

Build Fast, Build Smart

# INSTALATION & FINISHING GUIDELINE

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### 1 MARKING

Place panel with light-colored face paper side up. Measure and mark panel size desired.



## 2 CUTTING

Line up straight edge or T-square with the marks and hold firmly against the panel. Draw pencil line as guide for scoring.

Score through paper and lightly into the core. To break the panel core, securely grasp the board edges on both sides of the score line and snap board with a quick, firm movement. Use utility knife with sharp blade for scoring. Complete cutting by running knife through back paper for the length of the panel and snapping back to face. After cutting the panel, smooth the cut edge with a drywall rasp or sandpaper wrapped around a block of wood such as a piece of 2" x 4" lumber. Be sure to keep edge as square as possible. Always wear a dust mask when sanding.

Tips: Wear a glove on your holding hand to protect you from cutting your hand. Gypsum panels are heavy and may bend or snap under their own weight. Be sure panels are properly supported prior to scoring.





## **3 CUTOUTS**

For openings such as an electrical outlet or switch box, measure across from the point where the side edge of the panel will rest to the near and far sides of the installed box. Then measure from the point where the top or the bottom edge of the panel will fall to the top and bottom of the box. Trace the outline of the



electrical box at the appropriate position on the gypsum panel. Cut with keyhole saw, jab saw or rotozip.



Tips: Wear a dust mask if excessive dust is produced and the area cannot be ventilated. 4 FRAMING Prior to panel attachment, inspect the kiln-dried studs to ensure that the face of the the kiln-dried studs is straight and aligned. Warped or crooked framing should be repaired or replaced.



5 SCREW ATTACHMENT Space screws a maximum of 12" apart on ceilings, 16" on walls and at least 3/8" from ends and edges of panels. Sink screws to just below the panel surface, leaving the paper intact. Use an electric screwgun equipped with an adjustable screw depth control head and Phillips bit.

Tips: If an electric drill is used, be careful not to overdrive

screws. Never use Hammer on gypsum boards.



6 ADHESIVE ATTACHMENT Select the proper adhesive for specific job requirements. Make sure that framing is clean, sound and free from oil, dirt or contamination. Apply adhesive and nails per instructions on adhesive cartridge. Do not use only adhesive to secure panels. Use either nails or screws. Make sure adhesive is fully cured before finishing to avoid screw pops.

## 7 CEILINGS

Apply ceilings first. Because panels are difficult to maneuver over one's head, it's best to have a helper or two. Fasten panels to all joints and perimeter framing. Space nails maximum 7" apart along framing, screws 12" apart, starting in the center of the panel and working toward the perimeter. Double-nailing is recommended to reduce nail pops.



8 WALLS Apply panels horizontally or vertically to framing. If applied

horizontally, install top row first. Position first panel tight against the installed ceiling panel and fasten to studs.



Space nails maximum 8" apart along framing, screws 16" apart, starting in the center of the panel and working toward the perimeter. Cut panels accurately so they do not have to be forced into place. Continue around the room. Apply lower row of panels so tapered edges meet with those of top row. Vertical joints should be staggered. Avoid vertical joints directly above or below a window. door or other opening for best decorating results.

TIPS : Use a panel lifter tool to help install bottom panels. A filler strip may be needed to bring the wall to ceiling height. Put the filler strip at the bottom of the wall, cut edge down. The bottom joint usually is hidden by the baseboard.

To join panels at an inside corner, butt the second panel against the first and fasten the end of the second to a stud. To join panels at an outside corner, lap the end of the second board over the end of the first. Make sure panels abut neatly—do not overlap or extend the end of the second board beyond the first. Fasten both panel ends to their common stud.



### 9 CORNERS

Corner Bead reinforcement. apply it to all exterior corners of walls, soffits and window returns. Hold bead firmly against corner and nail bead through small holes every 9" on each flange. Make sure that nails penetrate framing members. Drive all nails below nose of corner bead and tightly into flange so joint compound will cover smoothly and evenly. Be careful not to dent the metal. Screw attachment is not recommended. Nail trim every 9" through small holes in flange. Make sure that nails penetrate framing members.

## TIPS

The easiest way to trim a corner bead to the correct length is to cut through the flanges with tin snips one flange at a time, bend and snap. Wear gloves to protect you from cutting your hands. Force bead onto corner being careful that the flanges don't spread beyond 90° angle, making it hard to cover them with joint compound.

