

# INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

# ACROVYN® INTERIORS

**.040 & .060 Wall Covering**

Please read these instructions thoroughly before beginning the installation of Acrovyn Interiors rigid .040 or .060 vinyl acrylic wall covering! This manual is intended to provide a specific guide to follow, including technical information and installation techniques required for an efficient, neat and long-lasting installation.

Acrovyn Interiors vinyl acrylic wall covering must be installed in accordance with these instructions! **Failure to follow these instructions may void any product warranties and result in an unsuccessful installation.** Removal of improperly installed material will damage the wall substrate and require refinishing. For specific questions regarding the installation of rigid .040 or .060 Acrovyn Interiors Wall Covering, please call the factory at (800) 233-8493 or in Canada (888) 895-8955.

★ *Throughout this manual, you will see this symbol which indicates important information that will be key to a successful wall covering installation.*

## IMPORTANT NOTES

- ★ Acrovyn Wall Covering will expand and contract with changes in temperature. Acrovyn will change in size by .00005" per inch/per degree. If the temperature is expected to vary more than 20°F (11°C), please contact the factory before beginning the installation.
- ★ Allow materials to acclimate at room temperature (min. 24 hours) before beginning the installation. If quantity of sheets is 25 or more, break stack down to a maximum of 25 sheets.
- ★ Shipment may contain more than one lot number, as noted on back of sheets. Sort and install accordingly, failure to do so may result in shade variation.
- ★ Do not expose wall covering to ultra-violet light sources, as this could cause fading and/or color variation.

If there are any doubts or concerns about the installation, perform a trial installation before beginning the project. Should you have any questions regarding the installation, please call the factory at (800) 233-8493 or in Canada (888) 895-8955.

WALL COVERING THERMAL MOVEMENT CHART				
Sheet Width	Expected Growth for Various Temperature Changes			
	±5°F (3°C)	±10°F (6°C)	±15°F (8°C)	±20°F (11°C)
4'-0"	1/64" (.38mm)	1/32" (.79mm)	1/32" (.79mm)	3/64" (1.17mm)
8'-0"	1/32" (.79mm)	3/64" (1.19mm)	5/64" (1.98mm)	3/32" (2.36mm)
10'-0"	1/32" (.79mm)	1/16" (1.59mm)	3/32" (2.36mm)	1/8" (3.17mm)
12'-0"	1/32" (.79mm)	5/64" (1.98mm)	7/64" (2.77mm)	9/64" (3.56mm)

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### DOs & DON'Ts

**DO** read all instructions for wall primers & installation procedures prior to beginning the installation.

★ **DO** make sure the materials are kept flat and in a clean, dry area while in storage before acclimating them. Material should be well supported and the temperature should be min. 50°F (10°C) and max. 100°F (38°C).

**DO** make sure material is acclimated in an environment of 65°F - 75°F (18°C - 24°C) for at least 24 hours prior to beginning the installation.

**DO** make certain porous substrates like drywall or concrete block are sealed with Water Base Mastic Primer before adhesive application.

**DO** be sure the temperature at the time of the installation is between 65°F - 75°F (18°C - 24°C) and is maintained for at least 48 hours after the installation to allow for proper adhesive set up. [70°F (21°C) is the preferred installation temperature.]

★ **DO** wipe the back of the wall covering with a clean damp cloth to remove any dust or dirt just before installing.

**DO** apply the adhesive to the wall surface only.

**DO** allow the adhesive to cure properly. Under ideal conditions, curing time will be approximately 30 min., however it will vary depending on temperature and relative humidity. The adhesive cure time for applications over nonporous substrates is critical and will also vary. (Ref. Page 4, Step 5)

**DO** remove excess adhesive immediately. Dried adhesive is to be removed from tools using paint thinner or a similar solvent.

**DO** drill oversize holes when installing fixtures such as handrails, air ducts, etc. If another contractor is to install these items, be certain to notify them that oversized holes are necessary.

**DO** refer to the MSDS for disposal of extra adhesive and primer.

**DON'T** install Acrovyn wall covering in any rooms that will experience more than a 20°F (11°C) temperature change without discussing with the factory before beginning.

