curb would have standing water on top or could leak water onto the bathroom floor.



10 Slope of Shower Seat

If you are considering a built-in shower seat, make sure that the seat slants toward the drain at a 5° slope. This allows water to flow off of the seat and into the drain.

