Slat Wall Cut & Layout Sheet

Calculate your exact slat count and space strips perfectly.

Build a stunning floor-to-ceiling accent wall this weekend. Use this guide to finalize your layout and materials.



Key Measurements

1/4 inch
Expansion gap at floor and ceiling

2 inches
Brad nail length for secure hold

18 inches
Distance between alternating angled nails

4 inches
Length of your custom spacer block

Every 4th or 5th
Board to check for vertical plumb

3 extra
Boards to add to calculated count

Wipe Away Glue Immediately

Keep a damp rag in your pocket to wipe up any construction adhesive squeeze-out. Dried glue is stubborn and ruins clean shadow lines.

Installation Sequence

1. **Dark wall, then slats** Paint the backing first to create a deep shadow line and hide minor drywall imperfections.
2. **Pre-stain on sawhorses** Stain outside to prevent fumes and wet drips on your freshly painted indoor backing wall.
3. **Start at center slat** Draw a central axis and anchor the first piece perfectly plumb to ensure flawless symmetry.
4. **3/4" gap, scrap spacer** Wedge your sideways scrap block between boards as you nail to keep gaps perfectly parallel.
5. **Box extender at outlet** Turn off the breaker and add plastic extenders so cover plates sit flat on wood.

Slat Count Calculation

Find your row: **Your chosen gap size**

Your chosen gap size	Your pick	Why
Half-inch gap	Divide wall inches by 2.0	Accounts for 1.5-inch slat width
Three-quarter gap	Divide wall inches by 2.25	Matches standard sideways scrap block
One-inch gap	Divide wall inches by 2.5	Creates a wider, airier spacing

Pre-Installation Checks

- ○ Measure total wall width in inches to determine your exact strip count.
- ○ Sweep a stud finder and mark every wooden stud with painter's tape.
- ○ Test nail gun pressure on scrap so heads sink slightly below surface.
- ○ Measure remaining gaps at corners top to bottom for unlevel framing.
- ○ Verify power is completely dead with a voltage tester before modifying boxes.

Weekend Shopping List

- ☐ 1x2 straight pine strips
- ☐ Heavy-duty construction adhesive
- ☐ Galvanized brad nails
- ☐ Plastic outlet box extenders
- ☐ Color-matched wood putty
- ☐ Matte polyurethane clear coat
- ☐ Medium-grit sanding block

Project Notes & Measurements

Enjoy your beautiful new accent wall—you earned every bit of that custom look!