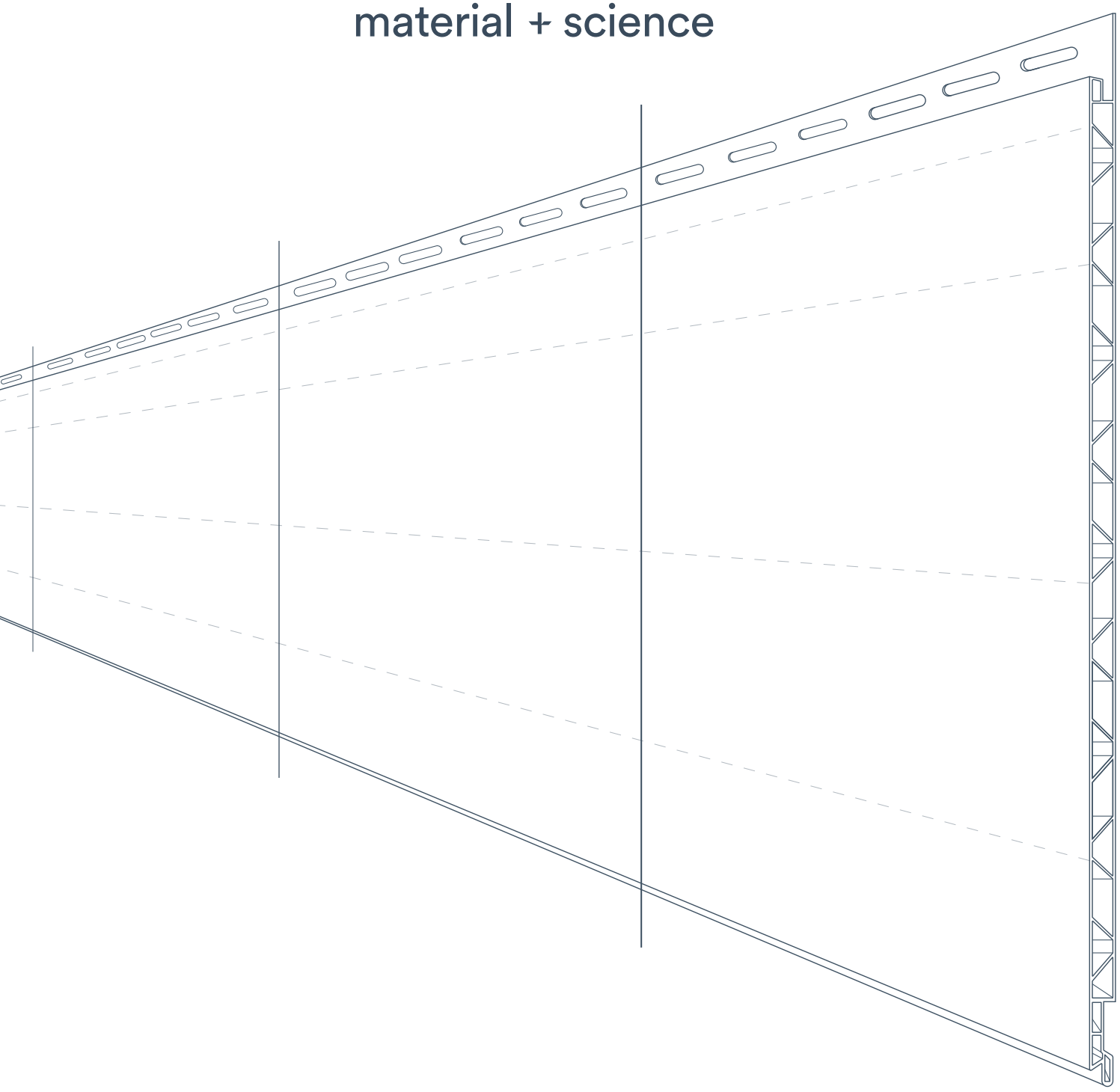
trusscore
material + science



Wall&CeilingBoard Installation Guide

Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard

Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard is designed with a high-strength polymer formulation and engineered to be the perfect alternative to traditional FRP and drywall systems. The Trusscore tongue and groove interlocking system makes installation quick and easy, and the unique truss design provides industry leading strength and durability. Where you need a smooth finish that is easy to clean, low-maintenance, and abuse-resistant, Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard has your project covered.

Contents

Disclaimers 2
Tools required 3
Acclimatizing your product 3
Temperature range 3
Fastening 4
Panel spacing 5
Preparation 5
Cutting 5
Basic installation 5
Ceiling installation 6
Wall installation 7
Drywall grid ceiling installation 8
Ripping panels 8
Cutouts 8
Radiant heat 9
Epoxy floors 9
CFIA, USDA & FDA approved installations 9
Trim application 9
Installation tips 9
How to replace a damaged panel after installation 16
Cleaning 17
Specifications 18
Trim dimensions 19

Warranty

For more information on product warranty please visit trusscore.com/warranty

Disclaimers

The manufacturer is not responsible for problems related to expansion due to temperature fluctuations. If wide temperature fluctuations exist in the area of the Trusscore installation, allow for expansion and contraction gaps in moldings and perimeter. Before installation, Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoards and trims should be acclimatized to minimize expansion and contraction issues.

Congratulations on your decision to use Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard! Your project will soon look amazing, and it will last a lifetime. If you've never installed Trusscore products before, or even if you've installed Trusscore in the past, be sure to familiarize yourself with this guide. It's filled with tips, time-saving suggestions, and a few must-do's that will make your installation successful.

Let's get started.

Tools required

- Safety Glasses
- Hammer
- Sliding Radial Arm Saw
- Tape Measure
- Utility Knife
- Putty Knife
- Ladder and/or scaffolding
- Tin Snips
- Level
- Caulking Gun
- Gloves
- Chalk line
- Drill/Screw Gun
- Face Mask

⚠ Please completely review this Installation Guide prior to installing your Wall&CeilingBoard panels. The warranty can be voided if the instructions are not properly followed.