Method 2 — For vertical wall installations, cut the corner trim 1/2" (12.7 mm) shorter than the wall height. Using a 4" taping knife.

Be careful not to overthin compound. (For outside corners, extend compound approximately 2" or 50 mm from the corner on each side: for inside corners, extend 1-1/2" or 38mm from the other corner on each side.) Place trim on wall and press into position. Corner bead should be aligned tight to ceiling. Embed trim by running the knife over it with even pressure at a 45° angle. Use the knife (or a damp sponge) to remove excess compound, eliminating any air bubbles under the paper. Allow to dry. Using a 6" taping knife for outside corners (4" for inside corners), apply another coat of joint compound. Keep this coat as smooth as possible. Feather out 5" to 6" (125 to 150 mm)

from the nose of the trim on each side for outside corners (1" or 25 mm past previous coat for inside corners). Let dry. Sand sides lightly where needed. Use an 8" or larger finishing knife for outside corners (4"-6" knife for inside corners) to apply a finishing coat of the same ready-mixed or setting-type compound. Feather compound 8" (200 mm) from nose of trim for outside corners (1" [25 mm] past previous coat for inside corners). Let dry. Sand and prime.



10 FIRST COAT, BUTT AND TAPERED JOINTS For best results, joint compound should be thinned slightly with water for easier application.



Add water in small increments (for 1 gal. of compound, add water in 2 oz. increments.) Start with butt joints. Apply an even coat of thinned joint compound for the length of the joint with a 5" finishing knife.



## TIPS

For best results, apply medium pressure and hold knife at a 45° angle to panel.





To apply joint compound neatly, dip the knife sideways into the pan so you load only half the width of the blade. Keep the blade clean, especially of dried bits of compound, to avoid leaving scratches in the wet joint compound as you draw the knife over it. Discard any compound containing dried bits of material. Clean blade by drawing it over edge of pan.

## 11 FIRST COAT, INSIDE CORNERS

Use a 5" joint finishing knife to apply thin layer of joint compound on both sides of corner. Extend compound slightly beyond area to be covered by tape. Fold tape along center crease and lightly press into position with your fingers. Tightly embed tape as with other joints.





12 SECOND COAT Allow first coat to dry overnight (drying time may vary, depending on temperature, humidity and jobsite conditions). Scrape off bumps, ridges and other imperfections with knife. Be careful not to damage surface. Apply joint compound to tapered joints using an 8" knife the length of the joint. Apply pressure to knife edge farthest from the joint and lift the other edge just slightly above surface.



Draw knife down joint. Repeat for opposite edge. This technique is called feathering. Joint compound should extend beyond first coat for a total width of 7" or 8". Apply a second coat to fasteners in same manner as first coat, leaving a very light mound of compound over fastener. 13 THIRD COAT Allow second coat to dry overnight (drying time may vary, depending on temperature, humidity and jobsite conditions). Sand lightly if necessary. Apply third coat with 10" knife, feathering slightly beyond second coat.

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#### SANDING

Allow third coat to dry overnight (drying time may vary, depending on temperature, humidity and jobsite conditions). Lightly sand imperfections in finished joints, corners and over fastener heads. Carefully remove sanding dust with damp sponge. Wear a dust mask if excessive dust is produced and the area cannot be ventilated.



## TIPS

Use a fine-grit sandpaper wrapped around a block of wood so you don't dig into the joint compound. Avoid roughening the surface paper when sanding. If you do roughen it by accident, repair the damage by applying a little joint compound with a 5" knife.

### 15 WET SENDING

When only minimal sanding is needed, try wet sanding with a sponge. eliminates dust and does not scuff the surface paper. Use a small-celled polyurethane sponge similar In appearance to carpet padding. Wear a dust mask if excessive dust is produced and the area cannot be ventilated.



## 16 PRIMING

Prior to painting use Primer. Follow the manufacturer's recommdation, For best results, use a high-quality roller with 1/8' Lo 1/4" nap.

### TIPS

Keep the roller wet during application and do not rework the primer unue is applied. Overworking the primer may thin or remove underlying compound.

17 PAINTING AND TEXTURING After the prime coat Is dry, the wall is ready to paint. Buy a good quality of paint and decorate as you want. To paint, follow the recommendations on the container.



## TIPS

Must Put on eye wear and helmet before painting.

