Hide-A-Hose

Retractable Hose Management System

Installation Guide

H-P

H-P Products

Central Vacuums

This installation guide assumes that the installer has a working knowledge and experience installing traditional Central Vacuum Systems.

It is critical that only parts supplied from Hide-A-Hose to H-P Products be used in the installation. Parts include screws, seals, washers, hoses, and special Hide-A-Hose elbows (90°, 45° and 22.5°). Failure to use these parts will void any warranty offered by the manufacturer.

Valves can only be used with a ¾″ maximum wall thickness (without wall modification).

Installers are responsible for following all local building codes.

Installation Guide Contents

Planning the Installation

Planning is the key to the successful installation of a central vacuum system. A balance between the best locations for the inlet valves and the practicality of installing in these locations must be obtained. With a little ingenuity, most locations can be reached.

Hose Lengths

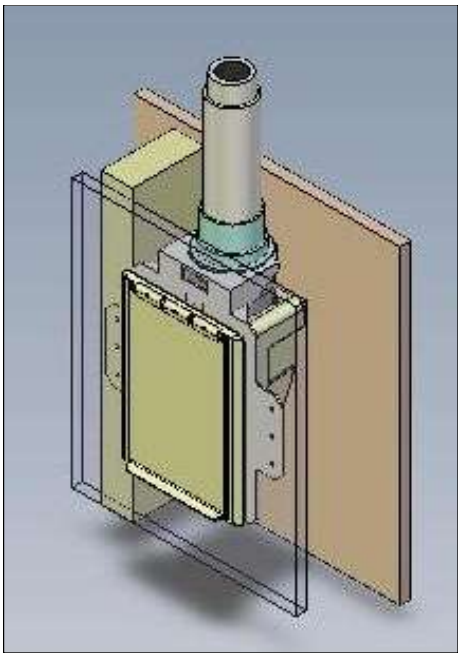
Let the customer know that you will custom size the hose to fit each floor. Hose kits come in 30′, 40′, or 50′ lengths.

Power Unit Selection

It is important to keep in mind that airflow is reduced with longer hoses. To compensate for the loss of airflow a larger power unit is required.

Valve Locations

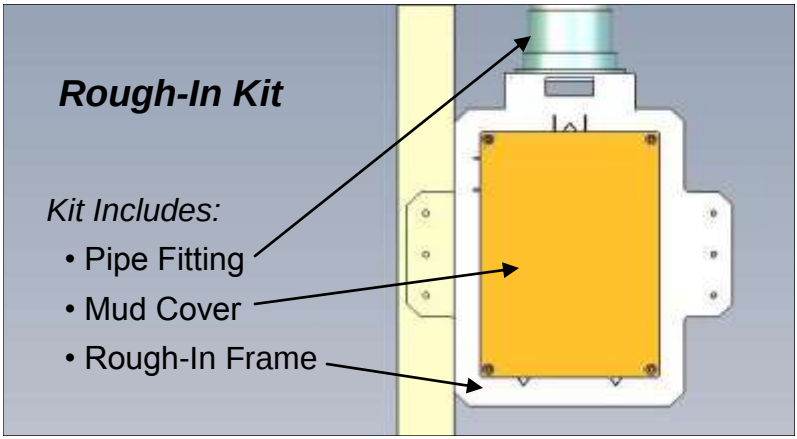
A 50’ hose will usually cover between 1800-2300 sq. ft. Placement of the inlets should, if possible, be located in a hallway or in other areas that do not have high visibility.



Plan Pipe Runs

Carefully read the section in this guide on pipe runs. There are four diagrams of typical pipe runs for your reference.