Acclimatizing your product

Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard must be acclimatized to the installation room temperature and humidity for a minimum of 24 hours prior to installation taking place (if possible, acclimatizing for 36 to 48 hours is preferred). This will minimize the amount of expansion or contraction that occurs after the product is installed and ensure the best possible installation.

When acclimatizing your product, it is recommended that you loosen or remove any packaging material that may restrain the product.

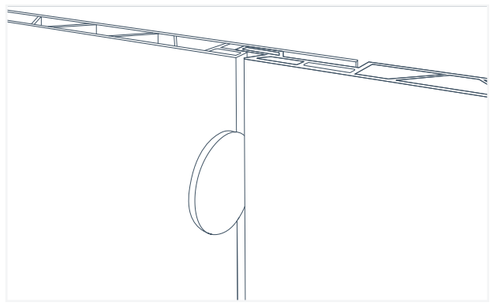
Temperature range

Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard is designed to be installed between 10-20°C (50-68°F). For installations where the products must be installed outside of that temperature range, special guidelines must be followed to ensure that the product does not become permanently deformed or damaged when it reaches typical room temperature. General guidelines are below and a specialized Cold Weather Installation Guide can be found on the Trusscore website.

Extra seam pacing

When installing in temperatures below 10°C (50°F), you will need to create additional seam spacing during installation. This can be achieved by inserting a coin between the panels before fastening them, allowing appropriate space for the panels to expand when the product warms up.

- Below 4°C (40°F) - insert a nickel
- Between 4°C and 10°C (40°F and 50°F) - insert a dime



Extra spacing at panel ends

Increase the spacing allowed at the end of panels from the typical 1/4” to 3/8”. If you are joining panels at the ends, the H Channel Snap-in Trim Kits provide a wide face and are perfect for covering any extra gap required.

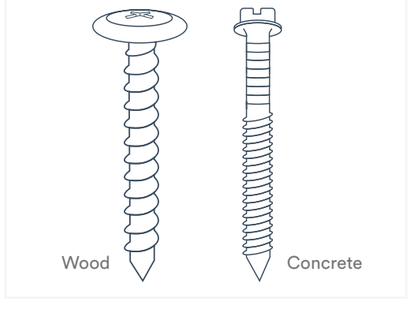
Fastening

Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard is designed to be installed with screws. Use only corrosion-resistant (galvanized, stainless steel or aluminum) screws with a minimum head diameter of 3/8”.

⚠ The use of nails or staples will void the warranty.

Recommended fasteners

- **Wood** – #10 X 1-1/4” Truss or Pancake Head screws
- **Concrete** – 3/16” x 1-1/4” Flathead screw (Tapcon)
- **Metal studs** – Make sure to use self-tapping screws instead of wood screws



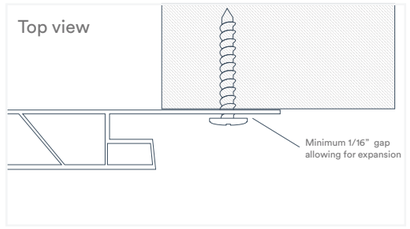
If applying over drywall, screws should be 1-3/4” to 2” long. If furring strips are part of your installation, screws should be 2-1/2”.

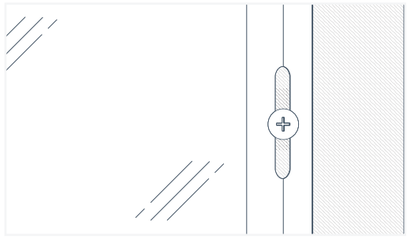
Screws need to be installed in the center of the product’s screw flange to allow for movement. It is essential that screws are installed straight and not overtightened (allowing space for the panel to expand and contract).

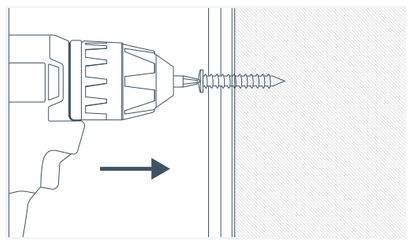
⚠ Failure to follow fastening instructions may damage the panel and/or void the warranty.

Fastening tips

- All panels must be allowed to slide freely after fastening to allow for expansion and contraction
- Fasteners should penetrate a minimum of 1” into solid backing
- Fasteners must be no more than 24” apart
- Allow a minimum of 1/16” (about the thickness of a dime) between the back of the fastener head and the screw flange
- Always fasten in the center of the screw flange slots; fastening at the end of the slots can cause the panels to buckle or distort
- Screws must be installed straight and level to allow for movement







Panel spacing

It is essential that a minimum of 1/4” clearance is left at the ends of all panels and trims to allow for expansion and contraction. For longer lengths (>20’ long), allow 3/8” clearance.

For vertical panels or trims that sit flush on the bottom J Trim or Base Trim, a minimum of a 1/2” clearance must be left at the top of the panel (as all expansion will take place at the top of the panel).

Preparation

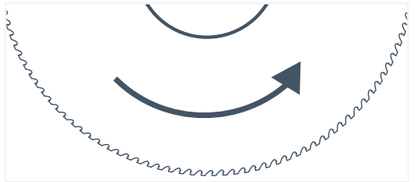
- Check surfaces for straightness and install strapping where necessary; make sure that all vapor barriers, etc are installed to code prior to Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard being installed
- It is recommended that Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard is installed perpendicular to ceiling joists or roof trusses; when additional strapping must be installed, 1”x4” or 2”x4” strapping should be the minimum that is installed; if installing parallel, joists must be 16” on center
- If strapping is required, it should be installed perpendicular to the framing members at 24” on center
- Install wood blocking (short pieces of lumber for added support/coverage) around all openings to properly support trims
- When planning to suspend lighting or other items, install adequate backing at each location as required; never mount items directly to Trusscore
- Do not begin installation until the building is fully enclosed, heating/cooling equipment is in operation and any residual moisture from construction has been removed

Cutting

Trusscore recommends the use of a concrete/masonry blade when cutting Wall&CeilingBoard as a simple method of eliminating cracking and chipping of the product.