**DON'T** stand sheet on end.

**DON'T** install sheets exceeding 12'-0" long.

★ **DON'T** use Polyvinyl Acetate (PVA) based primers or joint compounds in conjunction with Water Base Mastic.

**DON'T** use any primers or adhesives other than those recommended for use with this product.

**DON'T** use adhesive or primer that has frozen and thawed more than 3 times.

**DON'T** dilute Water Base Mastic with water or solvent.

**DON'T** install Acrovyn wall covering when the room temperature is below 65°F (18°C).

**DON'T** begin the installation if the relative humidity is above 80%.

★ **DON'T** allow the temperature to vary significantly during the first 48 hours after the installation. The adhesive must maintain contact with the wall covering while it is curing. A decrease in temperature while curing will cause the adhesive to shrink.

**DON'T** butt wall covering tight against door jambs, ceilings or baseboards. Allow a 1/16" gap (1.6mm) for expansion.

**Don't** expose wall covering to elevated temperatures or direct sunlight after the installation. This causes the surface temperature to rise, which will cause bubbles and delamination.

**DON'T** use Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK), cleaners containing MEK or similar solvents to clean Acrovyn wall covering.

**DON'T** use Scotch-Brite pads, steel wool or similar cleaning pads on Acrovyn wall covering.

**DON'T** rush the installation!

## TOOLS & EQUIPMENT

### BY CONTRACTOR

Chalk Line (wainscot application)  
6'-0" Level (or larger)  
Straight Edge  
Drop Cloth  
Masking Tape  
Utility Knife  
Water Bucket  
Mild Detergent

### AVAILABLE FROM C/S GROUP

*To be supplied with each order*

1/8" V-Notch Trowel                      Water Base Mastic  
Water Base Mastic Primer (if required)

*Optional kit, supplied if purchased separately:*

1/8" V-Notch Trowel                      Paintbrush                      Putty Knife  
Crain #333 Extension Roller              Compass                      Utility Knife  
Paint Tray & Roller                      Scissors                      Sponge Pad

## WALL PREPARATION

### GENERAL

Examine all new or existing walls that are to receive Acrovyn wall covering. They must be clean, smooth, dry and free of any oils or loose paint prior to applying Water Base Mastic Primer.

### SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

**New Drywall or Plaster** – New drywall should be taped and sanded smooth. When finished, all surfaces should be wiped clean to remove any dust. New plaster should be allowed to cure a minimum of 30 days.

**Concrete & Concrete Masonry Units** – .040 thick Acrovyn is not recommended for use over concrete and CMU walls because the unevenness of the wall will telegraph through the wall covering. Instead, .060 is suggested for these conditions. All concrete or CMU walls should still be made smooth with suitable filler.

**Painted Surfaces** – Painted surfaces must be tested for adhesion. Apply a 12" x 12" piece of Acrovyn in an inconspicuous area. After allowing the sample to set for 24 hours, remove the test piece and examine the area. If the paint has softened where the adhesive was applied, the paint must be removed or sealed with Water Base Mastic Primer. If the walls are drywall, test over a joint compound location if possible.

**Existing Wall Coverings** – When installing over existing materials like wallpaper, the entire surface must be inspected for areas that are not securely bonded to the wall surface. Any loose areas must be removed and repaired as required. The existing wall covering should then be cleaned with a mild detergent and wiped dry. Be certain all cleaned areas are completely dry before proceeding. Not recommended for application on top of rigid vinyl sheet.

## STEP 1: PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

Because Acrovyn has a grain direction, all material should be installed with the same top and bottom orientation. To prevent mistakes, mark the shipping cartons with top or bottom designation and install the material with this orientation throughout the project.

To ensure easy clean-up and/or prevent damage to adjacent finishes, provide a drop cloth at the base of the walls, mask door and window frame edges, and remove all cover plates like switches, outlets and thermostat covers.

## STEP 2: WALL PRIMING

★ *Never use Polyvinyl Acetate Primers in place of Acrovyn Interiors Water Base Mastic Primer!*

★ *Allow at least 24 hours before installing wall covering over newly primed walls.*

**New Drywall or Plaster** – Walls should be primed with Acrovyn Interiors Water Base Mastic Primer.

**Painted Drywall or Plaster** – Painted walls **MUST** be checked for adhesion as described above under the wall preparation section. If the paint will not provide an acceptable base for adhesion, the most severe areas must be removed and primed with Acrovyn Interiors Water Base Mastic Primer.