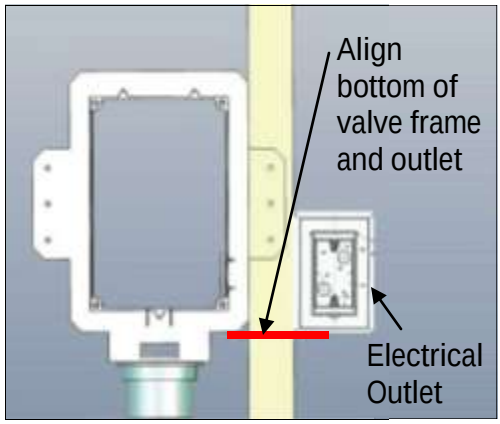
Rough-In



Determining Valve Height

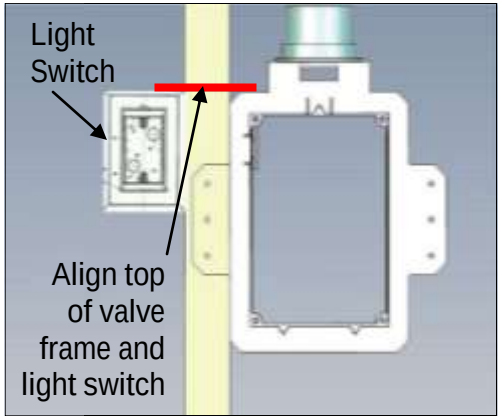
DOWN ORIENTATION ▶

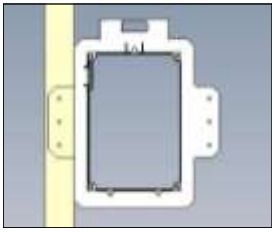
In a **down orientation** (tubing is being run in the crawl space), align the bottom of the valve with the height of the electrical plug outlets. Mounting the valve higher in a down orientation creates a more difficult angle for the hose to retract.



UP ORIENTATION ▶

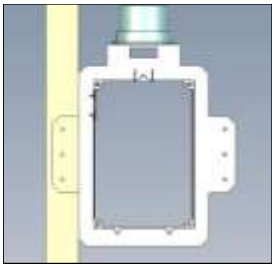
In an **up orientation** (hose exiting the valve towards the ceiling) most people find it more convenient with the valve mounted the height of the light switch outlets.



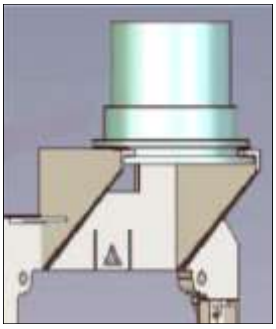


New Construction Rough-In

◄ **Attach the frame to the stud.**
Be sure the frame is level – there is no real adjustment once the valve is installed.

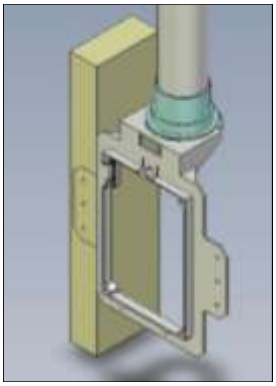


◄ **Insert the pipe fitting.**



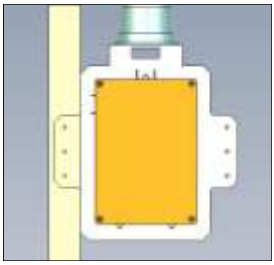
◄ **Slide pipe fitting into the frame.**
The pipe fitting is designed to slide into the frame to adjust for variations in wall board thickness.

NOTE: Valves can be used with a ¾″ maximum wall thickness (without wall modification).



◄ **Install the pipe into the fitting**.
Glue the pipe into the fitting, making sure it seats all the way to the ridge of the pipe fitting.

Low-Voltage Wire
Run low-voltage wire to each inlet just as you would with a standard central vacuum install. Secure low-voltage wire to pipe at base of fitting. Allow 12″ of slack wire and tuck back into pipe.



◄ **Install the mud cover.**

Installing Pipe Runs

Design pipe runs so the hose is stored on the same plane (refer to photograph on next page).

Unlike a traditional install, do not join pipe runs until you have enough pipe length to hold the hose. For example, if using a 40′ hose install at least 42′ of pipe before connecting to another pipe run.

In order to ensure enough pipe to store the hose, the pipe runs will sometimes need to begin running away from the power unit, then make a loop and head back to the power unit.

Always glue the pipe, not the fittings, to prevent excess glue residue.

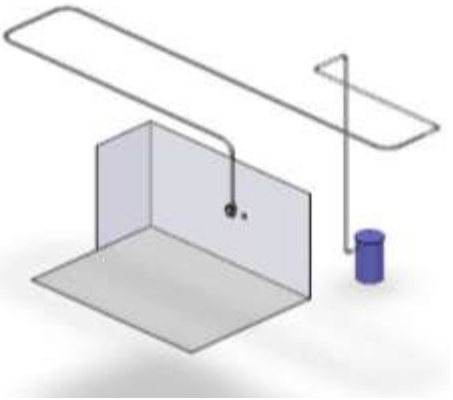
Any burr or excess glue residue can snag and damage the hose sock as it travels through the tubing. To prevent this, be sure to always glue the pipe and not the fittings. Make sure to remove all burrs from pipe ends and carefully inspect the pipe to make sure it is undamaged and the inside is smooth.

