

preamble

Take particular care when handling the delivery and the parts of your unit. You'll almost certainly have some quite heavy and cumbersome things in your kit, so you'll probably need someone else to help you throughout the assembly. Take the usual precautions appropriate for handling and lifting. Read through the instructions first before you start, and if you have any questions then call us on 01227 833333 or email sales@jali.co.uk

what's in the delivery?

Lots and lots of boxes! Wardrobes are usually quite big so there's lots to unpack - but don't be tempted to start yet or you'll find yourself surrounded by the contents of all the boxes, you'll have lost track of which bits are which, and you'll probably have to go outside and have a shout. Instead, look for the A3 sheets (in the envelope - probably with these instructions). These sheets show every component of your wardrobe, box by box, to help you sort out what's what.

before you start

No matter what size wardrobe you've ordered (and it might just be a single box with two doors on the front, or a huge unit spanning the entire length of your room with shelves, drawers, hanging rails for dresses and shirts, shoe racks and so on), all our wardrobes follow the same general principle of how they're built. Here's what you get:

plinth: Every wardrobe has a plinth which goes on the floor for everything else to sit on. We build this up here for you to get you started. (If your wardrobe is very long, the plinth will come in two or maybe even three sections left-to-right.)

skirtings: These fit to the plinth to finish it off. We keep these separate so you can scribe them round the skirting in your room if you want to. (More on that later.)

boxes: A wardrobe "box" is a single unit made up of a top, a bottom, two sides, a back panel, and two doors at the front (although you can just have a single door, or even no door at all). Wider wardrobes have two or more boxes side-by-side. You'll build each box up before you put anything else inside it (hanging rails, shelves, vertical dividers etc).

uprights: The uprights help to hold the whole wardrobe together, so you'll have one to fit each pair of boxes together, and then one more at each end of the wardrobe. If you've designed your wardrobe to fit into a corner or even to span the entire length of a wall, you can scribe the outside uprights into the side walls to get a perfect fit.

canopy: This is the decorative top bit, and is usually made from thicker material than the rest of the wardrobe. You'll have one long bit that goes along the front, perhaps one more at either side, and possibly a more complicated set of parts if you've opted for an upright section that you can scribe to the ceiling.

side returns: Unless your wardrobe is side-fitted, you'll have two extra pieces which fit to the left and right uprights to finish off the sides of the unit. (If you've opted for overlaid doors these aren't needed so you won't have them.)

doors: You've just designed your own made-to-measure wardrobe: we don't have to tell you what the doors are for.

This is a fair old list of stuff, so when you're unpacking the parcels, try to keep parts for individual wardrobe boxes together. The A3 sheets are your friends here: you'll probably have lots of pieces the same size, so check the positions of holes and other identifying features on the drawings and compare them with the real parts.

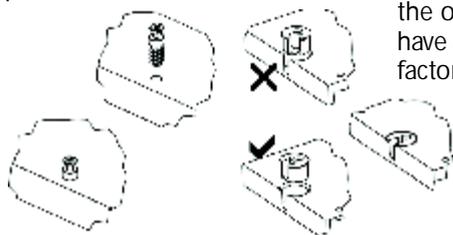
When we pack up your parcels we try to group things together sensibly to help you, but this isn't always possible. Take some time to get things organised at this stage - it'll save you time later!

fixings

You'll have a bag or two of fixings to help put the wardrobe together. Here's how they work:

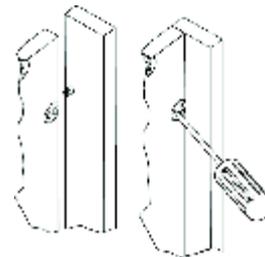
Cams and bolts to fix two things at right-angles to each other (e.g. to join the top and bottom of a wardrobe box to its sides)

1. Screw the metal bolts into the 5mm holes in one component...



2. ...and push the white cams into the holes along the edge of the other component. (We may have already fitted these in the factory.)

