

JOHNSON HARDWOOD

SPC/WPC/HPF - INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

(Installation Guidelines for Flush Mount Stair-Nose, T-Mold, Over-Lap Reducer and End Cap)

Note: It is imperative that you follow the International Residential Building Code (i.e., Stair Construction Building Code) when utilizing Johnson LVP/SPC/HPF flooring and stair nose as components in the building of stair treads, nosing's and risers, with the exception that said type components will not be mechanically fastened to the plywood tread and or riser using any form of nail, brad, pin or staple to hold the aforementioned components in place, as the aforementioned fasteners **CAN/WILL** compromise the structural integrity and visual appearance of the material resulting in cracks and/or splits. **Note: The exception to this rule would be to pilot drill through the material (i.e., nosing, flooring tread and riser) and then using a #2 finish nail, hand nail through the pilot hole (which is the same diameter as the pilot hole), then using a nail set no larger than the diameter of the nail head, seat the nail head approximately 1/32" below the surface of the material and then fill with a latex wood patch filler (e.g., Dap Brand), which is available at your local big box store. Note: Before considering mechanical fastening as an assist to gluing, the installer MUST receive the approval of the property owner, as the property owner may object to the appearance of the filled holes.**

Precautionary Statement: Please note that Johnson's LVP/SPC/HPF Flooring, Stair-Nose, T-Moldings and or Over-Lap Reducers **CANNOT** be glued to Oriented Strand Board (OSB) because of the concern that the OSB may be coated with wax and/or contain wax that can/will result in adhesion bond failure between the surface of the OSB and the adhesive.

General Guidelines:

1. Upon delivery of the material the installer/homeowner **MUST** inspect the material to make sure the material matches the material information contained on the sales order document, as well as the labeling information contained on each carton of material. In addition, the installer/homeowner **MUST** inspect the material looking for signs of shipping and/or handling related damage, defects in manufacturing, and/or color matching concerns between the trim molds and the flooring prior to the material being installed. **Note:** Once the material has been installed, there is no question to its acceptability...therefore, any/all materials that "clearly" should not have been installed will not be covered under any/all applicable warranties offered with this product.
2. The space where the trims are to be installed shall be fully enclosed and the permanent HVAC system shall be operational at 60° - 80° Fahrenheit for 5 days before installation, during installation and for the life of the installation. **Note:** Maintaining an optimal temperature of 70° F and relative humidity of 35 – 55% is highly recommended. **Avoid dramatic swings in temperature increases.**
3. Johnson Hardwood recommends acclimation of our Farmhouse Manor series "trims" for 24 hours prior to installation to ensure the product is at equilibrium with the environment.
Johnson Premium Hardwood Flooring (Rev: 7-16-2023)
4. Use only adhesives compatible with the installation of Plastic Composite (PC) type materials. Please see page #3 for a list of manufacturers who manufacture products suitable for your installation needs. **Note:** Johnson recommends that you contact the adhesive manufacturer's technical department for their specific recommendation as to which adhesive is best suited for this installation/application type.

Tool List:

- Tape Measurer
- Ultra-Fine Tip Marker (Black)
- Belt Sander (Including 40 to 60 Grit Sanding Belts)
- Vibrating Palm Sander (Including 80 or 100 Grit Hook & Loop Sanding Disks)
- Jig Saw (Including Fine to Medium Fine-Tooth Jig Saw Blades)
- 10" Chop Saw (Minimum 90 Tooth Carbide Blade)
- Table Saw
- Adjustable Square
- Angle Finder
- Pry Bar (Wonder Bar)
- Utility Knife
- Caulking Gun
- Adhesive (As Per the Adhesive Manufacturer's Guidelines)
- 3 M Blue Painters Tape (2090)
- Cotton Rags
- Adhesive Remover
- Dust Particle Mask

Preparation Guidelines for Installation of Stair Nosing's, Treads and Risers:

1. Remove any/all drywall mud/contaminates from the surface of the CDX plywood risers and treads.
2. Make sure the CDX riser sits flush with the surface of the CDX tread. **Note:** If the riser extends above the surface of the tread, using your belt sander (equipped with a 40-grit sanding belt) remove the overage material until the riser sits flush with the tread. However, if your tread extends out past the riser go through the same process to remove overage material until the tread sits flush with the face of the riser. Repeat this process until (only when necessary) all the rough treads and risers are flush with one another.
3. Vacuum up any/all dust created by the sanding process from the surface of the rough treads and risers.
4. Remove the foam backer from the back side of the planks using a hot air gun.