As an alternative, you can use a fine tooth blade (12 to 16 teeth per inch) with the blade installed in the reverse direction. In cold weather, move the saw through the material slowly to prevent chipping or cracking.

Performing a test cut will allow you to confirm the performance of your cutting tool without impacting your project.



Caution: Use of a blade installed in the reverse direction on any materials other than Trusscore could be unsafe.

For your safety, safety goggles and a dust mask should be worn while using a power saw.

♻ Remember, any offcuts you create are recyclable.

Basic installation

Install order

If Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard is being installed on both the ceiling and walls of a project, it should always be installed on the ceiling first.

Silicone

We recommend that a one-part, neutral cure silicone sealant is used to seal all corners, around all fixtures, and to repair small holes. The sealant color should be off-white to match the panels.

Silicone is mandatory in wet installations.

Ceiling installation

1. Begin by installing the necessary trims on the perimeter of the ceiling and around any openings. Guidelines for trim installation can be found in the Trim application section of this document.

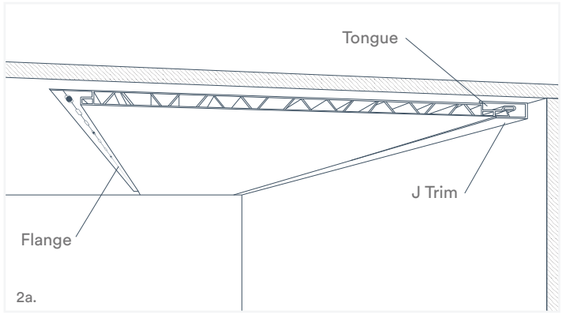
2. Cut the length of the first panel for the first course. Place the panel with the tongue side in the trim and the screw flange side facing away from the wall. Ensure the panel is parallel to the outside wall before fastening. Leave a 1/8” gap between the tongue side of the panel and the adjoining trim. Fasten a minimum of once every 24” with the appropriate recommended fasteners Remember to leave 1/4” of clearance at both ends of the panels for expansion and contraction.

3. If your ceiling is longer than your panel lengths, the panels must be joined in the middle using the H Channel Snap-In Kit. Refer to the Joining Panels portion of the Trim Applications section of this document for details.

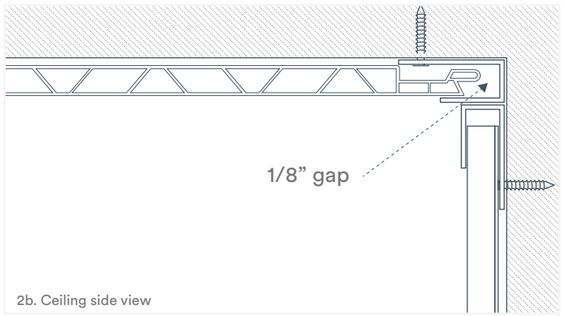
4. With the first panel row installed, you can now install the rest of your ceiling. The tongue of the second panel will be inserted into the groove of the first panel. Panels should be firmly pressed together during installation to ensure a proper connection. Once they are firmly together, they can be fastened.

   Check your installation periodically to ensure the panels continue to be installed in straight, even rows. To do this, measure the distance from the wall to the edge of your panels at both ends of the panel.

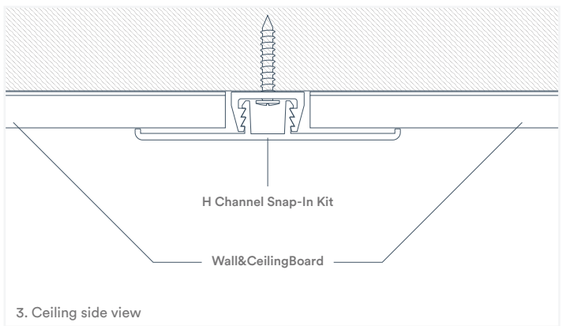
5. Your last panel may need to be trimmed to fit it in. Refer to the Ripping Panels section for details on how to do this.



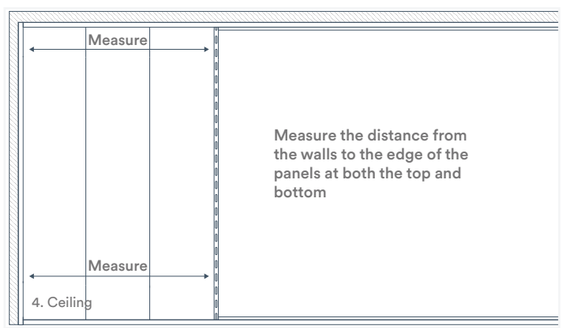
2a.



2b. Ceiling side view



3. Ceiling side view



4. Ceiling

Wall installation

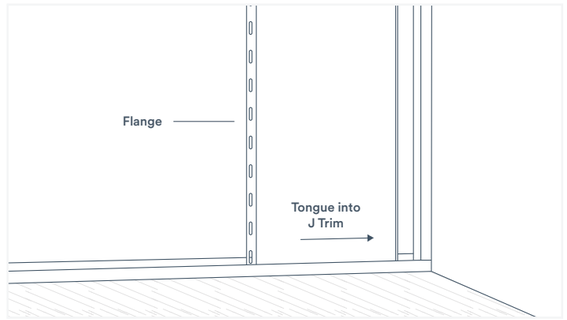
Vertical panels

1. Begin by installing the Base Trim or J Trim along the bottom of your wall. Guidelines for trim installation can be found in the Trim application section of this document.

2. If you are using J Trim for your corners, they should be installed before your panels. If you are using inside cove corner, they should be installed after the adjoining wall panels. Then, install perimeter trims required around openings like doors or windows. Guidelines for trim installation can be found in the Trim Applications section of this document.