3. Then push the two components together so that the metal cam bolts disappear into the middle of the white cams...

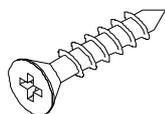


N.B. In the picture to the right, the cams are tightened with a half turn clockwise. But if you're tightening the cams from the reverse side (through the little 6mm hole), turn the screwdriver a half turn anticlockwise instead.

4. ...and tighten them with a screwdriver. Tilt the screwdriver back at a slight angle as shown - about 20 degrees should do it.

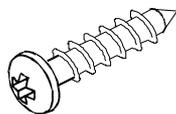
Screws to secure pieces in place. We use various different lengths and they have three different sorts of head:

Countersunk



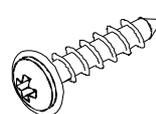
These have flat heads which then taper into the screw thread underneath.

Panhead



These have a domed head but are flat underneath where they join the screw thread.

Washer head



These have a domed head and then a flat disc (like a washer) just underneath.

assembly

Here we go. We'll start with...

i. the plinth.

The plinth is the foundation for your wardrobe, so it's worth getting this in exactly the right place. Here's how.

First of all, work out which way round the plinth goes. One of the large holes in the top will have a little notch cut into it: arrange the plinth so that this large hole is on the left with the notch pointing towards the wall behind the wardrobe.

Normally (unless you've designed it to be otherwise), the back of the plinth should be 80mm (8cm, or just over 3") away from the wall itself (rather than from your room's skirting board). This 80mm is a combination of the clearance behind the wardrobe boxes (shown in "Details 1" in the Jali Designer) and the plinth inset (shown in "Details 2"). As standard these are 50mm and 30mm respectively unless they've been changed. If your wardrobe is going in a corner or across an alcove, position the plinth correctly left-to-right in the same way.

It's a good idea to make sure that the top of the plinth is level at this point - both left-to-right and front-to-back. Some people like to fix the plinth down to the floor (e.g. by screwing down through the feet).

ii. skirtings.

You'll have one length of skirting that runs across the front of the wardrobe, and possibly side skirting returns at each end as well. You can fit them now if you want (either by reaching through the holes in the plinth and screwing forwards into the backs of the skirting boards, or by pinning or glueing them onto the plinth). However, most people wait until they've assembled the whole wardrobe before scribing the skirtings and glueing them in place. Either way, the front skirting locates in place using 6mm dowels; the side skirting returns don't have dowels so that you can position them exactly to join up to the front skirting.

Scribing is the process of cutting the wardrobe's skirting to match the shape of the skirting board in your house. It's explained best in our radiator cabinet assembly video on our website (under About Us / Online videos, 3 minutes in.)

iii. boxes.

- a. Referring to the drawing at the top of page 2, push white plastic cams into the 20mm wide recessed holes in the base and top (six cams in each, three each side).
- b. Find the 5mm wide holes at the top and bottom of each side panel (three at the top, and three at the bottom). If these holes don't go all the way through, screw six metal cam bolts into them. If they do go all the way through, find the long edge with the 20mm recessed holes along it and screw the cam bolts into the opposite side from these 20mm holes.
- c. Take one side panel and lay it down on the floor so that the long edge with the 20mm recessed holes is on the floor. Line up the plugs in the base board with the notches at the end of the side panel, and make sure that the cams and bolts also line up. (With the inlaid door option, the front of the base board will be slightly off the floor - don't worry about this.) The cams you've put in the base should face away from the side panel. Tighten the cams to lock the two pieces together.
- d. Fit the top in place in the same way. Again, the cams should face away from the side panel (so they'll be facing the ceiling so you won't see them when you're looking inside the wardrobe).
- e. Fit the other side panel in place.
- f. Lastly, fit the back panel in position, making sure that everything is nice and square. Screw the back in place using 25mm long washer screws.