**Concrete, Concrete Block, Wood Paneling, Plywood or Similar** – These surfaces must be made smooth with a suitable filler and then primed with Acrovyn Interiors Water Base Mastic Primer.

**Flexible or Rigid Wall Covering over Drywall or Plaster** – Existing wall covering must be clean and their installation must be secure before installing Acrovyn wall covering. Priming is not necessary for these surfaces.

## STEP 3: STARTING PROCEDURES

**Full Height Installation** – Establish a plumb line to be located at the edge of the first sheet. This will serve as a starting point for the wall covering to be installed on that wall and will ensure the following sheets be installed plumb. Establish a plumb line at the beginning of each new installation of wall covering.

**Wainscot Installation** – Establish a level line at the specified height for the entire length of the run. Install the wall covering by aligning the top edge with this line. A level line should be established for each new installation.

## STEP 4: SHEET PREPARATION

Prepare the first sheet by making any necessary cutouts or scribe the edge to fit the inside corner if applicable. Remember to allow a 1/16" gap around door and window frames, ceilings and baseboards. Use a straight edge to ensure neat cutouts.

Place the sheet with the smooth side up and wipe the sheet with a clean damp cloth to remove any dust or dirt. You are now ready to apply Acrovyn Interiors Water Base Mastic.

## STEP 5: ADHESIVE APPLICATION

★ Use the 1/8" V-Notch trowel to apply Water Base Mastic to an area of the wall surface that can be completed within the cure time of the adhesive. Make sure the entire area receives an even coat. **DO NOT ALLOW THE ADHESIVE TO OVER CURE!**

★ Be certain the trowel notches are cleaned regularly. Allowing the notches to fill with dried adhesive will reduce the application, which will cause failures because of inadequate adhesive. **The projected coverage using the 1/8" V-Notch trowel is 125 sq. ft. / gallon.** Occasionally check the adhesive coverage to ensure the correct amount is being applied.

Under ideal conditions, the proper cure time of the adhesive should be approximately 30 min. but could be up to 2hrs. However, this time will vary depending on temperature and relative humidity. When applied, the adhesive is white and creamy. As it cures, the adhesive will become translucent and tacky. In a porous substrate application, it is best to install the wall covering when the adhesive has cured approximately 75% or when it becomes tacky and does not transfer onto your finger. Use of fans or air movement will reduce cure time.

★ Nonporous surfaces like metal, high-pressure laminate or vinyl will not absorb moisture from the adhesive, thus retarding its cure time. It is important that the adhesive is firm, yet pliable, to the touch and that it does not transfer onto your

finger. If the wall covering is installed before the adhesive has reached this stage, the moisture released by the curing adhesive will become trapped and at elevated temperatures the wall covering will bubble and/or delaminate.

Once the adhesive has cured properly, the wall covering can be installed.

## STEP 6: HANDLING AND INSTALLATION

Careless handling of Acrovyn wall covering could result in damage and unrepairable “kink” marks. Damage is less likely to occur when using two people to move and position the sheets.

Align the edge of the wall covering with the plumb or level line established in Step 3 and rub the wall covering along the edge no more than six inches from that edge (to allow for positioning of vertical trims). Continue this procedure over the full length of that edge of wall covering until it has been aligned. Lightly rub the rest of the wall covering until the rest of its area has made contact with the wall surface. Sheets can be repositioned as long as they are not pressed firmly into the mastic adhesive.

**IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMOVE ANY EXCESS ADHESIVE WITH SOAP AND WATER BEFORE IT CURES AND BECOMES MUCH MORE DIFFICULT!**

## STEP 7: TRIM APPLICATION

When required, install the vertical trim after the first sheet is in place but before the smoothing operation. Brush a thin coat of Water Base Mastic on the back of the trim and slide it over the edge of the sheet. **Do not install the trim tight against the sheet edge – allow tolerance to accommodate thermal movement.** Use the smoothing brush to ensure the trim makes contact with the wall surface.

