

Section 09 9313 — Preserved Moss Wall Systems

CSI Division 09 — Finishes | Guide Specification

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Specifier note: This is a guide specification. Text shown in [BRACKETS] indicates selections or project-specific values to be confirmed by the specifier. Recommended defaults are noted. Verify all bracketed selections against current product data and project conditions before issuing.

PART 1 — GENERAL

1.1 SUMMARY

A. Section includes interior preserved moss wall systems, factory-fabricated as modular panels and field-installed as a permanent architectural finish, including the following system types:

- Structured Wall: Controlled composition with defined geometry and stabilized botanical material.
- Hybrid Wall: Structured composition combined with organic botanical texture.
- Wild Wall: Organic, layered botanical composition with natural variation.

B. Scope of This Section: Work of this Section is limited to the preserved moss wall system, including preserved botanical materials, acoustic felt layer, structural backing panel, fabricated non-electrical branding or lettering elements, and concealed mounting. Electrical work, illuminated elements, and any integrated lighting are not included in this Section and are provided under Division 26 by others.

C. Related Requirements:

- Section 06 1000 – Rough Carpentry: Wood blocking and backing for support of moss wall systems.
- Section 09 2900 – Gypsum Board: Substrate wall construction to receive moss wall systems.
- Division 26 – Electrical: Electrical rough-in, connection, and integrated or illuminated elements, by others.

1.2 REFERENCES

A. ASTM International:

- ASTM E84 – Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials.
- ASTM C423 – Standard Test Method for Sound Absorption and Sound Absorption Coefficients by the Reverberation Room Method.

B. European Committee for Standardization:

- EN 13501-1 / UNE-EN 13501-1:2019 – Fire Classification of Construction Products and Building Elements.

C. Underwriters Laboratories:

- UL 723 – Standard for Test for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials.

1.3 SUBMITTALS

A. Product Data: Fabricator's product data sheet for the moss wall system, including material descriptions, preservation method, panel modules, system weights by type, fabrication lead time, and maintenance requirements.

B. Shop Drawings: Panel layout, dimensions, joint locations, mounting system, coordination with electrical work by others, and relationship to adjacent construction. Submit minimum 6 weeks prior to required installation date.

C. Samples: Representative samples of each moss type and finish specified, minimum 12 inch by 12 inch, for Architect's review and approval.

D. Fire-Test-Response Documentation: Available component test documentation for the specific materials used on the project:

- Acoustic felt layer (PET): MergeWorks EchoScape ASTM E84 Class A test report (April 2023). FSI: 0–25; SDI: 0–450.
- Structural backing: FRT plywood, UL Classified, ASTM E84 / UL 723 Class A. FSI \leq 25 under extended 30-minute test. UL Classification documentation and treatment certification available from manufacturer.
- Fire-rated preserved moss: Verdissimo EN 13501-1 B-s1,d0 classification documentation (APPLUS-tested). Available upon request from Austin Moss Creations.
- Full-assembly ASTM E84 report: May be commissioned where required by the project or Authority Having Jurisdiction.

E. Acoustic Performance Data: NRC data for the PET acoustic felt layer (NRC 0.85 at 3/8 in.; NRC 0.90 at 3/4 in., per ASTM C423). These values apply to the PET felt layer and are not represented as whole-system moss wall acoustic values.

F. Maintenance Data: Fabricator's care and maintenance guide for inclusion in operation and maintenance manuals.

G. Warranty: Fabricator's 5-year warranty documentation.

1.4 QUALITY ASSURANCE

A. Fabricator Qualifications: Firm specializing in the design, fabrication, and installation of preserved moss wall systems with not less than 4 years of documented commercial installation experience.

B. Installer Qualifications: Fabricator's own installation personnel or an installer trained and approved by the fabricator.

C. Single-Source Responsibility: Provide the preserved moss wall system through a single responsible fabricator who assumes responsibility for fabrication and installation. Component materials are sourced from their respective manufacturers and documented per project.

D. Mockup: [Where required by the Architect,] provide a representative panel mockup for review of composition, color, texture, and workmanship prior to fabrication. Approved mockup may remain as part of the Work.

1.5 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

A. Deliver materials in original, protective packaging.

B. Store indoors in a clean, dry, climate-controlled environment, protected from direct sunlight, moisture, and physical damage, until installation.

C. Handle panels to prevent crushing, compression, or distortion of botanical material.

1.6 FIELD CONDITIONS

A. Environmental Limitations: Do not begin installation until the space is enclosed, weatherproof, and wet work is complete and dry. Maintain the following conditions during and after installation:

- Temperature: 60°F to 80°F.
- Relative Humidity: 30% to 60%.

B. Substrate: Do not begin installation until the substrate has been inspected and accepted. See Section 3.1.

C. Preserved moss systems are for interior application only. Not for exterior, direct water contact, or sustained direct sunlight.

1.7 WARRANTY

A. Fabricator's Standard Warranty: Austin Moss Creations warrants that preserved moss wall systems will be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of **5 years** from the date of Substantial Completion, under normal interior use within the specified environmental conditions (60–80°F; 30–60% RH).

B. Warranty Exclusions: Damage resulting from direct sunlight exposure, moisture or water contact, physical abuse, chemical exposure, or environmental conditions outside the specified ranges is excluded. Adherence to the fabricator's Maintenance & Care Guide is a condition of warranty validity.

C. Remedy: Fabricator will repair or replace, at fabricator's discretion, components that fail within the warranty period due to covered defects.

PART 2 — PRODUCTS

2.1 BASIS OF DESIGN / FABRICATOR

A. Basis-of-Design Fabricator and Installer: Austin Moss Creations LLC, 2305 Donley Drive, Suite 100, Austin, TX 78758. Telephone 737.373.2803. Website austinmosscreations.com.

