

# Tips for Aligning Photo Mural Panels To Your Pop-Up Trade Show Stand

Your photo mural panels are produced using only top-of-class digital imaging and high-pressure bonding processes. Also, your panels are hand-cut by expert technicians using a high-precision dedicated 3-meter cutting system designed specifically to yield the highest panel alignment accuracy possible.

So as with any product involving quality craftsmanship and high precision, your Photo Mural Panels and hardware need to be shipped, handled, installed and aligned with care, to facilitate optimal alignment.

Here are some tips to help you align/fit your new Photo Mural Panels properly to your stand:

- Place stand and panels in the setup area 24 hours prior to setup, and lay the graphics panels on a flat surface (stacked is okay).
- Use 2 adults for setup, plus a stool (unless one adult is tall enough to comfortably reach top of stand).
- Set stand on hard flat surface, such as concrete floor or industrial carpet. Uneven or soft surfaces will cause the stand to twist, and the panels may not hang straight. If the exhibit surface has carpet with padding under it or other soft surface, then first place a sheet of 1/4" or thicker acrylic, plywood, etc. under the stand base. (The soft surface issue can sometimes also be overcome just by an extra dose of fussing with the panel alignments and stand-tweaking.)
- If the stand has locks, be sure to set all of them. Also check the stand for loose pivots or bent rods, which can aggravate misalignment.
- Before beginning to hang the panels, rock/shake the stand a bit to ensure the feet are not catching or offset from their intended position, and pull outward and downward on several points of the stand. The stand should be completely free-standing, not touching a wall or ceiling, and no articles touching or leaning on stand. The goal is to ensure that the stand is fully settled into its intended geometry, and eliminate any environmental tension.
- Hang panels starting with the front panels. Start with the far left front panel and work to the right, then place end caps. (Occasionally, better success is achieved when starting from right to left, but always with front panels first.)

## Setup



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End caps require two or more people applying pressure on as many points of the magnet during installation as possible, to facilitate retention. The end cap material is designed to be tensile enough to hold a smooth, curved shape when fully mounted, yet this tension requires the combined strength of the full lengths of both magnet strips to keep end caps from disengaging from the magnets – so ensure that each magnet strip makes full contact from top to bottom.

As you hang the panels, if necessary, experiment with one or more of the following “tweaks” to aid in optimal alignment and tension of individual panels:

- Reposition either the left or right magnet strip slightly upward or downward.
- Don’t force the notches in the top hanging strips to fully seat onto the metal pins – the notches are designed for adjustable positioning.
- Grab the stand near the top and “torque” (skew) it to the left or right slightly – this can help vertically align two neighboring panels, but be aware that it may offset other aligned panels;
- Apply downward and outward (or upward and inward) pressure on the frame members – this can help adjust horizontal, vertical or angular tension;
- Adjust the lateral, end-to-end curvature of the stand slightly inward (forward) or outward (towards the rear)– this can help increase or decrease space between panels.
- Have one person put slight forward pressure on one upper corner of stand, while another pushes backward on the opposite upper corner – this can help compensate for a stand that is slightly out of alignment.
- Place a higher priority on alignment of artwork, than on alignment of panels or top/bottom hardware. Your exhibit visitors will analyze your content over its infrastructure.

When taking your stand down, don’t let the stand collapse under gravity. Instead, hold onto the stand and collapse it slowly, to eliminate stress on the pivots and rods, which can damage the stand’s original alignment.

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