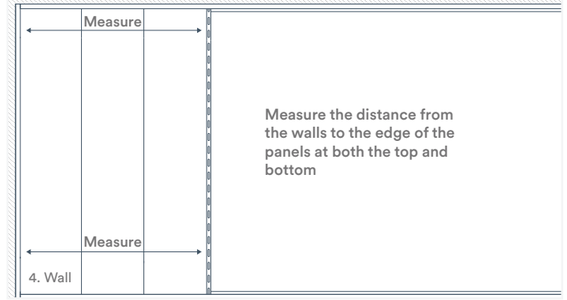
3. At the top of your wall, you can now install J Trim or Inside Cove Corner. Guidelines for trim installation can be found in the Trim Applications section of this document.

4. Cut the length of the first panel for the first course. Place the panel with the tongue side in the corner trim and the screw flange side facing away from the wall. Ensure the panel is parallel to the outside wall before fastening. Leave a 1/8” gap between the tongue side of the panel and the adjoining trim. Fasten a minimum of once every 24” with the appropriate recommended fasteners. Remember to leave 1/4” of clearance at both ends of the panels for expansion and contraction.



5. With the first panel row installed, you can now install the rest of your wall. The tongue of the second panel will be inserted into the groove of the first panel. Panels should be firmly pressed together during installation to ensure a proper connection. Once they are firmly together, they can be fastened.

   Check your installation periodically to ensure the panels continue to be installed in straight, even rows. To do this, measure the distance from the wall to the edge of your panels at both the top and bottom of the panel. If the measurements are uneven, you will need to correct the positioning of your board.



4. Wall

6. Your last panel may need to be trimmed to fit it in. Refer to the Ripping panels section for details on how to do this.

Horizontal panels

Installation with horizontal panels is almost identical to vertical panels, with a few special considerations.

- Panels should be installed from the top of the wall down to the bottom
- The tongue side of the panel should be installed facing towards the ceiling, the groove side facing towards the floor
- As you add panels, insert silicone into the panel joint to ensure no water will pool in that connection

High moisture environments

If you are installing Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard in a high moisture environment (car wash, etc), the following guidelines must be followed:

- Apply a bead of silicone inside the grooved end of the panel prior to inserting the next panel
- If you are using J Trim at the bottom of your wall, you must drill drainage holes in the bottom of the J Trim per the guidelines in the Trim application section of this document

Drywall grid ceiling installation

Wall&CeilingBoard may be installed as part of a drop ceiling application using drywall grid, which is designed for applications where materials will be attached by screw. If you are installing Wall&CeilingBoard in that manner, here are some tips to assist you.

- Install the panels perpendicular to the drywall grid
- Plan your installation in advance so trims can be installed directly into the grid; main beams are preferable, but cross tees can also be added to support these trims
- Panels will need to be fastened into the grid from below to ensure a waterproof installation; they cannot be dropped into the grid in this application
- The grid should be arranged so the panels are fastened a minimum of 24” on center
- For fastening, a #12 x 3/4” pan head stainless steel screw is suggested

Ripping panels

To ensure even panel spacing on your project, you should plan the layout of your Wall&CeilingBoard panels prior to installation. If your wall space requires that you cut panels, ensure that any cut panels are a minimum of 8” wide. If necessary, you can cut both the first panel and last panel of your wall to accomplish this.

- If you are cutting the first panel, cut off the tongue side
- If you are cutting the last panel, cut off the groove (screw flange) side

When measuring the coverage needed, measure only the panel profile, not the nailing flange.

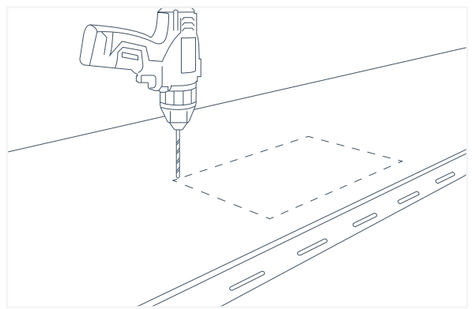
Remember – you need to allow for 1/4” of space at the end of the wall for expansion/contraction.

When installing the last panel of the wall, a putty knife can be helpful in bending the J Trim back to create enough space to get the panel into the trim.

Cutouts

If holes are required for things like electrical boxes, lights, taps, etc., it is recommended to use a jigsaw to cut out the shape, following the steps below.

1. Measure the location of the opening on the wall.
2. Mark the perimeter of your opening on the panel.
3. Drill a 1/2” hole in the corner of the required opening.
4. Insert the blade into the hole and proceed to cut out along your marked lines.



Radiant heat

All sources of radiant heat must be shielded and located with a minimum of 24” clearance between it and Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard. Consult the manufacturer of any heater for further guidelines regarding any necessary shielding and clearances before installing.

Epoxy floors

When installing Wall&CeilingBoard in a location that will receive an epoxy floor, the epoxy cannot be sprayed onto the Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard.

CFIA, USDA & FDA approved installations

Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard panels are fully compliant with the requirements set out by the CFIA, USDA and FDA for areas where food is prepared. In these applications, the following guidelines must be followed.

- The product is strictly for use on non-food contact surfaces
- All joints are to be sealed with an acceptable flexible caulking compound to provide a smooth, flush, and impervious joint

In Canada, MONO® SILICONE MAX™ Premium Kitchen & Bath Sealant can be used for this application. In the USA, the product is branded as DAP Commercial Kitchen 100% Silicone Sealant. Both meet FDA Reg. 21, CFR 177.2600 and are certified to NSF/ANSI Standard #51.