At this point you've got the basic frame with the insides of the box still to be fitted (unless the basic box is all you've designed, of course). You should now choose whether to fit the insides now or later: if you do it now it'll be heavier to move around, but if you do it later you might have less space to work in. (For example, if you leave it until you've lifted the basic box onto the plinth, you might not be able to reach around to the back of the box to screw forwards into the backs of the insides.) We'll have to leave it up to you as every fitting situation is different!

iv. box insides.

Whether you decide to fit the insides now or later, here's how to do it:

Pigeonholes, vertical dividers and shelves: These are all fitted in the same way as the basic box (with cams, bolts and screws through the back panel if you can reach it. If you can't, you might have to use another way of supporting particularly long shelves and so on).

Hanging rails: In the side panels (and the vertical dividers if you have them) we've drilled small pilot holes to take 20mm long countersunk screws to hold the brass rail supports. With two hanging rails either side of a vertical divider, you might have to angle the screws slightly so that they avoid each other.

Drawer units: We normally make these up as complete units, so all you have to do is to slide them in place. They're usually heavy enough not to need fixing to the wardrobe box itself.

v. fit the boxes in place.

Before you go any further, fit the cams into the 20mm recessed holes along the lengths of all the side panels.

On the underside of the boxes there are location indicators which will line up with corresponding holes in the top of the plinth. (These will either be 6mm dowels or plastic fittings depending on the design of the wardrobe.) Use these to position each box in place on the plinth.

When moving the boxes into position, bear in mind that the boxes aren't as stable as they will be once you've completed the assembly. In particular, be careful about handling the tops of each box: because their cams are facing upwards, they won't be completely secure until the canopy piece is screwed into position.

Note that with long wardrobes, and particularly when you're fitting along the entire length of a wall, it's usually best to work from the outside inwards otherwise you may find you don't have enough room to fit the last box in place.

vi. uprights.

Screw the metal cam bolts into the backs of the uprights, and fit them into the cams in the side panels. In each case, find the correct upright and make sure it's the right way up. (They're not necessarily symmetrical top-to-bottom, so refer to the A3 sheets to help.)

In most cases the cam bolts will be on the outside of the box, so once you've pushed the upright in position you won't see them (see iii/b on the previous page). You can still get at them through the little 6mm holes at the front edge of the side panels, though. See the note at the bottom of the section on cams and bolts at the top of page 2 for how to lock them together - and be careful when doing this not to push too hard on the screwdriver in case the cam drops out of its hole!

Once the middle uprights are all in place, fit the two outside ones. If fitting up to an uneven wall on either side, you may wish to scribe the uprights in the same way as described earlier for skirting boards.

vii. doors.

Fit the hinges into the circular recesses in the backs of the doors and screw them in place with 20mm countersunk screws. The other parts of the hinges are fixed as follows (again using 20mm countersunk screws):

For inset doors (in line with the uprights): screw them into the pilot holes at the fronts of the side panels.

For overlaid doors (proud of the the uprights): screw them into the pilot holes on the fronts of the uprights.

When hanging the doors it's usually best to do the top hinge first, followed by the bottom one, and then the ones in between. This can be awkward to do, and the weight of the door will need to be supported throughout, so be careful. Once you've hung all the doors, they can be adjusted in various ways using a screwdriver to get them to line up perfectly.

viii. canopy.

The canopy locates in place using dowels which will fit into the corresponding holes on the tops of the boxes. Fix it in place with long countersunk screws through the 4mm holes down into the box tops or, if there's no room above, upwards through the box tops into the canopy. If you've opted for a vertical canopy to scribe, you can fit these with cams and bolts as before (or, if there's no room to do this, you might have to screw through from the front).

ix. end returns.

If your design has end returns, fit these to the outside of the uprights at the end of each unit. We've provided spacer pieces to set them off from the side panels of the outside boxes.

the end

Congratulations! Your wardrobe is now assembled.