Use a deburring tool (or other tool) to remove all burrs from pipes.

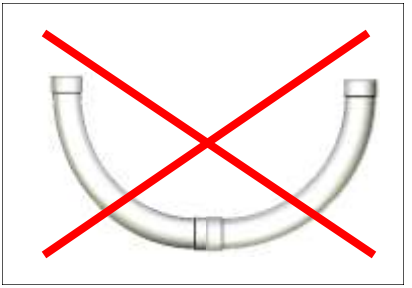
Only special Hide-A-Hose elbows (90°, 45° & 22.5°) can be used in the section of pipe that stores the hose.

Connecting a 90° elbow to a 22.5° elbow is often needed to get around an obstacle.

The more 90° elbows used, the more force needed to pull the hose out of the wall. Try **NOT** to use more than four 90° elbows for each valve and space them out as much as possible.



◄ ▲ It is important to design the pipe runs so the hose is stored on the same plane.



◄ Try to avoid back to back 90° elbows if at all possible.

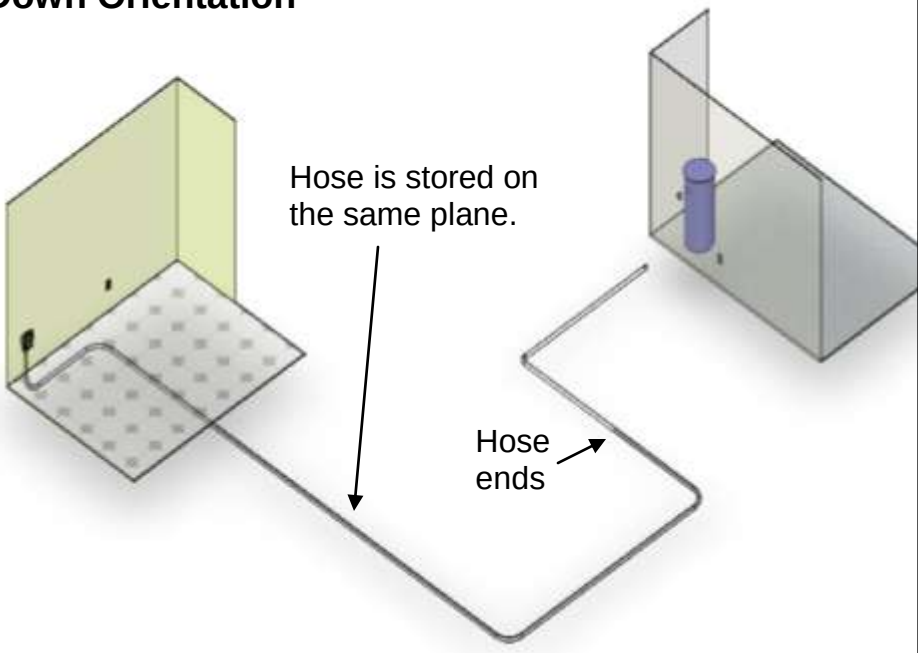
Testing the System

It is a good idea to test the system by retracting a hose before the walls are sheetrocked.

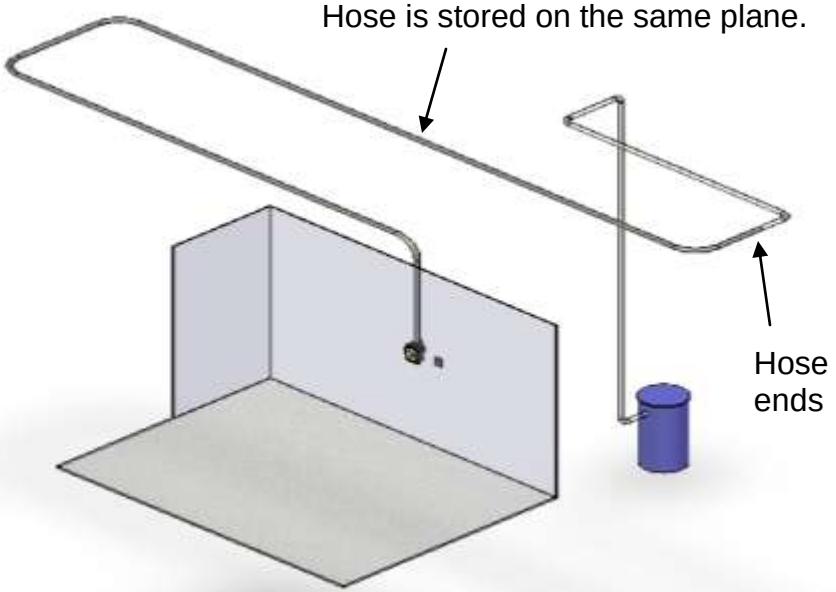
Since the doors are needed to seal the system a handball can be placed over each valve opening that is not being tested to seal the system. In an up orientation you will need to tape the handball in place.

