



SYNBOARD® INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

- Cellular PVC trim and sheet should be installed using the same good building principles used to install wood or composite trim and mouldings and in accordance with the local building codes and the installation guidelines included below. Vycom accepts no liability or responsibility for the improper installation of this product
- Cellular PVC trim and sheet may not be suitable for every application and it is the sole responsibility of the installer to be sure that the products are fit for the intended use. Since all installations are unique, it is also the installer's responsibility to determine specific requirements in regards to each trim application.
- It is recommended that all applications be reviewed by a licensed architect, engineer or local building official before installation.

STORAGE & HANDLING

- Store trim and sheet products on a flat and level surface.
- Since cellular PVC trim products are more flexible than wood, they may conform to uneven surfaces. Ensure that storage areas, as well as all framing and substructures, are flat and level to minimize uneven surfaces.
- Cellular PVC trim products have a density comparable to pine and should be handled in a fashion as pine would be handled to avoid damage.
- Units of the products are shipped from the manufacturer in a protective covering. If covering has been removed, take care to keep product free of dirt and debris at jobsite. If product gets dirty, clean after installation.

CUTTING

- Products can be cut using the same tools used to cut lumber.
- Carbide tipped blades designed to cut wood work well. Avoid using fine tooth metal cutting blades.
- Rough edges from cutting may be caused by excessive friction, poor board support, or worn or improper tooling.

DRILLING

- Cellular PVC products can be drilled using the same tools used to drill lumber.
- Drilling cellular PVC products is similar to drilling a hardwood. Care should be taken to avoid frictional heat build-up.
- Periodic removal of shavings from the drill hole may be necessary.

ROUTING

- Products can be routed using standard router bits and the same tools used to route lumber.
- Carbide tipped router bits are recommended.
- Routing products provides a crisp, clean edge.

FASTENING

- For best results, use fasteners designed for wood trim and wood siding. These fasteners have a thinner shank, blunt point, and full round head.
- A #8 screw may be used and works well with cellular PVC trim products.
- Use a highly durable fastener such as a stainless steel or hot dipped galvanized.
- Staples, small brads, and wire nails must not be used.
- The fasteners should be long enough to penetrate the solid wood substrate a minimum of 1 ¼".
- Standard nail guns work well with cellular PVC products. If using pneumatic tools, the air pressure should be regulated so fasteners slightly penetrate the surface.
- Like wood, use 2 fasteners per every framing member for trimboard applications. Trimboard 12" or wider, as well as sheets, will require additional fasteners, not to exceed 8" on center.
- Fasteners must be installed within 2" of the end of each board.
- There must be 2 fasteners on each side of a board joint (scarf, miter, etc.).
- All fasteners must hit a solid framing member.
- Cellular PVC products should be fastened into a flat solid substrate. Fastening the material into hollow or uneven areas must be avoided.
- Pre-drilling is typically not required unless a large fastener is used or product is installed in low temperatures.
- 3/8" and ½" sheet product is not intended to be ripped into trim pieces. These profiles must be glued to a substrate and mechanically fastened.

BEADBOARD FASTENING CONSIDERATIONS

(Use one of the following)

- #7 trim screw
- 16 gauge T-nail
- 15 gauge round head (for ½" Beadboard only)
- Fasteners should be a minimum of 1 ½" in length.

GLUING

- For best results, glue all joints such as window surrounds, long fascia runs, etc., with a cellular PVC cement to prevent joint separation.
- The glue joint should be secured with a fastener and/or fastened on each side of the joint to allow adequate bonding time.
- Cellular PVC cement typically has a working time of 10 minutes and will be fully cured in 24 hours.
- If standard PVC cements are used, these products typically cure quickly which will result in limited working time and may reduce adhesive strength.
- For best results, surfaces to be glued should be smooth, clean and in complete contact with each other.
- For best results, whenever possible, always use scarf joints instead of butt joints.
- To bond cellular PVC material to other substrates, various adhesive may be used. Consult adhesive manufacturer to determine suitability.
- Must have 2 fasteners on each side of a board joint (scarf, miter, etc..).

PAINTING

- Cellular PVC trim does not require paint for protection, but accepts and holds paint very well.
- If you choose to paint, use a 100% acrylic latex paint with colors having a Light Reflective Value (LRV) of 55 or higher.
- For darker colors (LRV of 54 or lower), use paints specifically formulated for use on vinyl/PVC products such as, but not limited to, Sherwin-Williams VinylSafe® coatings. These paints/coatings are designed to reduce excessive heat gain.
- **WARNING:** It is recommended that you only use standard VinylSafe® paint colors and do not request a custom blend from the paint manufacturer.
- Follow the paint manufacturer's recommendations for use and compatibility.
- Surfaces must be clean, dry, and void of any foreign material such as dirt, oil, greases or other contaminants that may come from normal handling, storage and/or installation prior to painting.
- Moisture cycling is a main reason for paint failure on wood. Since cellular PVC material absorbs no moisture, paints last longer on the products than it does on wood.
- Since cellular PVC products have almost no moisture absorption, paints may take longer to cure on the material than on wood. Generally paints on cellular PVC will be dry to the touch quickly, but may take up to 30 days to fully cure depending on the humidity and temperature.

EXPANSION & CONTRACTION

- Cellular PVC products expand and contract with changes in temperature.
- Properly fastening material along its entire length will minimize expansion and contraction.
- When properly fastened, allow 1/8" per 18 feet for expansion and contraction. Joints between pieces or material should be glued to eliminate joint separation. See "Gluing".
- When gaps are glued on a long run of cellular PVC material, allow expansion and contraction space at ends of the run.
- Cellular PVC trim should be glued to a substrate and mechanically fastened to help minimize expansion and contraction.
- **WARNING:** Dark colors may increase movement and expansion and contraction of PVC Trim.

SPANNING

- Cellular PVC products must not be used in load bearing applications, but may be used in spanned applications such as fascias, soffits and ceilings. Material should be installed over a solid backing.
- For soffit installations:
 - For spans greater than 16" OC, see below.
 - When using beadboard, see considerations below.
- For ceiling installations:
 - For spans greater than 16" OC, see below.
 - If temperature at time of installation is 40°F or below, spans need to be decreased to 12".
 - When using beadboard, see considerations below.
- **BEADBOARD SPANNING CONSIDERATION:**
 - For both 1/2" and 5/8" beadboard, run boards perpendicular to structure when possible to create the shortest possible run of material.
 - When using 1/2" beadboard, use 12" OC framing as well as use a high quality construction grade polyurethane adhesive on joists.
 - For spans greater than 12" OC, use 5/8" beadboard of use a minimum 1/2" backer such as plywood or OSB with construction grade adhesive and mechanical fastening a minimum of every 8". Fasteners should hit joist or framing when possible.
 - When using 5/8" beadboard, use 16" OC framing as well as use a high quality construction grade polyurethane adhesive on joists. For spans greater than 16" OC, see below.
- For spans greater than 16" OC, use a minimum of 1/2" backer such as plywood or OSB with construction grade adhesive and mechanical fastening a minimum every 16" without utilizing instructions above. Fasteners should hit joist or framing when possible.
- Never span cellular PVC products more than 16" without utilizing instructions above. Proper fastening will help reduce the possibility of excessive movement from expansion and contraction.
- With all beadboard or trim ceiling and soffit installation, follow good building practices and ensure adequate ventilation is provided.