

FLEXIBLE MOLDINGS

Manufactured in the U.S.A. out of polyurethane material, our flexible moldings are strong, durable alternatives to custom wood applications and polyester solutions. They are impervious to moisture, won't rot or swell, and are designed for interior or exterior use. The flexible moldings are available unfinished in a paintable smooth finish or in wood grain textures that can be painted or stained.

The standard molding length is 12 feet. Moldings can be ordered in straight or pre-curved pieces. Straight moldings may have some flexibility limitations, so pre-curved may be the best solution for your application. Flexibility depends upon several factors—shape, size, direction it will be bent, and application. Pre-curved moldings remain flexible and will be adjustable for minor variations.

MEASURING & ORDERING STRAIGHT MOLDINGS

Straight (lineal, non-curved) profiles will only be suitable for certain applications. If you are unsure if a straight or pre-curved molding will work for you, please contact customer service before ordering. To measure for straight applications, just measure the length needed and round up to the next even footage. To order, indicate profile, species and the number of pieces needed for the length needed.

INSTALLATION TIPS

Preparation

The flexible molding will arrive coiled in a carton and is yellowish-beige in color before painting or staining. Remove from the carton, bend backwards and heat in the sun or a heated room to let the material relax back into its original shape. Our flexible moldings install best when heated to 70° to 80° to bend easier and should only be installed in its relaxed position.

Double-check the molding style and application before proceeding. Verify that the molding flexes in the shape you want before continuing with installation—DO NOT force it in place to install or it may buckle. Make certain the surface you are applying the material to is flat and smooth to prevent irregularities telegraphing to the surface of the molding.

DO NOT paint, stain or apply polyurethane on the material prior to installation. The material may flex during installation and cause fractures in the finish.

Cutting

Flexible moldings may be cut, fitted and fastened in the same manner as real wood. Miter saws work well when trimming this material. When using a miter saw, hold the material *firmly* to the table or fence when cutting. Cut the material long and then shave to the exact length—use several shallow passes rather than one deep cut. The product can also be sanded but sanding the face of the molding may remove any wood grain texture.

Fastening

Pre-determine material placement and layout *prior* to fastening the molding in place.

For best results, flexible moldings can be installed with polyurethane construction or panel adhesive, mastic or

resin epoxy glue. DO NOT use wood glue. Sand the back of the molding for better glue adhesion. Apply the adhesive continuously on the back side of the molding and set the molding in place. If necessary, tape or weight the molding in place until the glue dries.

If necessary, nails and screws may also be used to install the material. A 23-gauge pin nailer works best since there are no nail heads to set. DO NOT use staples, or nails or screws with large heads as they may make the material crack, like wood. To avoid surface defects, DO NOT nail closer than 3/8" from the molding edge. Keep nails and screws to a minimum for best results and it is recommended that you predrill before nailing. Surface depression defects can occur if nails are not set deep enough.

If nails are only going to be used to temporarily hold the material in place until the adhesive bonds, keep them to a minimum and no closer than 6" between nails. It is recommended to nail through a block of wood placed over the face of the material and then remove the nail and block after the adhesive cures. Glue joints and miters with any fast cure resin or epoxy glue.

FINISHING



Painting

All flexible molding profiles can be painted. With a lint-free cotton cloth wipe the surface clean with minimal amounts of paint thinner, a mild solvent, or with soap and water to remove any residues from the surface and let dry. DO NOT use mineral spirits. Fill any nail holes and joints with Bondo (or any other quality) wood filler, let dry and sand the surface flat.

Never paint before installation as the material may flex during the install and cause fractures in the finish. Mask off any adjacent non-paint areas. If using standard latex paint, there is no need to prime. Typically, two coats of paint will suffice. If using oil-based paint, it is best to prime the material with a Kilz-type primer. This should help speed up the drying time and reduce the sticky time it takes for oil paints to dry.

Staining

Note that a few flexible molding profiles are available in paint grade only and are not suitable for staining. Profiles with wood textures can be stained. The wood grain appearance can be affected if the surface is scratched, sanded or altered.

With a lint-free cotton cloth wipe the surface clean with minimal amounts of paint thinner, a mild solvent, or with soap and water to remove any residues from the surface and let dry. DO NOT use mineral spirits. Fill any nail holes and joints prior to staining with stainable wood filler and let dry. Fasten without using nails for best results.

Gel stain or ones with heavy pigments are recommended. Penetrating stain products will not work. Mask off any adjacent non-stain areas. Wipe on the stain and remove any excess with a lint-free cotton cloth, dry brush the color lighter or darker if necessary. Let dry. It is *highly recommended* to practice staining on an extra piece to achieve the correct color before staining the piece to be installed. Achieving light natural wood colors may require stain tinting and glazing techniques.

Do not apply any topcoat finish on the material until after installation as the material may flex during installation and cause fractures in the finish. Apply clear coat over the stain using spray application only (lacquer, polyurethane or varnish). Brushing on the finish may remove the stain. DO NOT sand between coats.