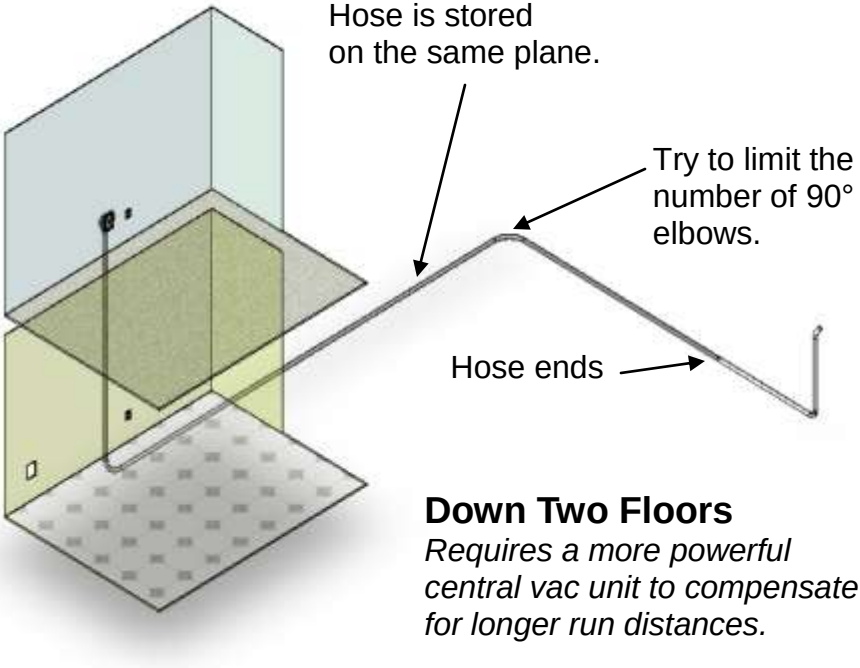
Check the system for sealed vacuum. Sealed vacuum at the valve should not vary more than three to five inches from the sealed vacuum at the power unit.

