

## ARCIS Rainscreen FAQs

### What are typical vertical joint widths?

Depending on the bracketing, some systems have a screw through the vertical joints. In those cases, we usually go with a 5/8" vertical joint.

### How can story drift affect joint size?

Depending on the application, story drift at corners and windows can affect joint size. Especially at tall curtain wall intersections, it is important to look at the drift locations of the window system and how they align with the jointing of the panels, otherwise you can end up with some very large joints to accommodate drift. For instance, it is often good to have joints align with tops and bottoms of windows

### How are horizontal joints sized?

Live load deflection can sometimes translate into the horizontal panel joints depending on the structural system and joint locations. This can also affect bracket geometry if a panel is passing by a floor plate (deflection point). Horizontal joints need to be sized larger if an individual panel is to be able to remove without effecting panels above.

### Can returns be incorporated in ARCIS Rainscreens?

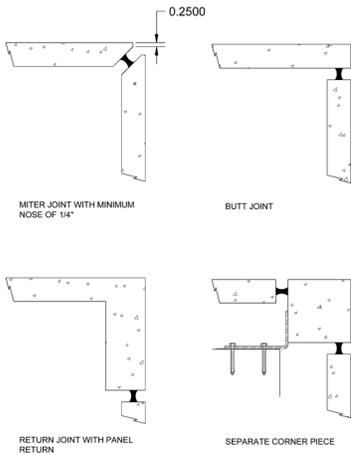
Yes. Depending on size and design, ARCIS panels can facilitate returns. Typical return depth is 6" and is prestressed. Sizes up to 8" have been done. Sizes down to 4" have been done without prestressing in the return; anything larger than 4" requires the addition of tendons in the return (one direction). Larger returns can be accomplished if a stainless steel bent welded wire mesh is used. A sample should be made and tested before making larger returns. Returns require bracketing systems that have "in-plane" connections at the top and bottom of the panel since you cannot access a tab in the joint.

### What colors are available?

Virtually any pigment or surface treatment that can be selected for conventional precast is available with ARCIS panels—including Graphic Concrete for patterns and images. Check with your ARCIS precaster for aesthetic options.

### Do ARCIS panels bow?

It's a fact: all precast panels bow to some extent. With the proper design, engineering, fabrication and storage, any bowing can be minimized and have a negligible effect on performance and aesthetics.



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