



**INNOVATIVE PLASTICS**  
INCORPORATED®

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**Mounting Finished Signs**

There are numerous methods used for mounting finished signs made from plastic laminates. Most popular are pre-made plastic and metal sign frames. Other methods for mounting include the use of hangers, t-bars, a-frames, signposts, suction cups, direct and through-hole mounting. Most pre-made sign frames are designed to be screw mounted to walls, doors, etc. or adhered with aggressive double-faced tape. Directories and other pre-fabricated designer sign frames are offered with several mounting capabilities.

This document focuses on general techniques and considerations for direct mounting by bolting to walls or other rigid surfaces.

When possible, signs should be installed in a channel frame for support and protection. The sign will be more presentable in many cases and the perimeter edge will be protected against damage or vandalism. The amount of play between the frame or channel and the sign must be sufficient to allow proper expansion and contraction without restraint. Thermoplastic sheet requires for expansion approximately 1/64" (.396 mm) for every 3" (7.62 cm) of linear sheet. Bolting can be used when the fasteners are installed in a way to allow for thermal expansion and contraction. Below is a chart of through hole and bolt sizes that should allow for expansion and contraction of the plastic sheet. The bolts should be installed to allow the plastic sheet to move behind the bolt heads. A decorative bolt head or washer may be used.

**Standard Measurements**

Length of sheet - inches	Screw size - inches		
	5/32	3/16	1/4
	#8	#10	1/4
6	3/16	7/32	9/32
12	7/32	1/4	5/16
18	1/4	9/32	11/32
24	9/32	5/16	3/8
30	5/16	11/32	13/32
36	11/32	3/8	7/16
42	3/8	13/32	15/32
48	13/32	7/16	1/2
Clearance hole			

The above table is good for a maximum temperature change of 60° F

**Metric Measurements**

Length of sheet - cm	Screw size - mm		
	3.96	4.78	6.35
	#8	#10	1/4
15.2	3.96	7/32	7.11
30.54	5.56	6.35	7.95
45.7	6.35	7.11	8.74
61.0	7.11	7.95	9.53
76.2	7.95	8.74	10.31
91.4	8.74	9.53	11.13
106.7	9.53	10.31	11.91
121.9	10.31	11.13	12.7
Clearance hole			

The above table is good for a maximum temperature change of 16° C

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*Note: The above information is given in good faith, but no warranty, express or implied, is given*