Down Orientation



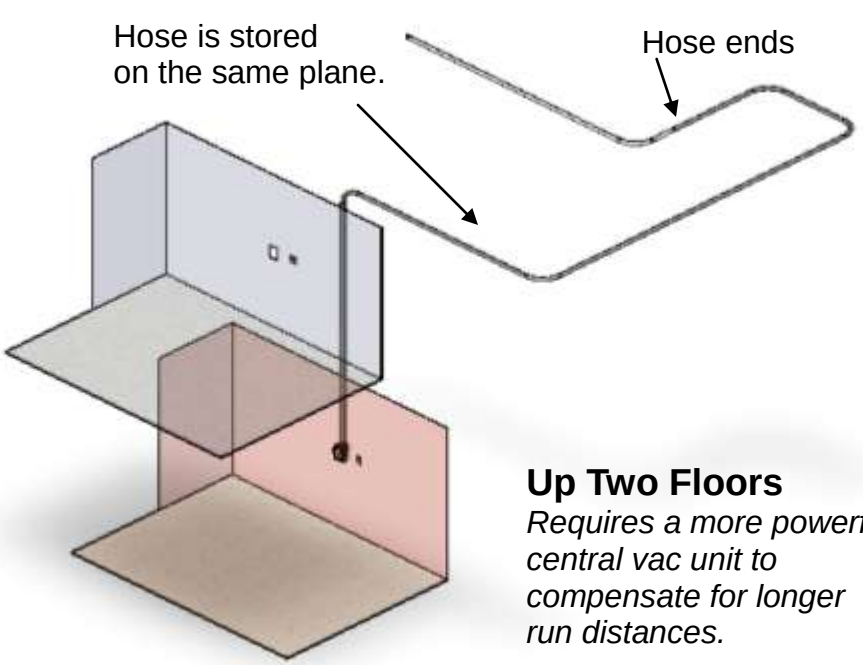
Up Orientation





Down Two Floors

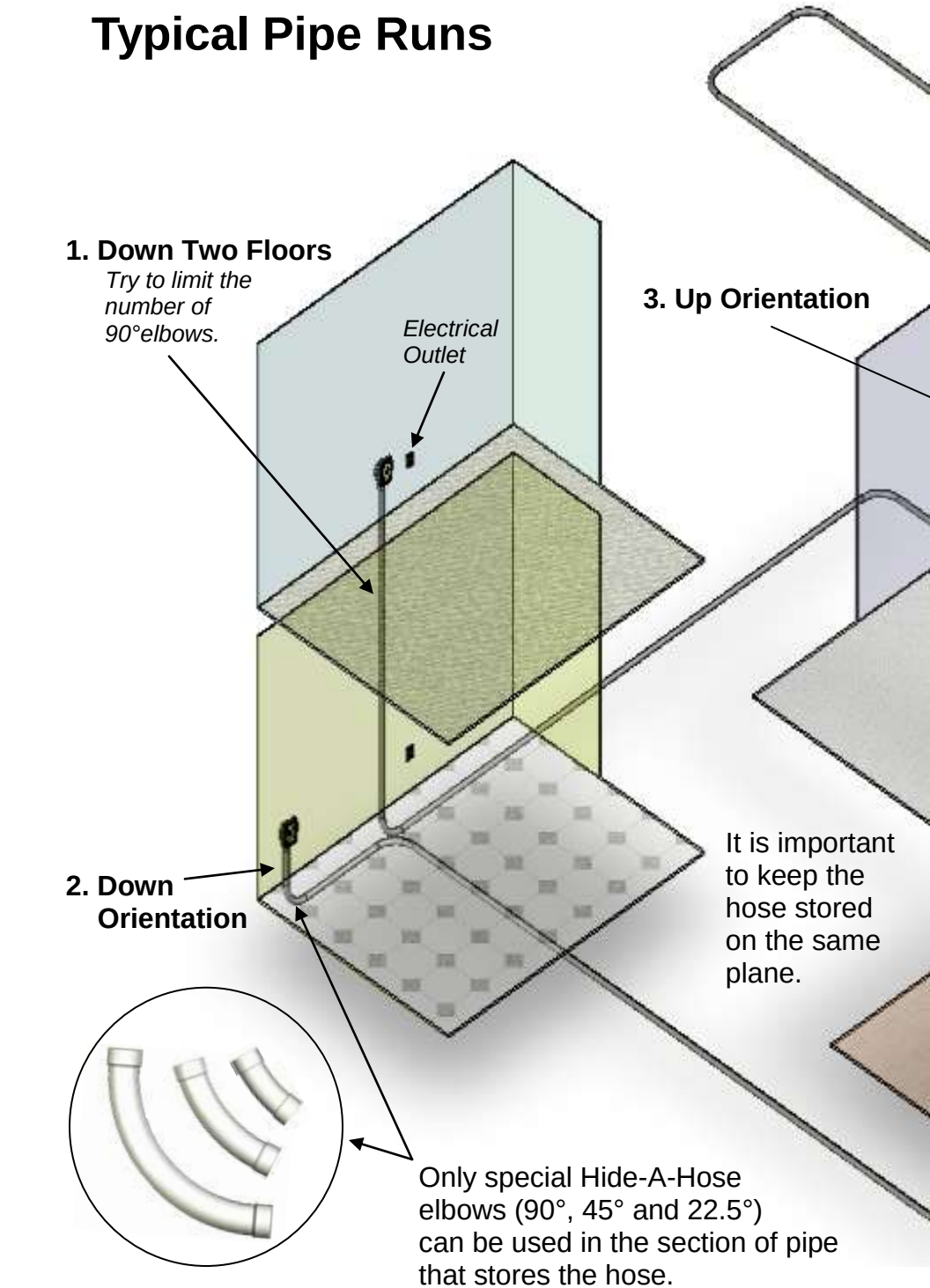
Requires a more powerful central vac unit to compensate for longer run distances.