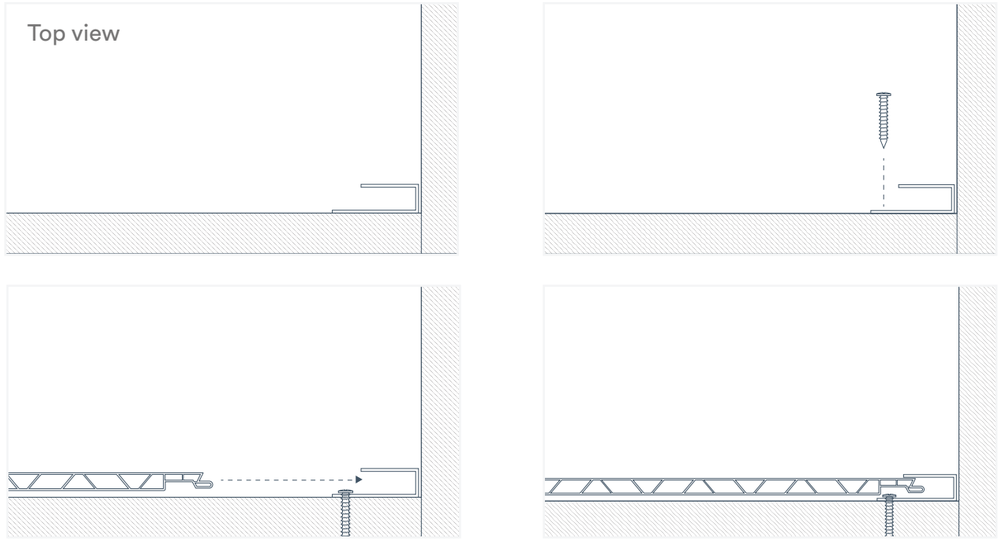
Trim application

Installation tips

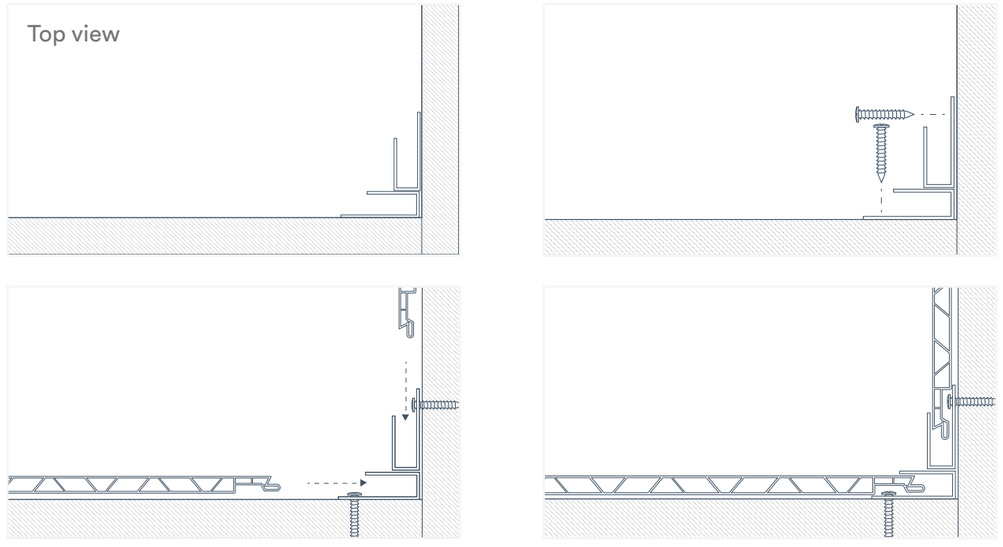
- Tin snips are the safest and easiest tool to use when cutting trims; for a cleaner cut, avoid closing the blades at the end of a stroke
- Trims should be screwed to the substrate at least once every 24” and at least 4” from the end of the panel
- If an area requires more than 10’ of continuous trim, the trims should be butted tightly together with silicone sealant placed between the two pieces
- To create a water-tight corner at door and window openings, please insert a small bead of silicone caulking on channel opening of trim pieces before installing panels

