

Primed Finger Joint Trim Handling/Storage/Installation Guide

Handling & Storage

Prior to installation all Primed Finger Joint Trim regardless of specie needs to be protected from direct sunlight, water saturation, dirt and other elements. Primed F/J trim should be stored in a dry location. Wood trim should not be stored directly on the ground. The trim should be placed on blocks a minimum of 4” above the ground with a vapor barrier under the unit and protected with a water proof cover. However, do not completely seal the bundle because air circulation is necessary.

Outdoor Installation

1. Re-coat all ends and edges after cutting! Re-seal all exposed cuts prior to installation!
2. Seal & caulk end cuts on gaps around windows, doors, corners and any other exterior joints that will be exposed to water by using a high performance silicone or urethane caulk.
3. Do not install against cement.
4. Install at least 8” above the ground to prevent moisture and pest damage.
5. When wrapping columns, it is recommended to keep an air cavity between the trim and underlying core. Include ventilation and drain holes at the top and bottom to insure proper air flow.
6. Installation must be made so the product is not allowed to come into contact with the ground, standing water, standing snow or ice.
7. Do not apply wood trim over any building material that is wet! This includes pressure treated or unseasoned lumber. Take all precautions to keep moisture from reaching trim. Proper moisture barriers must be installed.
8. Trim should be installed to shed water.
9. Prevent marring or scuffing during handling and cutting.
10. Do not use primed finger joint trim as siding!
11. Avoid three-sided adhesion. To help prevent this, only adhere caulk to the two surfaces that make the seam in the surface plane, not any rigid substrate behind it.
12. Avoid miter cuts in exterior applications.
13. Vertical trim pieces: cover exposed end grain! Use proper flashing to prevent moisture penetration from external sources.
14. Both insufficient or too much insulation can result in a moisture problem. Consult insulation manufacturer’s recommendations.

(over)

Nailing

1. Hand nailing is recommended so the factory applied primer seal will not be broken due to the over driving of nails.
2. If a nail gun is used, the precise adjustment of the nail depth is very important as not to break the finish of the paint seal.
3. If the nail is overdriven and breaks the finish seal, you must fill the hole with a high quality caulk or exterior spackle to protect against moisture migration.
4. For best results and to prevent discoloration use stainless steel or aluminum nails. Hot dipped galvanized nails can also be used. Ringed shank nails provide the best holding power.

Indoor Installation

Only install trim indoors after the moisture content of the wood has been brought into equilibrium with the internal environment. This can be accomplished by storing the product in the environment where it will be installed; keeping the product in this environment for a longer period of time, will help reduce shrinking, enlarging, cupping or warping after the product has been installed. Store the product in the environment for a minimum of 7 days, and allow air to circulate around each piece.

Painting

Most finger joint trim products should receive a top coat as soon as possible. Some trim boards do not have to be painted for up to five years. Consult the trim board manufacturer's warranty for more information. Apply paint based on the manufacturer's directions and their recommended spread rates. Do not use paints with vinyl-based resin combinations. The primer system is formulated to promote excellent adhesion to a variety of exterior top coats. See manufacturer's top coat recommendations for best results.

Important

Primed Finger Joint wood trim is designed to give a uniform finish, immediate protection, maximum coating longevity, enhanced manufacturer's warranties and cost effectiveness. For the best results always follow the highest industry standards for handling, storage, installation and painting!