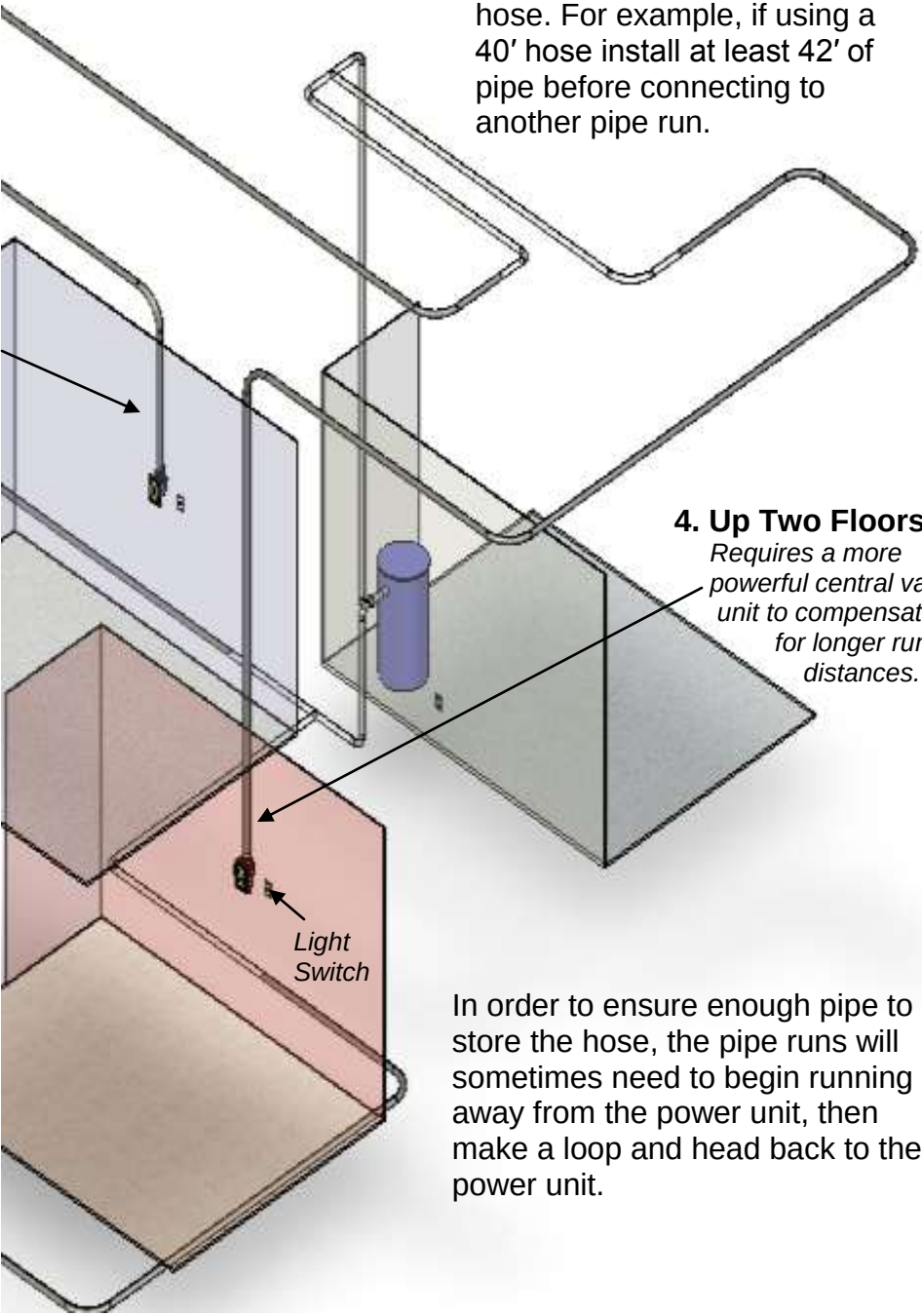
Up Two Floors

Requires a more powerful central vac unit to compensate for longer run distances.

Typical Pipe Runs



Unlike a traditional install, do not join pipe runs until you have enough pipe length to hold the hose. For example, if using a 40′ hose install at least 42′ of pipe before connecting to another pipe run.



4. Up Two Floors

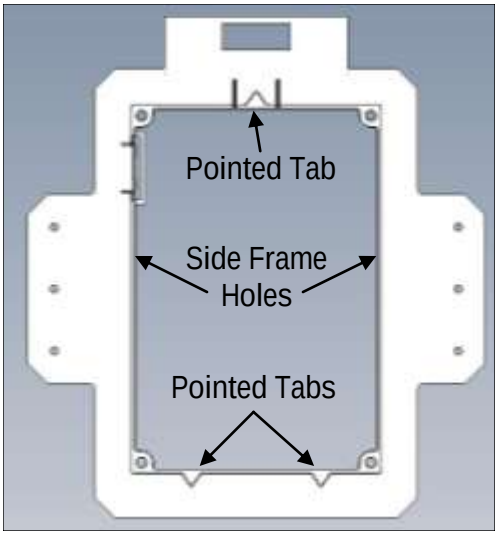
Requires a more powerful central vac unit to compensate for longer run distances.