Inside corners

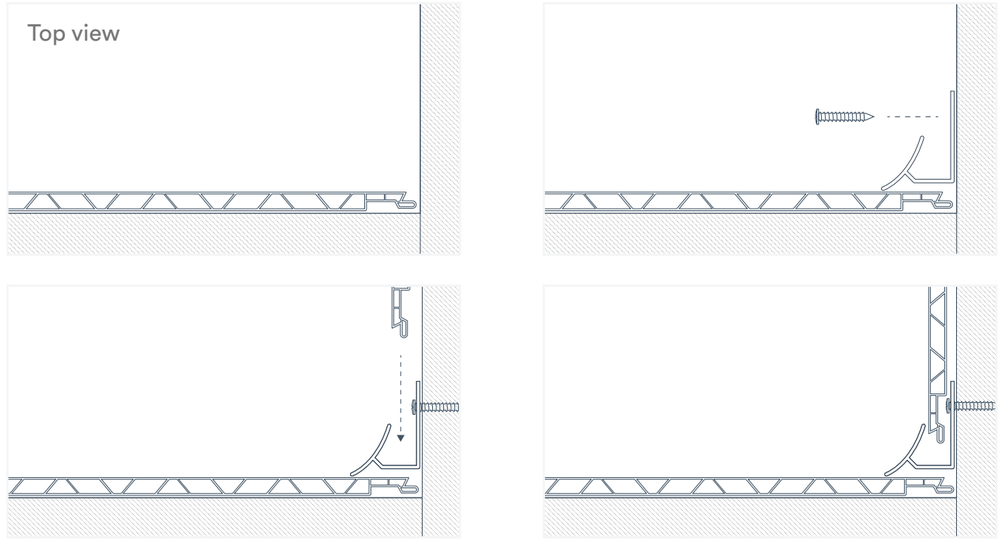
One J Trim



Two J Trim

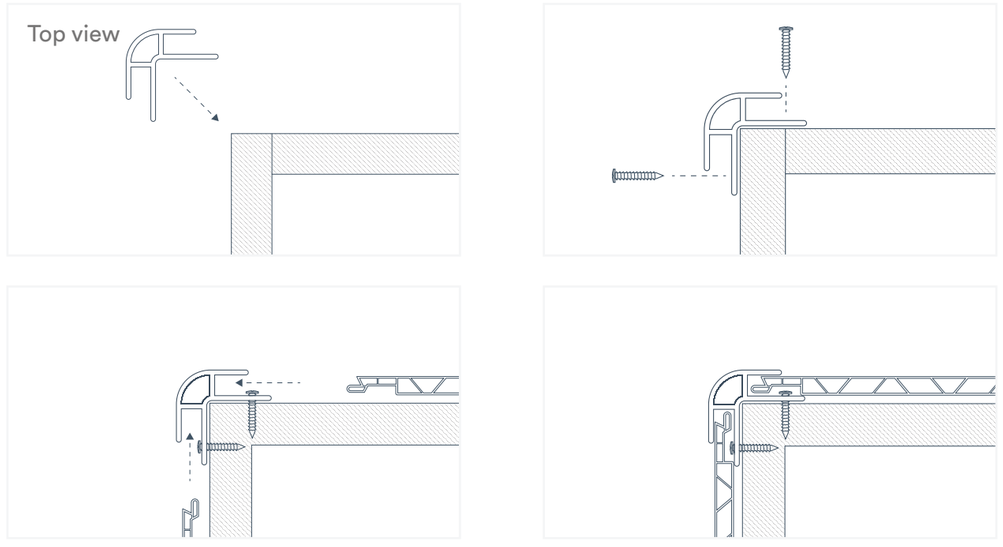


Inside Cove Corner

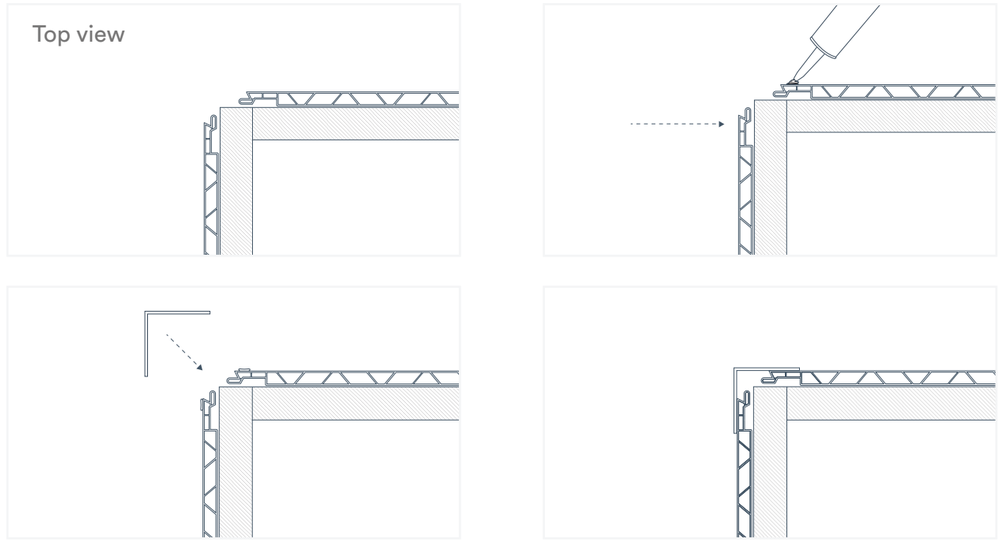


Outside corners

Outside Corner Rounded

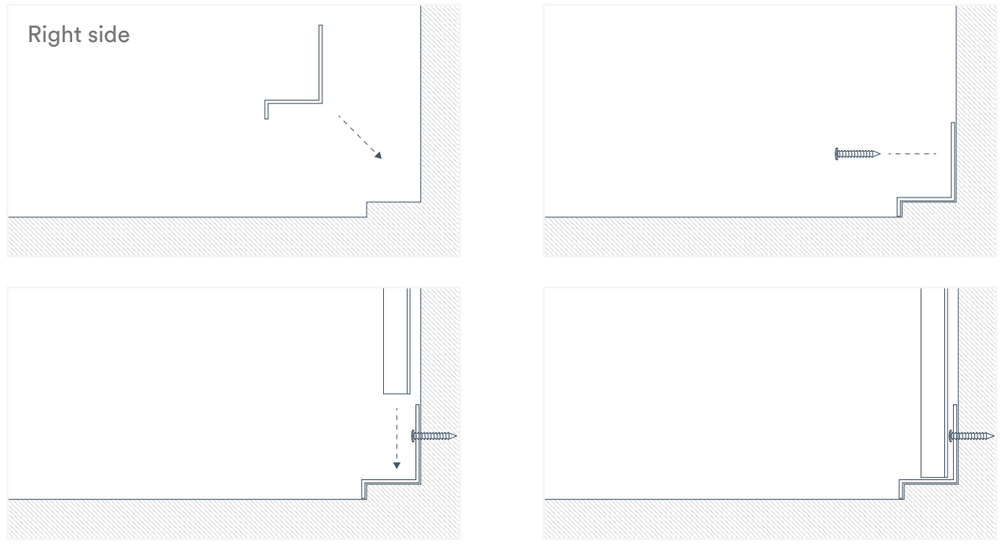


Outside Corner Square



Bottom of wall

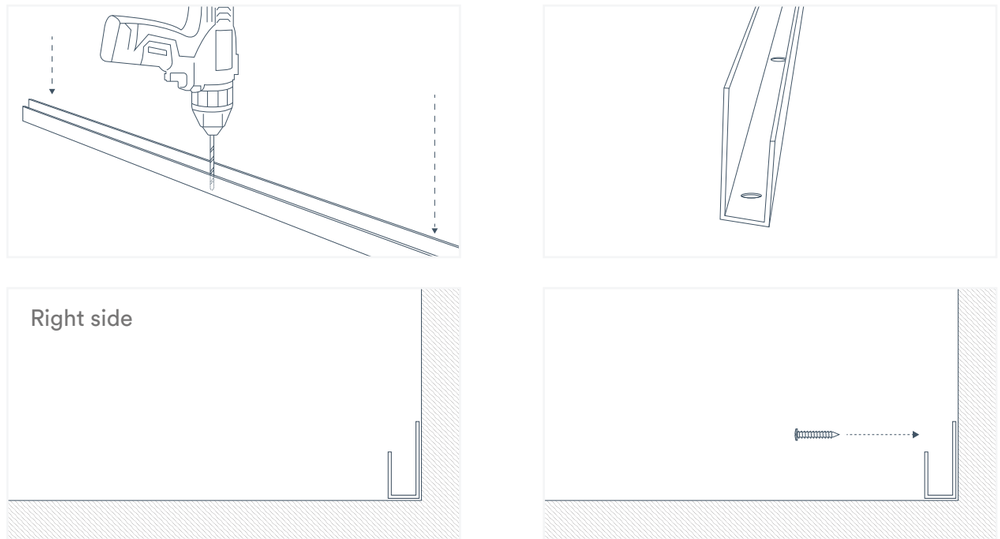
Base Trim



The Base Trim is not recommended for use with sloped floors as it will impact the alignment of wall panels.