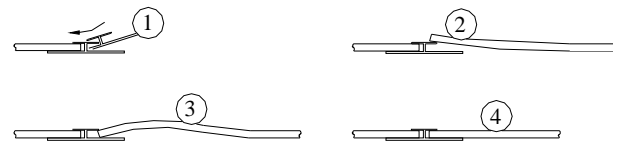
Wainscot trim is installed much the same way as vertical trim. It is necessary to notch the back of the wainscot trim where it intersects a vertical trim.

## STEP 8: SMOOTHING OPERATION

Once the Acrovyn sheet has been aligned with the plumb line or adjacent sheet, use the smoothing brush to insure maximum contact with the Water Base Mastic Adhesive. Starting in the middle, work outward to the top, bottom and edges using full width strokes in an arching motion. By smoothing the sheet, you will also be able to remove any trapped air pockets. Once completed, run the palm of your hand over the entire surface feeling for bubbles or loose areas. Repeat the smoothing process as necessary until the entire sheet makes full contact with the adhesive.

## STEP 9: ABUTTING SHEETS

**Vertical Trims** – When specified install vertical trims as described in Step 7. The next sheet should be installed by inserting the adjacent edge into the vertical trim that’s been installed previously. One recommended method is to slightly overlap the trim with the abutting sheet. Once the sheet is in place, arch the overlapping edge and allow it to slide into the opening. (See details at right.)



Thicker wall covering is more rigid and is typically easier to handle, but it may be more difficult to insert into the trim. To overcome this, another method of installing abutting sheets is to insert the corner of the adjacent sheet into the vertical trim first and gradually work along the length of the trim until the wall covering is in position.

**Butt Joints** – Butt joints should only be used in temperature controlled environments of 75°F ± 5°F (24°C ± 3°C) during and after the installation. If the temperature is expected to exceed these temperatures, please refer to the thermal movement chart on the cover page of these instructions to determine the appropriate joint spacing.

**Color Matched Caulk** – C/S Group has caulk that matches the specified sheet color and can be purchased separately for use at wall covering joints. When caulked joints are specified, a gap is required between sheets. Refer to the thermal movement chart for the appropriate gap width, **BUT DO NOT MAKE THE GAP LESS THAN 1/16” (1.5mm) WIDE.**

Before applying caulk, mask each edge of the joint to protect the wall covering from excess caulk. Once the joints have been masked, apply a bead of the color-matched caulk to the joint. Use a putty knife to immediately screed the excess caulk off. Additional instructions for caulk application can be found on the tube.

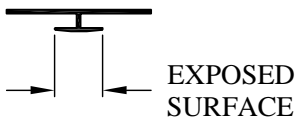
### **STEP 10: CORNERS**

At inside and outside corners, cut the Acrovyn wall covering to the correct width minus 1/16” (1.5mm) to facilitate the installation of the inside or outside corner trim. Dry fit the sheet with the trim attached to ensure proper alignment or fit. Once satisfied with the fit, apply the adhesive as noted in Step 7. Align the sheet edge with the adjacent piece and roll it toward the inside or outside corner.

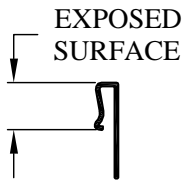
### **STEP 11: CLEAN UP**

Upon completion of the installation, remove all protective materials (masking tape, etc.) except for the drop cloths. Inspect all joints and cutouts to ensure that all excess adhesive has been removed. Use soap and water to clean any areas that may have adhesive residue. Once the inspection and clean-up have been completed, the drop cloths can be removed and the cover plates and other wall-mounted items can be installed.