In order to ensure enough pipe to store the hose, the pipe runs will sometimes need to begin running away from the power unit, then make a loop and head back to the power unit.

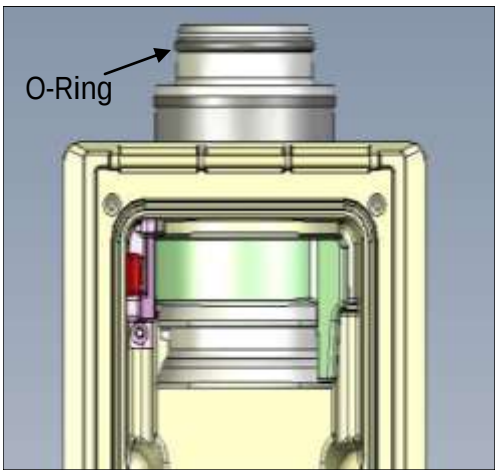
Trim

The pointed tabs are used to secure the frame to the sheetrock while you install the valve. With new construction, it is likely that these tabs were cut off by the sheetrock installers.

It may be helpful to push small finish nails horizontally into the sheet rock through the holes in the side of the frame.

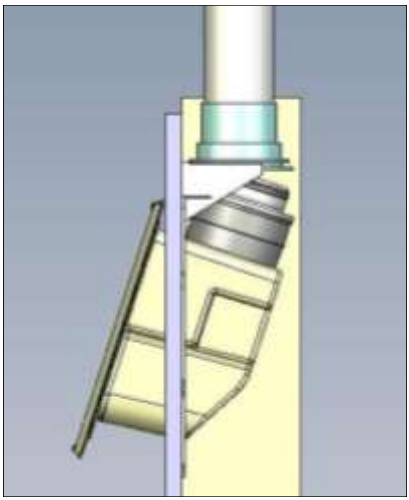


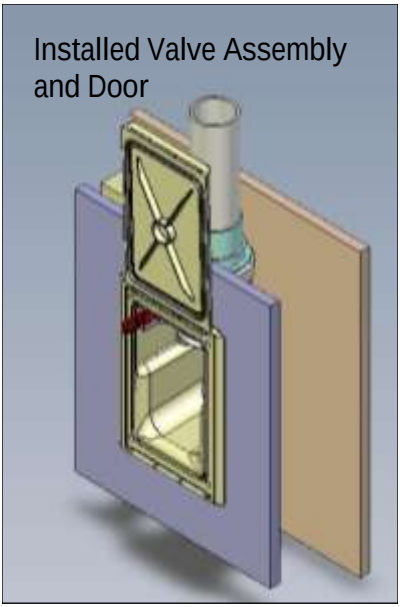
Apply a silicone based lubricant to the O-ring.



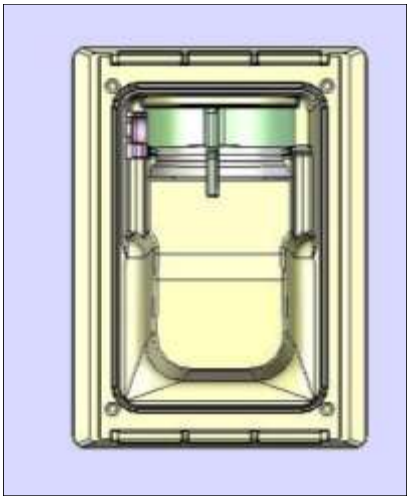
Low-Voltage Wire

Using wire nuts, connect the two leads from the switch that is mounted on the outside of the valve to the low-voltage wire.





