

InterSource Specialties Co.

Surface Mount Panels Instructions

1. Product Overview

ISC Astrolite Surface Mount Panels are an out of the box, plug and play acoustic panel, with the fiberoptic star ceiling experience built right in.

Our Astrolite panels are designed for easy installation. Each star panel has its own low voltage Star Engine built right in and only requires a 12vDC power connection. Up to 100 star panels may be daisy chained together which makes wiring and installation a snap.

Each Star Panel system starts with a Driver (power supply) that is connected to a switched or controlled line voltage circuit. From the Driver, a Leader Cable carries the low voltage power to the Star Panels. Then Jumper Cables daisy chain the power from one panel to the next. For installations with more than 100 star panels, just keep adding additional Drivers and Leader Cables to the same switched circuit.

2. Design Overview

Plan your installation based on your design. These instructions are a general guideline and your installation requirements may vary based on your design and job site conditions.

Ideas for configuring a star ceiling



Star Field



Skylights



Coffered



Cloud

3. Before You Start

Make sure all code requirements are fulfilled. If your home theater project is going to require an electrical permit, you will be subject to the local electrical code requirements. Though it's not always easy to tell if your project requires a permit, it is best to consult with your local permitting authority.

Electrical codes generally follow the National Electric Code (NEC), which is published by the National Fire Protections Association. The main purpose of the NEC is to prevent hazards to human health and safety from electrical shock, tendency to start or perpetuate a fire and production of toxic fumes when exposed to fire.

ISC panels are made with "Class A" fiberglass and covered in a "Class A" fabric finish. Wiring harnesses are made from CL2 and CL3 or higher rated materials. If installing in a plenum, installer must supply CL2P, CL3P, or CMP, and always confirm and conform to local codes before install.

InterSource Specialties Co.

4. Quick Installation Overview

1. Put on Latex to keep Panels Clean
2. Orient First Panel
3. Install Leader Cable
4. Screw Rotofast Snap-On Anchors into Back of the Panels using Rotofast Driver Tool
5. Insert Marking Plugs into the Snap-On Anchors
6. Mark Mounting Locations
7. Screw Ratchets to Wall at Marked Locations
8. Turn on Power to Panel
9. Inspect to see that Stars Turn On
10. Reposition Panels
11. Firmly Push Panel onto Ratchets to Complete Mounting
12. Panel Installation Complete
13. Repeat steps 4-12 with Additional Panels after using Jumper Cable to attach to previous Panel

5. Measure Twice, Install Once

Square up the room. Just because it looks square, doesn't mean that it is square. Measure twice because all the panels are aligned off of the first panel. The first panel's alignment in the room is critical. Being a little out of square with the first panel could mean you are way out of square when you get to the end of the room, so take your time squaring up the first panel. Using masking tape, pencil marks, and chalk lines will also assist in keeping your installation square and true. Locate where your first panel will be installed.

6. Running the Power

Based on site conditions and project design, generally you will have two options for the power. The recommended way is using a Remote Driver and pre-installing an ISC Leader Cable, or pre-wire an 22 AWG wire. Another option is to order the optional "Cloud Mount" anchors, and hang the panels from the ceiling by chain (note that this will require at least 4 or more inches of total height and may not be an option for low ceilings.) This allows the installer to plug the Driver to a ceiling outlet and locate the Driver on top of the panel.

Remote Driver - Recommended Method

The plug-in Driver is a "table top" type of power supply, with an I.E.C. connector for the input of the line voltage. The selected outlet for powering the Driver should be controlled from a remote switch, or control system. Locate the Driver in a proper equipment area that is accessible and within 30 feet of the Leader Cable and start daisy chaining the panels together, (not to exceed 100 panels) using the supplied Jumper Cables. Your leader cable should not be longer than 30 feet. Consult with ISC if a longer leader cable is required

InterSource Specialties Co.

7. Mounting the First Panel – Roto-Fast Snap-On Anchors - Standard

See included Roto-Fast Snap On Anchor Install Guide with pictures for how to mount panels

Option 2 - Cloud Mount

For Cloud Anchor Installation, use the same process as above, however install the “eye hook” in the ceiling, and screw the cloud anchor into the back of the panel, hang with the desired chain length.

8. Panel Orientation

Each panel is marked with a no cut zone on one side that indicates the panel's orientation. The Black Fabric on the face is directional so you need to make sure the no cut zones are lined up either North/South or East/West – not a mix of the two

Ideally every panel can be the same or rotated 180 degrees in order to provide a more random starry night experience but with the fabric orientation consistent. If the fabric orientation isn't consistent you might notice some panels appear lighter black in color and appear not to match

9. Installing Additional Panels

Leave the plugs coming out of the star engine hanging off the side so you can connect the next panel. Connect a Jumper Cable to the installed panel and run it to the location of the next panel's star engine. Because of the flat design of the jumper cable, you can “sandwich” the Jumper Cables between the ceiling and panels, or run them along the 2” light cove on the side of all Surface Mount Panels. You may find that using white gaffers tape, glue dots, or double sided tape is helpful in organizing the Jumper Cables during Installation.

Up to 100 Star Panels can be connected together in a single power source. If your installation requires more than 100 Panels, then you would need to add an additional Driver and Leader Cable

10. Adding Optional Perimeter Lighting

Mount LED Lighting Strips on the sides of the panels light cove where you want the light to originate. Spanners are used to provide a bridge between panels for the Lighting. Spanners can be installed after the panels have been mounted.

11. Now turn on the switch and gaze at the Stars. Relax and Enjoy!