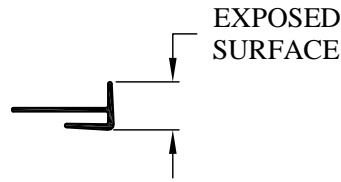
## STANDARD TRIMS



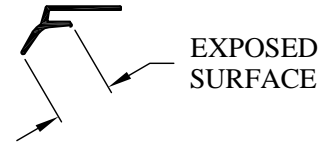
VERTICAL TRIM /  
"H" DIVIDER



WAINSCOT TRIM

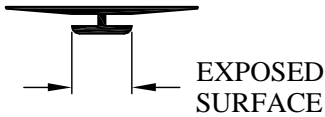


OUTSIDE CORNER  
TRIM

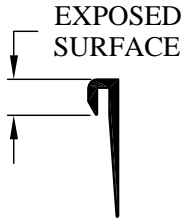


INSIDE CORNER TRIM

## METAL TRIMS

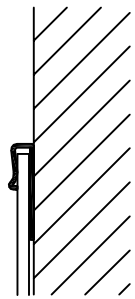


VERTICAL TRIM /  
"H" DIVIDER

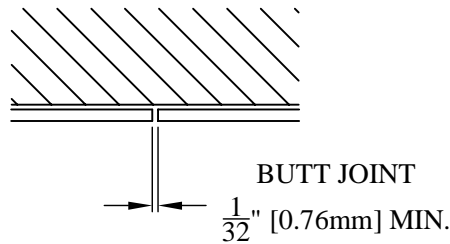


WAINSCOT TRIM

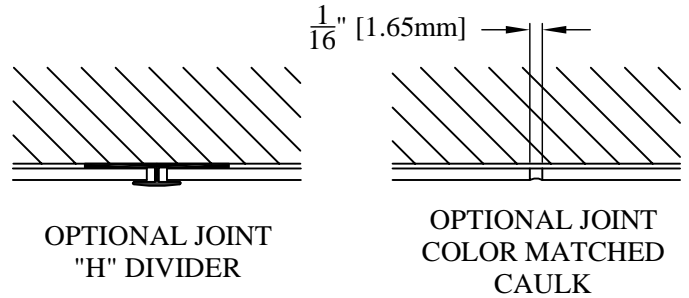
## INSTALLATION DETAILS



WAINSCOT  
TRIM

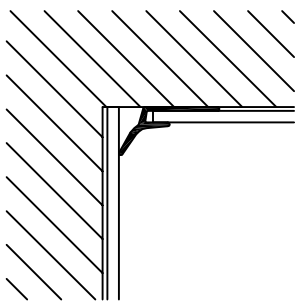


STANDARD VERTICAL JOINT  
Note: Refer to Thermal Movement Chart  
for correct spacing!

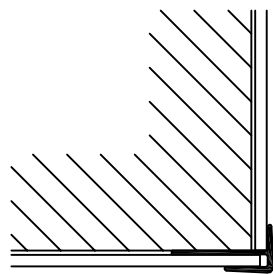


OPTIONAL JOINT  
"H" DIVIDER

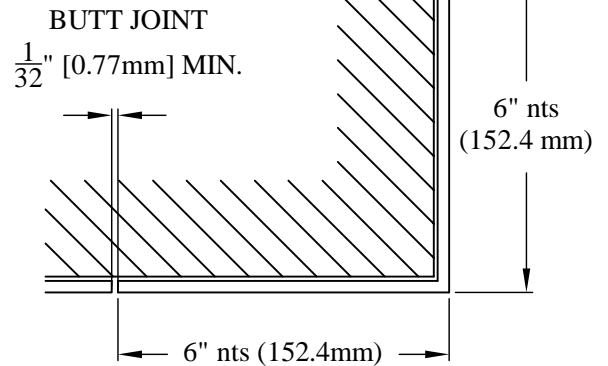
OPTIONAL JOINT  
COLOR MATCHED  
CAULK



INSIDE CORNER  
TRIM



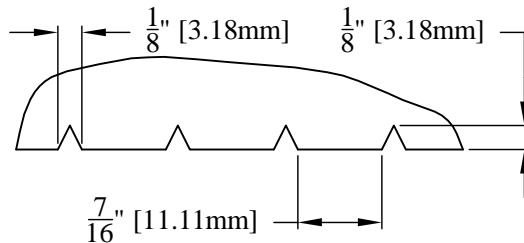
STANDARD OUTSIDE  
CORNER TRIM



BUTT JOINT  
 $\frac{1}{32}$ " [0.77mm] MIN.

6" nts  
(152.4 mm)

## TROWEL NOTCH DETAIL



SPECIAL 1/8" "V" NOTCH TROWEL FOR  
USE WITH .040 & .060 ACROVYN WALL  
COVERING

- Projected adhesive coverage using this  
trowel is 125 sq. ft. /gal. Do Not Substitute!

8/15/09



**Construction Specialties™**

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