B. Substitutions: [No substitutions permitted.] [Substitutions permitted in accordance with Section 01 2500 – Substitution Procedures, with demonstration of equivalent fire-test documentation, acoustic performance, material data, and documented commercial installation experience.] Recommended default: No substitutions permitted.

2.2 SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

A. Preserved Moss Wall System: Factory-fabricated modular panel system consisting of stabilized (preserved) botanical material applied to a rigid backing panel, designed for concealed mechanical attachment to interior wall construction.

B. Standard Panel Modules:

- 24 inch x 24 inch: Accent module for feature walls, column wraps, and accent applications.
- 24 inch x 48 inch: Standard module for mid-scale commercial applications.
- 48 inch x 96 inch: Large-format module for installations 200 sf and larger. Reduces seams; improves visual continuity.
- Custom sizes available for program rollouts and non-standard conditions. Confirm with fabricator during coordination.

C. Performance Requirements:

- Surface Burning: Component materials with fire-test documentation as specified in Section 1.3.D. Assembly testing may be commissioned where required by the Authority Having Jurisdiction.
- Acoustic Performance: Where PET acoustic felt layer is provided, NRC 0.85 at 3/8 inch and 0.90 at 3/4 inch (ASTM C423). Values apply to the PET felt layer only.
- Dead Load: Structured Wall approximately 6–8 lbs/sf; Hybrid Wall approximately 7–9 lbs/sf; Wild Wall approximately 9–12 lbs/sf. Final system weight confirmed at submittal for structural coordination.
- Maintenance: No irrigation, no artificial lighting, no horticultural maintenance required.

2.3 MATERIALS

A. Preserved Botanical Materials: Real moss and botanical material, stabilized through a preservation process that replaces natural moisture with a stabilizing solution. Non-living; no irrigation required.

- [Flat moss] [Pole moss] [Mood moss] [Pillow moss] [Reindeer moss] as indicated on Drawings or as selected by Architect.
- Color: [Natural] [As selected by Architect from fabricator's standard range].
- Fire-rated lines: Where fire-rated preserved moss is specified or required, provide preserved moss with EN 13501-1 B-s1,d0 classification (Verdissimo, APPLUS-tested). Documentation available upon request.

B. Acoustic Felt Layer: Polyester (PET) acoustic panel material. ASTM E84 Class A (MergeWorks EchoScape, April 2023). FSI: 0–25; SDI: 0–450. NRC 0.85 at 3/8 inch; 0.90 at 3/4 inch (ASTM C423). Provide where sound absorption is scheduled.

C. Structural Backing Panel: Fire-retardant-treated (FRT) plywood, UL Classified, ASTM E84 / UL 723 Class A. FSI \leq 25 under extended 30-minute test.

D. Adhesives: Fabricator's standard adhesives compatible with preserved botanical material and backing panel.

E. Integrated Elements: Logos, lettering, and dimensional elements as indicated on Drawings, fabricated and integrated by the fabricator. Illuminated or electrical elements are not included in this Section.

2.4 MOUNTING SYSTEM

A. Concealed Mounting: Fabricator's concealed mechanical mounting system utilizing interlocking Z-clip (French cleat) attachment, designed for secure, level installation and concealed fastening to interior wall construction.

B. Fasteners: Corrosion-resistant fasteners appropriate for the substrate, as selected by the fabricator.

2.5 FABRICATION

A. Factory Fabrication: Fabricate moss wall panels in the fabricator's facility under controlled conditions to the dimensions and composition indicated on approved shop drawings.

B. Modular Panelization: Fabricate large installations as modular panels sized for transport, handling, and concealed field assembly with a continuous, seamless appearance across panel joints.

C. Quality Control: Inspect each panel for material consistency, coverage, color uniformity, and dimensional accuracy prior to shipment.

PART 3 — EXECUTION

3.1 EXAMINATION

A. Examine substrates and conditions, with installer present, for compliance with requirements for installation tolerances, blocking, backing, and other conditions affecting performance of the Work.

B. Substrate Tolerances: Substrate shall be plumb and level within $\pm 1/8$ inch in 8 feet, or $\pm 3/16$ inch in 10 feet. Conditions outside tolerance must be corrected prior to installation.

C. Verify environmental conditions are within the specified limits before proceeding.

D. Commencement of installation constitutes acceptance of substrate and conditions.

3.2 PREPARATION

A. Coordinate location of blocking, backing, and electrical rough-in with related trades prior to installation.

B. Protect adjacent surfaces and finishes from damage during installation.

3.3 INSTALLATION

A. Install moss wall system in accordance with fabricator's written instructions and approved shop drawings.

- B.** Install concealed mounting system level and securely fastened to wall construction and blocking.
- C.** Set panels level, plumb, and in proper alignment, with joints between panels closed and concealed to achieve a continuous, seamless appearance.
- D.** Integrate fabricated branding elements as indicated and in accordance with fabricator's instructions. Electrical and illuminated elements are provided and connected under Division 26 by others.

3.4 CLEANING AND PROTECTION

- A.** Remove construction debris and clean adjacent surfaces upon completion.
- B.** Protect installed system from damage, moisture, and excessive handling until Substantial Completion.

3.5 MAINTENANCE

- A.** Preserved moss wall systems require no irrigation, no artificial lighting, and no horticultural maintenance.
- B.** Maintain interior conditions within the specified temperature and relative humidity ranges. Protect from direct sunlight and moisture.
- C.** Clean only in accordance with fabricator's Maintenance & Care Guide. Do not water.

END OF SECTION 09 9313