

Wall Base

Installation Guidelines

General Information

All recommendations are based on the most recent available information. The information on these sheets provides general guidelines. For complete details consult Mannington's General Installation Guide or visit our website at mannington.com. All instructions and recommendations must be followed for a satisfactory installation. These instructions address the installation of Mannington Wall Base Type TS, Type TP and Type TV wall base.

Good preparation is essential for a trouble-free installation. It is important for the installer to verify the correct material, color and quantity before starting an installation, as well as verifying that the material is not damaged or defective. If a problem is encountered, a Mannington representative should be notified before the application continues.

Wall Base - Material Receiving, Handling & Storage

- Material must be conditioned for at least 48 hours before beginning the installation. Acclimate wall base, adhesives and all accessories at 65°F - 85°F (18.3°C - 29.5°C) for 48 hours prior to, during and after installation.
 - **Mannington Wall Base** that is rolled or coiled should be unrolled and allowed to lie flat for 24 hours before installation to regain normal shape.
 - **Sculpted/Sculptured** wall base should be unrolled for at least 48 hours at at least 70°F (21°C).
 - **Note:** Wall base **MUST NOT** be stretched. Care must be taken **NOT TO PULL** the wall base excessively when unwinding from the coil, or at any time during or prior to installation.
- If storing for more than 2 days prior to installation, store all materials in a weather-tight enclosure. Do not stack pallets or boxes any higher than you received them.
- In rooms that are exposed to intense or direct sunlight, the materials should be protected during the conditioning, installation, and adhesive curing processes.
- Avoid excessive heat exposure until adhesive is thoroughly set.
- Report discrepancies immediately to Mannington at 800.241.2262 ext. 2 (Claims), as installation of products installed with visual defects, mixed production runs or incorrect styling will not be honored.

Wall Base - Preparation

The flooring installation must be completed before installing wall base. The flooring must be installed close to the wall to provide even support to the base and insure a tight, smooth fit. The drywall or other wall substrate must extend down to within 3/4" of the floor.

Surface temperature should be between 65°F - 85°F (18.3°C - 29.5°C) for 48 hours prior to installation, during installation, and for 48 hours after installation.

Wall Base

Surface contaminants can cause bond failure and/or damage to the base. The wall surface must be structurally sound, clean, dry, smooth, and free of dirt, dust, wax, oil, grease, rust, paint, varnish, shellac, finishes, old adhesive or any other foreign substances that may interfere with proper bonding.

- Prepare the surface for smoothness by sanding, scraping, or other appropriate physical means (do not use adhesive removers or chemicals).
 - Ensure that the wall/sheetrock is properly mounted and stable.
 - Repair and level any uneven spots, holes, gaps, joints, cracks, gouges etc., with a good-quality patching compound. Let the patching compound properly dry, and then sand area smooth.
 - Do not install wall base over non-porous surfaces such as vinyl wall coverings, laminated masonite, plastic laminates, some painted surfaces, and any other non-porous surface.
 - If you have a non-porous surface, remove the non-porous covering to match the base height and expose a clean, dry, porous surface for the base to bond to.
 - If you cannot remove the non-porous surface to the height of the base, do ONE of the following:
 - Conduct a bond test by installing 3 pieces of base with the Mannington MR-101 adhesive on the non-porous surface. Let them set for 24 hours, and then check the bond. If your bond is strong, proceed with the application. Mannington MR-101 can work in some non-porous applications, but not all. Testing is necessary.
- OR
- Use contact cement to bond the wall base to the non-porous surface. Follow contact adhesive manufacturer's precautions and directions.

Never install wall base on walls that will be exposed to moisture or drastic temperature changes..

Wall Base - ADHESIVE

Mannington's MR-101 adhesive is a solvent free, environmentally safe base adhesive. Use MR-101 on any clean, dry, porous surface. For non-porous surfaces, use contact cement. Follow contact adhesive manufacturer's precautions and directions.

Wall Base - Installation

Wall base **MUST NOT** be stretched. Care must be taken **NOT TO PULL** the wall base excessively when unwinding from the coil, or at any time during or prior to installation. Wall base **WILL NOT SHRINK**, but it will relax/return to its original length if stretched. To prevent stretching when installing wall base, work back towards the last piece installed, or back towards the starting point. If these instructions are not followed, it is possible that the base will be slightly stretched, causing gaps between pieces after it returns/relaxes to the original length.

1. On dry and porous surfaces, the base should be adhered to the wall with Mannington MR-101.
 - a. Use a 1/8" V- notched spreader to spread the adhesive on the back of the base to within 1/4" from the top. The adhesive should cover 90% of the back of the base. The adhesive can be spread on the wall if preferred.
 - b. If using a cartridge, bead the adhesive to approximately 1/4" from the top.
 - If you are using a multiple-hole nozzle on your cartridge, use a 2-hole nozzle for 2.5" wall base, a 3-hole for 4" and a 5-hole nozzle for 6". Regardless of which method used, ensure that 90% of the back of the base is covered with adhesive.

For more information, contact your Mannington on Main representative or visit

Wall Base

2. If the wall or floor is uneven, you might need to trim some wall base ends before adjoining pieces. Trim with a Standard or Sliding Compound Miter Saw, or a sharp razor-edged utility knife, cutting from the face to the back.
3. Apply wall base to the wall within 20 minutes after spreading adhesive.
 - a. Be sure to “work” the wall base back toward your starting point. This slightly compresses the pieces together and eliminates the possibility of gapping at the seams due to improper installation technique.
 - b. Always press firmly toward the last piece you installed using your hand and a clean rag or a clean hand roller
 - c. Base that is installed on a curved or irregular surface may need bracing until adhesive sets.