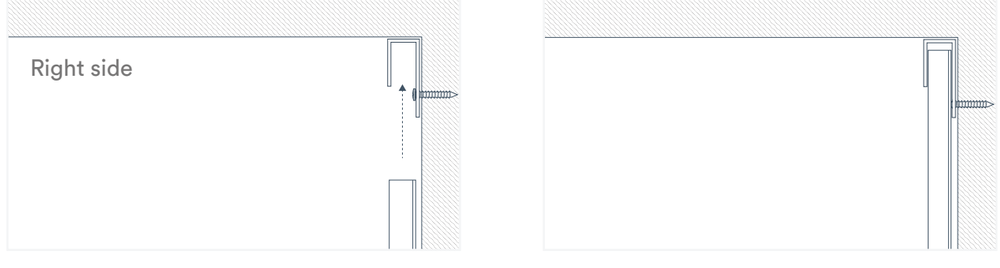
J Trim

To ensure drainage, drill 1/4” diameter holes into the bottom of the J Trim before installing it on the wall. Holes should be placed 16” on center.

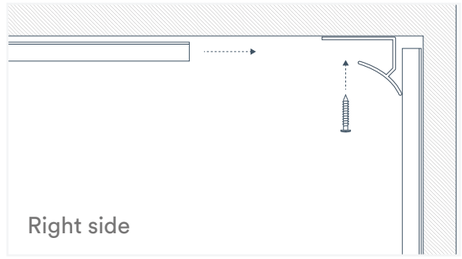


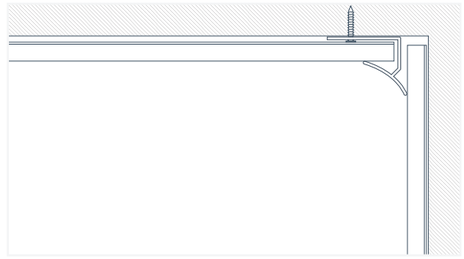
Top of wall

J Trim



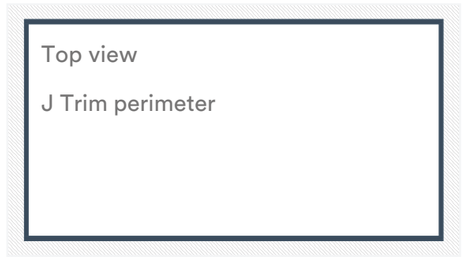
Inside Cove Corner

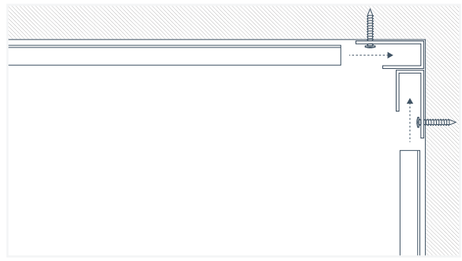


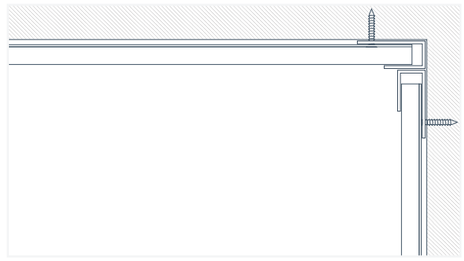


Ceiling perimeter

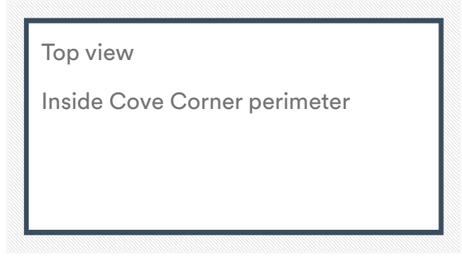
J Trim

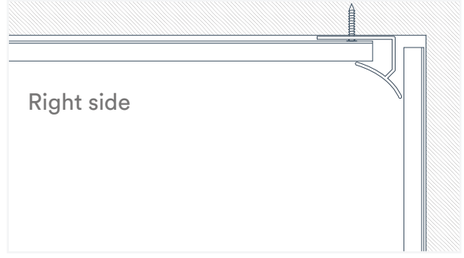






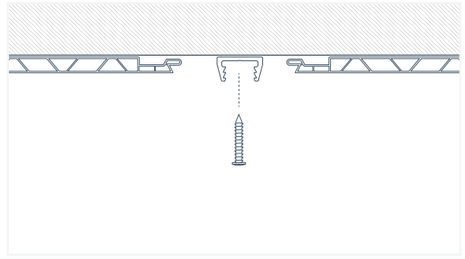
Inside Cove Corner

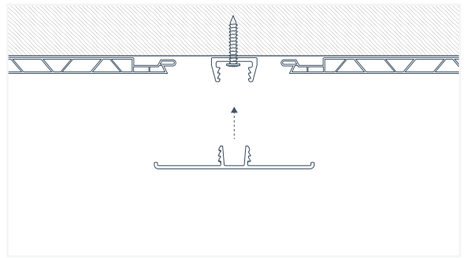


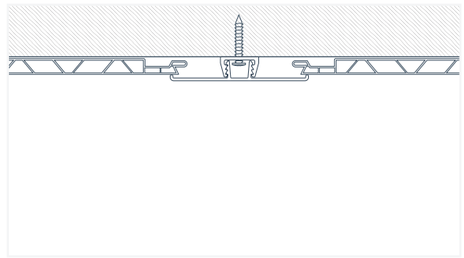


Panel joints

H Channel Snap-In Kit

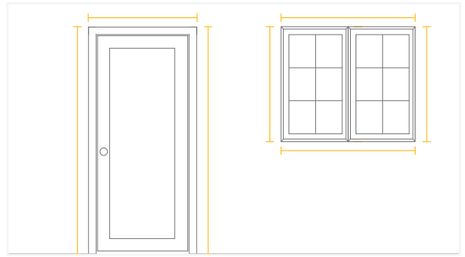


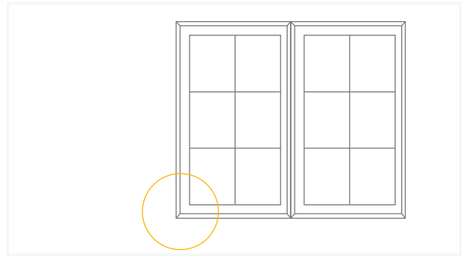


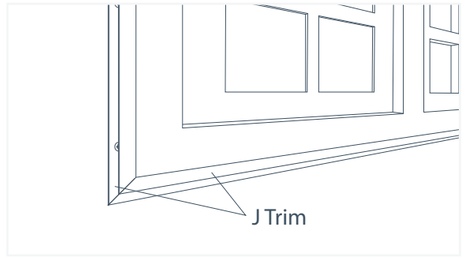


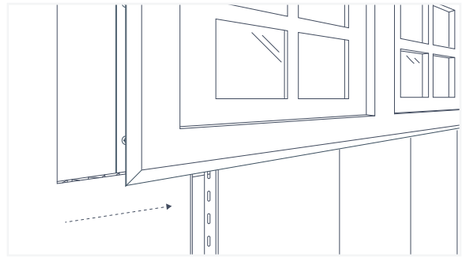
Window & door openings

J Trim

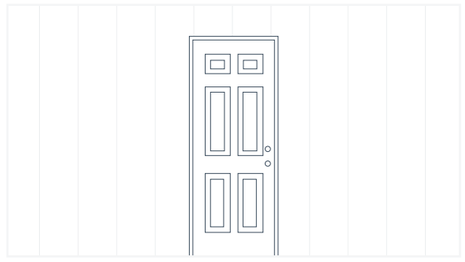


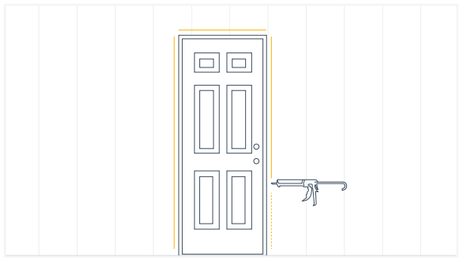


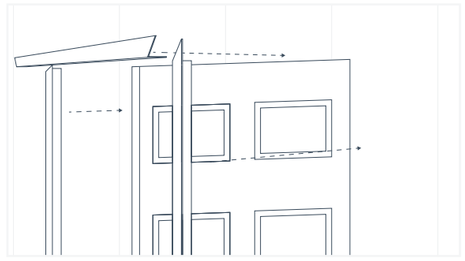


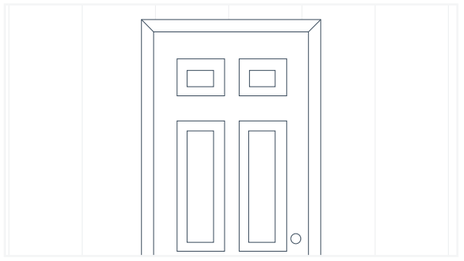


Outside Corner





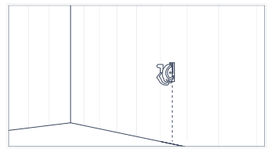




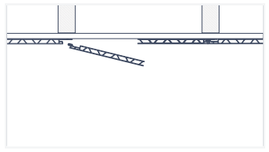
How to replace a damaged panel after installation

In the unlikely situation where a panel becomes damaged after it has been installed, follow the steps below to remove and replace it:

