

Cubicles & Workstations

1 42-48" Panel Height Is the Modern Sweet Spot

High panel heights (66"+) feel dated and create a maze effect. Low panels (42") look modern and allow natural light to flow through the space. 48" panels provide seated privacy without the closed-off feel. For most contemporary offices, 42-48" is the right specification.

2 Plan Aisles First, Then Cubicle Placement

Primary aisles should be 48" wide for main traffic paths and 36" minimum for secondary aisles. Plan aisles before placing cubicles — furniture can't compromise egress or fire code requirements. Get a floor plan done by a space planner before finalizing quantities.

3 Remanufactured Systems Offer Huge Value

A remanufactured system from a premium manufacturer at 40-60% of new pricing is almost always better value than a new low-tier system. The underlying panel structure, connections, and surfaces are quality; the fabric and finish are refreshed to like-new. Offer remanufactured options as a separate line item in every quote.

4 Match Panel Fabric to Room Neutrals

Panel fabric color sets the dominant visual tone of the workspace. Neutral backgrounds (warm gray, soft linen, taupe) work in the widest range of lighting conditions and don't create visual fatigue. Save bold colors for accent chairs or accessories.

5 Document the System for Future Expansion

Record the exact product line name, generation, and key specifications for any cubicle system installed. This document saves enormous time when adding stations or replacing components years later. The single most useful thing you can do for future facilities management.

6 Power Infrastructure Must Be Planned With a Licensed Electrician

Panel systems need electrical feeds. This is a licensed electrician job — not a furniture installation task. Coordinate electrical rough-in with a licensed contractor before installation day. Showing up for furniture installation before power is roughed in causes expensive delays.

7 Buy 5-10% Extra Panels as Spares

Buying a few extra panels, surfaces, and connectors at the time of initial purchase is cheap insurance. Replacements are difficult to source years later when the product generation has changed. Having spares on hand for damage repair or reconfiguration saves significant lead time cost.

8 Consider Acoustic Overhead Bins for Sound Attenuation

Overhead storage bins in cubicles serve dual purpose: storage and acoustic barrier. Bins that run the full length of the back panel create a sound wall that significantly reduces cross-cube noise transmission. Specify them acoustically, not just for storage.

9 Task Lighting Matters in Cubicles

Panel systems block natural light from reaching work surfaces. Task lights under overhead bins or on monitor arms make a significant ergonomic difference. Include task lighting in every cubicle specification — it costs little and affects comfort enormously.

10 Glass Panels Add Light Without Sacrificing Privacy

Glass insert panels can be spec'd in upper portions of high panels to allow natural light transmission while maintaining visual privacy for seated workers. This is a popular detail in modern workstation systems that refreshes the look and improves light quality.