Mannington Wall Base Corners

Install all corners first. Always maximize the length of the wall base measured from the edge of an outside corner or inside corner. Extend the job-formed corner's wall base length at least 6 inches on each side of the corner - more, if possible. The longer the length of wall base that extends from the corner, the better.

Mannington Wall Base - Outside Corners

1. To form outside corners, fold the base at the proper point and scribe the backside with a V-knife or a wall base gouging tool. Remove no more than 20% of the base thickness.
2. For Mannington Wall Base Type TP or Type TV wall base:
 - a. Heat the cut backside area with a hot air gun. Apply heat carefully, as excessive heat will deform or blister the base.
 - b. Crease the base at the fold with your hands or a hand roller. Let cool to the touch.
 - c. Apply adhesive and install. Press firmly to the wall and brace if needed.
 - d. Use a wet clean cloth to cool the base if hot from heating process.
3. For Mannington Wall Base Type TS wall base, heating is not necessary:
 - a. Crease the base at the fold with your hands or a hand roller.
 - b. Apply adhesive and install. Press firmly to the wall and brace if needed.

Any unevenness at joints between panels must be sanded to a level surface. Gaps between panels, hammer indentations and all other surface irregularities must be patched with a Portland cement based patching compound.

Mannington Wall Base - Inside Corners

1. To form inside corners, mark on the back of the base where the corner will be. Use a straight edge and a utility knife or wall base gouging tool to cut the back of base. Remove no more than 20% of full thickness.
2. If installing coved base, cut a small 90° triangular wedge from the toe at the corner point.
3. For Mannington Wall Base Type TP or Type TV wall base:
 - a. Heat the back of the base at the corner point with a hot air gun. Apply heat carefully, as excessive heat will deform or blister the base.
 - b. Fold base, apply adhesive while still warm to the touch, and press the corner into place. Carefully push the toe of the base into the corner until your cut triangle closes. Press firmly to ensure good adhesive contact.
 - c. Hold a wet cloth to base to cool.

Wall Base

4. For Mannington Wall Base Type TS wall base, heating is not necessary:
 - a. Fold base, apply adhesive, and press the corner into place. Carefully push the toe of the base into the corner until your cut triangle closes. Press firmly to ensure good adhesive contact.

Wall Base - Sculpted/Sculptured Corners

Miter cut pieces are available from Mannington for making outside corners. If using the pre-cut corners, install these first. Apply adhesive and position in place, taking care to ensure a tight and even fit.

Sculpted/Sculptured wall base inside and outside corners can also be fabricated utilizing the same equipment and techniques required for traditional wood molding or baseboards. Start the job by determining the degrees of each outside and inside corner.

Sculpted/Sculptured - Outside Corners

1. Position a sufficient length of wall base on the wall so that it tightly abuts the previously installed section, extending past the corner.
2. Using a pencil, mark the wall corner location along the top edge of the wall base.
3. Set the saw blade angle to the required miter angle for the corner using an angle finder.
4. Place the wall base section against the saw fence or miter guide. The wall base should be laying flat on the saw table with the finished surface facing upwards and perpendicular to the saw blade.
5. Cut the wall base to the proper miter angle.
 - a. Miter cut your pieces at 47°, rather than 45. It allows for more forgiveness to make an aesthetically pleasing corner.
6. Repeat this procedure for the other side of the corner.
7. Place the two mitered sections of wall base on the outside corner and check for proper fit.
 - a. **Trim, if necessary, to obtain a tight fit at the corner.**
 - b. **To obtain a tighter and more secure fit between the two mitered sections of the corner, the two mitered areas should be glued together with a premium Contact Adhesive, applied to both mitered edges.**
8. Apply the MR-101 adhesive to the back of one section of the wall base corner, position the section in place, and roll with a hand roller to ensure proper adhesion.
9. Apply adhesive to the back of the opposite side of the corner, position it in place, and roll to ensure proper adhesion.

Wall Base

Sculpted/Sculptured - Inside Corners

For inside corners, a coping corner looks best. Cope the inside corner by cutting a reverse miter on the material. After that, cut along the edge of the finished face, and miter with a utility knife.

Mitered inside corners are hard to fit correctly due to the wall corners often being irregular in shape and contour; however, they can work if the building's corners are clean and true.

1. Set the saw blade angle to the required miter angle for the corner using an angle finder.
2. Place the wall base section against the saw fence or miter guide. The wall base should be laying flat on the saw table with the finished surface facing upwards and perpendicular to the saw blade.
3. Cut the wall base to the proper miter angle.
4. Repeat the above procedure for the other side of the corner.
5. Place the two mitered sections of wall base on the inside corner and check for proper fit.
 - a. Trim, if necessary, to obtain a tight fit at the corner.
 - b. To obtain a tighter and more secure fit, the two mitered areas should be glued together with a premium contact adhesive, applied to both mitered edges.
6. Apply the adhesive to the ribbed back of one section of the wall base corner, position the section in place, and roll with a hand roller to ensure proper adhesion to the wall surface.
7. Apply adhesive to the ribbed back of the opposite side of the corner and repeat. Attention should be given to ensure a tight and even fit to the corner.

Wall Base - Clean Up

Note: If any excess adhesive comes up between the seams, over the top of the base, or oozes out of any place, clean it up WHILE WET, with a wet rag dampened with water. Once dry, adhesive is difficult to remove.

- Ensure that all areas are securely bonded.
- Make any needed repairs or adjustments.
- Maintain 65°F - 85°F (18.3°C - 29.5°C) for the next 48 hours.
- Clean up any excess adhesive as described above.
- Do not perform maintenance for 24 hours.