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## Versatex Installation Guidelines

If you know how to cut, rout, or nail wood, you'll know how to cut, shape, fasten, and finish Versatex cellular PVC using standard carpentry tools.

### Storage and Handling

- Store Versatex on a flat level surface as it has a tendency to conform to the surface on which it is stored.
- Handle Versatex as you would handle lumber to avoid damage.
- Keep Versatex free of dirt and debris. Clean Versatex as described below.

### Cutting

- Versatex can be cut using standard woodworking saws. Conventional carbide-tipped blades designed for cutting wood are preferred. Avoid using fine-tooth metal-cutting blades.
- Rough-cut edges are typically caused by excessive friction, poor board support, or worn or improper tooling.

### Drilling

- Versatex can be drilled using standard woodworking drill bits. Do not use drill bits made for rigid PVC.
- Avoid frictional heat build-up.
- Remove shavings periodically from a drill hole as necessary.

### Routing

- Versatex can be routed using standard woodworking router bits. Carbide-tipped router bits are preferred.
- Routing Versatex provides a crisp, clean edge due to Versatex's consistent density.

### Fastening

- Use stainless steel or hot-dipped galvanized fasteners designed for wood trim and siding. Fasteners with thin shanks, blunt points, and full round heads are preferred. The fastener must be long enough to penetrate the substrate a minimum of 1 inch.
- Do not use staples, small brads and wire nails. Avoid using fine-threaded wood screws and ring-shank fasteners.

- Use standard nail guns with a pressure setting between 70 psi and 100 psi. The recommended pressure depends on the type of gun, type of nail, ambient temperature, and the substrate. Care should be taken not to overdrive the nail into the trim.
- Pre-drilling typically is not required unless large fasteners are used or the product is installed during low temperatures.
- Use two fasteners for every framing member for trimboard applications. Versatex Sheet and trimboards 12 inches and wider require additional fasteners. See Figure A.
- Install fasteners no more than 2 inches from the end of each board. See Figure B.
- Avoid fastening Versatex over hollow or uneven areas. Fasten Versatex onto flat, solid substrates.
- Three-eighths-inch-thick and half-inch-thick Versatex Sheet and Beadboard are not designed to be ripped and used for trim applications.
- These products must be glued and fastened to the substrate.

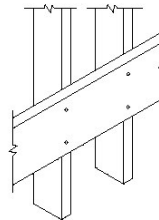


Figure A  
When screwing sheet or trimboards 12" or wider, use more than 2 fasteners per framing member.

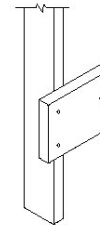


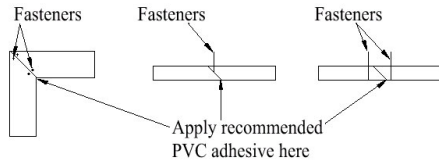
Figure B  
Place fasteners no more than 2" from end of board.

### Bonding

- All bonded surfaces must be smooth, clean, and in complete contact with each other.
- For adhering Versatex to itself, bond joints with PVC cement or cellular PVC adhesives to prevent joint separation. Cements such as Bond-and-Fill, IPS Weld-On 705 (white), and Genova Vinyl plastic adhesive are excellent cements. See Technical Bulletin No. 6 for more information on bonding and filling applications.
- Remember that PVC cements cure quickly (3-5 minutes) and have a very limited working time.
- Bonded joints should be secured with fasteners on each side of the joint.

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- When bonding Versatex to other substrates, consult the adhesive manufacturer to determine suitability



### Expansion and Contraction

Versatex expands and contracts with changes in temperature. Properly fastening Versatex along its entire length will minimize expansion and contraction.

- Allow 3/16-inch space per 18-foot run of Versatex for expansion and contraction. Use a UV resistant acrylic based, polymer based, or polyurethane caulk to fill any gaps between boards for appearance.
- Bond joints between pieces of Versatex to eliminate separation. See bonding solutions on page 1.
- Allow adequate expansion and contraction space at the ends of long runs.
- Product that cannot be face nailed may require slightly more room to accommodate expansion.
- Product facing direct sunlight may be susceptible to a larger temperature range.
- You can restrict product expansion and contraction by decreasing the spacing between fasteners to 16" or less on center.
- Utilizing a bevel or shiplap joint, leave a full 3/16" gap when installing on a day where temperatures range from 25F to 45F.
- Utilizing a bevel or shiplap joint, butt pieces together or leave a small gap when installing on a day when temperatures range from 80F to 100F.

### Support Spacing

Versatex must not be used in load bearing applications, but it may be used in spanned applications such as soffits and ceilings.

### For Soffit Installations

- Use 1-inch nominal products for spans of 16 inches to 24 inches.
- When installing Versatex Beadboard, orient the Beadboard perpendicular to the surface and fasten every 12 inches or less.

### For Ceiling Installations

- Use a 1-inch nominal products for spans of 16 inches to 24 inches.
- When using Versatex Beadboard or thinner Versatex Sheet, fasten every 16 inches or less.
- Never span Versatex more than 24 inches.

### Painting

Versatex does not require painting for protection. If painting is preferred, follow the guidelines below. See Technical Bulletin Nos.3, 4, 10 and 12 for more information on Versatex paint specifications and application.

- Use 100% acrylic latex or 100% acrylic latex with urethane additive paint with a light reflective value equal to or greater than 55 units.
- Avoid using darker colors in areas exposed to direct sunlight.
- Follow the paint manufacturer's surface preparation and application recommendations.
- Be sure the Versatex surface to be painted is clean, dry, and free of dirt, loose or peeling paint, mildew, chalk, grease and any other surface contaminants before paint application.

### Heat Forming/Bending

Versatex can be easily formed into a variety of shapes by heat forming or bending. See Technical Bulletin Nos.1 and 2 for more information.

### Moisture

Versatex can be installed at or below grade, as it does not absorb moisture. Versatex is perfect for use in moisture-prone applications such as garage doorjamb, column wraps, ground contact, masonry contact, hot tub surrounds, and rooflines.

### Molding and Milling

Versatex can be molded and milled using standard woodworking equipment. Multi-fluted carbide bits are recommended when molding or milling Versatex. Be sure to run test pieces of Versatex to achieve the smoothest finish when using woodworking equipment with multiple cutting speeds capabilities. See Technical Bulletin No. 7 for more information.

### Cleaning

Versatex may be cleaned with a mild detergent and water. Products with pumice, such as Soft Scrub®, may be applied with an abrasive nylon brush. Use a mild household cleaner and degreaser like Clorox-Cleanup or Clorox Outdoors for more stubborn stains.