Installation Process**Prepping the material for installation:**

1. **Flooring Used as Tread Material:** Remove the foam pad from the back of the flooring. **Note:** This can be accomplished by using a hot air gun to heat up the pads adhesive thereby releasing it from the back side of the flooring. After the pad has been removed it is important to remove any remaining adhesive residue using high grade mineral spirits. Once you've removed any/all remaining adhesive residue from the back side of the planks, abrade the back side using a vibrating palm sander equipped with either an 80 or 100 grit sanding disk making sure to sand the entire back side of the plank(s). The idea is to create a micro abrasion so that the adhesive has a surface texture to bond to.
2. **Stair Nosing:** Since there is no foam pad to remove, move forward by abrading the back side of the stair nose following the same process and procedures as outlined above.

Starting the Installation:

Measuring and Cutting the Risers: Measure the width of where the riser will be installed adding 1" to the length to accommodate for angle cuts. Next, using your angle finder determine the angle of the riser end cut by butting up against the stair skirt or drywall by placing the body of the angle finder on top of the rough plywood tread then extend the blade of the angle finder (vertically) against the drywall or stair skirt until the base and blade is sitting flush against the plywood tread and the stair skirt or drywall. Once you've established the angle tighten the wing nut screw holding the blade so that the blade doesn't move and then transfer the angle to the face of the riser approximately ½" away from the end of the riser on the side you measured to determine the angle of the stair skirt or drywall. **Note:** Repeat this process for the other end of the riser but this time you want to make a precise cut to the length of the riser so that you don't end up with a gap at the ends of the riser. Once the riser fits tightly in place without any gaps, you will then need to move on to the next step, which is to flush cut the top of the riser even with the surface of the plywood tread. **Note:** an accurate way to achieve this would be to scribe the back side of the riser when it's placed tight against the framing/plywood riser so that when you scribe it (using a black sharpie pen or razor knife) your scribe line follows the surface contour of the plywood tread. Next, using a jig saw or table saw (remember the jig saw blade must be of a fine tooth, or semi fine tooth blade and the table saw blade must contain a minimum of 90 teeth) cut away the excess material following your scribe line being careful not to cut beneath the line so that when you install your riser your nosing will sit flush on top of the riser and plywood tread.

Adhesive: We recommend using a high-quality Urethane and/or MS Polymer adhesive from a reputable adhesive manufacturer such as Franklin Titebond, DriTac, Sika, Stauf, Loba Wakol and/or Bostik Findley.

Attaching the Riser's: We recommend using the full spread method (using the adhesive manufacturer's recommended trowel configuration) rather than applying the adhesive with the use of a caulking gun, as the stair riser will be thoroughly secured to the rough riser making it much more mechanically sound.

Next apply the adhesive to the back side of the riser leaving an area approximately ½" around the perimeter of the riser free from adhesive, to prevent the adhesive from squeezing out onto the stair skirt, drywall and/or the surface of your finished tread material. Once the adhesive has been applied to the back side of the riser, simply set it in place and press firmly using a soft cotton rag moving back and forth over the entire surface of the riser until it seats snug up against the plywood riser.

Measuring, Cutting and Installing the Stair Nosing's: Measure the width of where the stair tread will be installed, add 1" to the length to accommodate for angle cuts. Next, using your angle finder determine the angle of the end cut by butting up against the face of the top portion of the riser extending the blade of the angle finder so that half of the blade extends inward (on top of the plywood tread) toward the riser and the other half extending outward away from the tread, making sure that the angle finder blade is contacting the stair skirt or drywall. Once you've established your angle tighten the angle finder blade so that the blade cannot move and then transfer the angle to the face of the stair nose using a black Sharpie pen (approximately ½" away from the end of the stair nose on the side you measured to determine the angle of the stair skirt or drywall). **Note:** Repeat this process for the other end of the stair nose, but this time you want to make a precise cut to the length of the nose so that you don't end up with a gap at the ends of your stair nose. Once the stair nose fits tightly in place without any gaps, the next step is to glue the nosing in place using the same adhesive as was used to attach the riser.

Measuring, Cutting and Installing the Flooring Treads: Using the table saw you may need to remove the tongue from the long edge of the flooring plank that you are using to make your tread depending on which Johnson flooring product is being installed. (Note: You can easily identify the tongue from the groove by the fact that it protrudes less from the side of the plank compared to the groove). The reason for removing the tongue on the first row of tread material is so that it sits flush with the side edge of the stair nose which will be bonded together using Super Glue. Next measure the width of where the stair treads will be installed making sure to add 1" to the length to accommodate for angle cuts. Next, using your angle finder determine the angle of the end cut by butting up against the back side of the stair nose

extending the blade of the angle finder so that the blade extends inward towards the plywood riser. Once you've established your angle, tighten the angle finder so that the blade does not move and then transfer the angle to the face of the flooring/tread using a black Sharpie pen or razor knife approximately ½" away from the end of the tread on the side you measured to determine the angle of the stair skirt or drywall. **Note:** Repeat this process for the other end of the stair tread but this time you want to make a precise cut to the length of the tread so that you don't end up with a gap at the ends of your treads. Once the stair tread fits tightly in place, without any gaps, the next step is to glue the tread in place using the same adhesive as used to attach the riser and stair nose. **Note:** Repeat this process with the next piece of flooring/tread material to fill in the remaining space leaving no more than a 1/16" of expansion space between the side edge of the flooring plank and the face of the plywood riser.