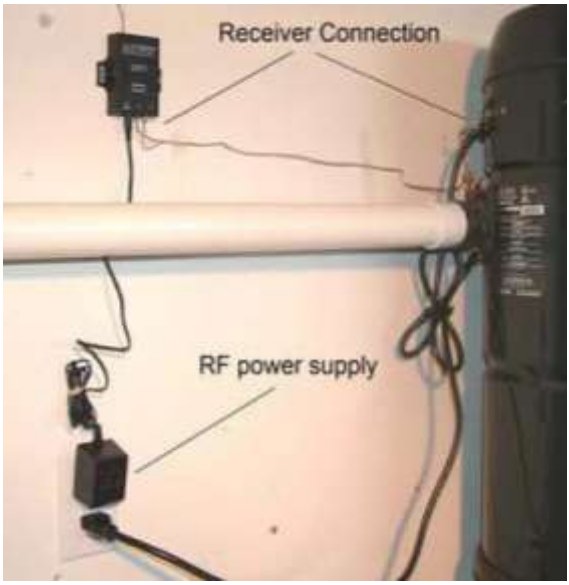
◄ **Insert the valve assembly into the rough-in frame.**



◄ **Secure valve to frame** by aligning the four holes in the valve assembly with the holes in the frame. Secure with the four screws included with the trim kit.

Install the door ► by lining up the door and valve hinge, then press it into place.

Connecting the Optional Handle Remote Control



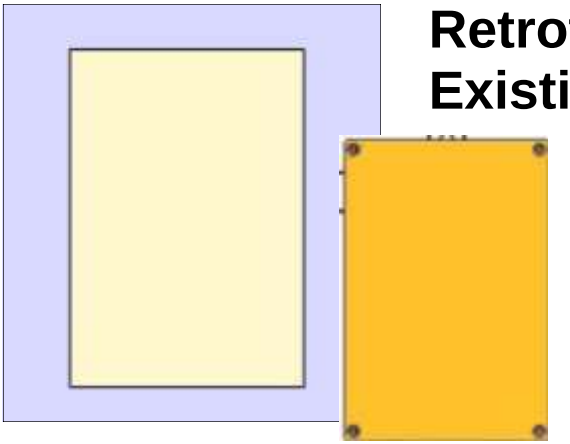
Connect the low-voltage wire from the receiver to the power unit. Then connect the power supply to the receiver and plug the power supply into the 120V receptacle. **Make sure the receiver is at least 6′ away from the power unit.**

NOTE: When locating a radio-frequency (RF) receiver by a central vac power unit that operates on 240V, please request an additional 120V receptacle for the RF receiver – it does not need to be a dedicated circuit.

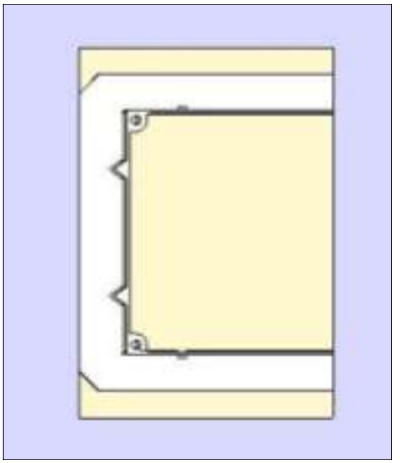
On larger homes, it is a good idea to run a low-voltage wire from the power unit to a central location in the house for the receiver to be mounted. The low-voltage head-in is a good location for this alternative.

On homes larger than 3,000 sq. ft., consider using one or more RF repeaters. You must plan on them having a 120V receptacle for power and tying it into the low-voltage wire parallel anywhere in the system.

Retrofitting an Existing Home

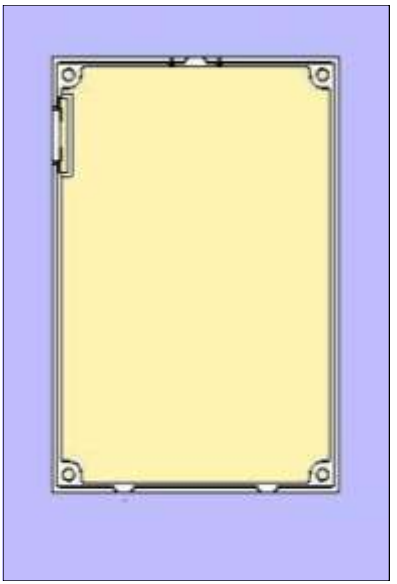


◀ **Use the mud cover** as a template to cut the hole.



◀ **Insert the rough-In frame** sideways, then turn it back upright behind the wall.

Depending on how close you are to a stud, you may need to score and cut off one or both of the mounting tabs.



◀ Push the bottom two pointed tabs into the sheet rock. The top pointed tab can be bent down as you pull the top of the frame into the hole. The tabs will help hold the frame into place while you install the valve. You may need to push a couple of small finish nails horizontally into the holes located on the side of the frame.

Then, follow the same instructions for *Installing the Pipe Runs, Trim and Connecting the Remote Control Handle* found on previous pages.

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