Note: Repeat the above-described process and procedures for the remaining steps.

Installing Transition Moldings (i.e., T-Moldings, Over-Lap Reducers and Endcaps/Baby Thresholds):

T-Moldings: T-Moldings are required at ALL doorway transitions measuring 6' or less. In addition, T-Moldings are also REQUIRED for any run (length or width) of flooring exceeding 35 lineal feet.

Note: The spacing between the floors expansion joint(s) **must** measure a minimum of 5/8" wide to a maximum of ¾" wide to accommodate for adequate expansion space for the floor to expand and/or contract to prevent an impingement point when the floor expands, and/or to reveal the edge of the flooring during times when the floor shrinks and/or contracts.

Prepping the T-Mold for Installation: Using a 180 to 220 grit sandpaper, abrade the underside of the T-Mold over-laps to create a micro abrasion.

Installation Process: Using an elastomeric urethane based adhesive, apply an 1/8" to 3/16" bead along the underside of one side of the T-Mold over-laps making sure to stay far enough away from the undersides outer edge to prevent the adhesive from spreading-out onto the floors surface. Once the T-Mold is set in place, press down (somewhat firmly) to make sure the T-Mold is set even to the floor's surface, and make sure that it sits firmly against one side of the floor's side edge within the expansion joint.

Note: Prevent any/all foot traffic for at least 24 hrs. so as not to disturb the bond between the T-Mold and the floor.

Over-Lap Reducers: Are used to transition from a higher flooring surface to a lower flooring surface such as tile or stone.

Prepping the Over-Lap Reducer for Installation: Using a 180 to 220 grit sandpaper, abrade the underside of the over-lap to create a micro abrasion.

Installation Process: Using an elastomeric urethane base adhesive, apply an 1/8" to 3/16" bead along the underside of the over-lap portion of the reducer making sure to stay far enough away from the undersides outer edge to prevent the adhesive from spreading out onto the floors surface. Once the reducer is set in place, press down (somewhat firmly) to make sure the reducer is set even to the floor's surface. In addition, make sure the side edge of the reducers vertical post caps (closest to the vertical edge of the floor) contacts the vertical edge of the floor. **Note:** This is to ensure that you've achieved maximum overlap of the overlap portion of the reducer to the floor.

Note: Prevent any/all foot traffic for at least 24 hrs. so as not to disturb the bond between the reducer and the floor.

End Cap: Are used as a transfer piece from where flooring ends to the edge of carpeting and/or tile.

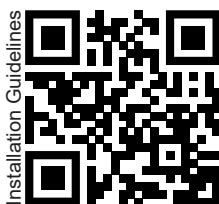
Prepping End Caps for Installation: Using a 180 to 220 grit sandpaper, abrade the underside of the overlap to create a micro abrasion.

Installation Process: Using an elastomeric urethane base adhesive, apply an 1/8" to 3/16" bead along the underside of the over-lap portion of the end cap making sure to stay far enough away from the undersides outer edge to prevent the adhesive from spreading out onto the floors surface. Once the end cap is set in place press down (somewhat firmly) to make sure the end cap is set even to the floor's surface. In addition, make sure the side edge of the end caps vertical post (closest to the vertical edge of the floor) contacts the vertical edge of the floor. **Note:** This is to ensure that you've achieved maximum overlap of the overlap portion of the end cap to the floor.

Quarter Round: Are used to hide the expansion gap between the floor and base molding and/or between the floor and cabinet toe-kicks.

Installation Process: There are numerous YouTube videos depicting step-by-step process and procedures for installing quarter round trim molding to base molding and/or to cabinet toe kicks. **However, it is imperative that pneumatic nailers NOT be used in the attachment process. By doing so can result in cracking/splitting of the material over time, which is Not covered under any/all applicable warranties offered with the product.**

Blending Rule: Where wood flooring transitions into support moldings (i.e., stair treads, stair nosing, reducer's, T-molds, endcaps etc.) pick boards that better blend to the color tone of the molding to avoid a drastic change in color tones between the trim molding and the floor. Your goal is to gradually transition into the molding's color tone to avoid a distinct color variance between the floor and the trim moldings. **NOTE:** Failure to abide by these guidelines (where the floor was installed prior to the delivery of the stair nose trims, or the flooring and stair nose trims color tones were NOT properly blended), which results in a mismatch in color tones between the flooring and the stair nose trims, which results in rejection by the end-user, will not be warranted by Johnson. Johnson WILL NOT be responsible for the replacement costs for the trims, and/or the labor to remove and reinstall new trims.



Installation Guidelines

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