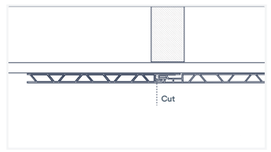
1. Set the depth of your handheld circular saw to 1/2” (the thickness of a Wall&CeilingBoard panel.)
2. Cut through the center of the panel, parallel to the panel joints.
3. The side of the panel with the tongue should slide easily out of the adjacent panel.
4. On the groove side that remains, make another cut beside the panel joint.
5. Now you can tilt the next panel out of the way and remove the screws from your panel.
6. Insert the U Base from a Snap-In H Channel Kit along the groove side of the panel.



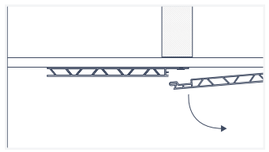
2.



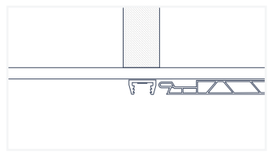
3.



4.

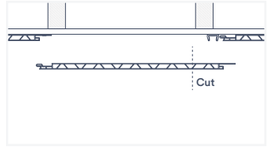


5.

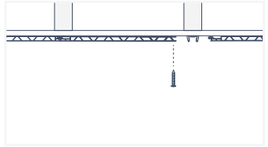


6.

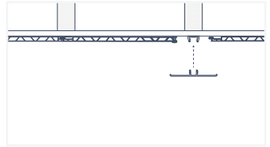
7. Cut your replacement panel to fit between the existing panel joint and the U base.
8. Insert the replacement panel onto the wall, screwing directly into the cut edge of the panel.
9. Snap the H Channel cap onto the U base to complete the installation.



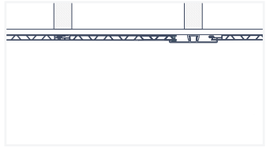
7.



8.



9.



Cleaning

Here are some guidelines to help you handle any level of dirt your product encounters:

Day-to-day cleaning

To remove common dirt and maintain your Trusscore product’s beautiful appearance, wash using a sponge or soft cloth and a mild cleaning solution.

Abrasive cleaning pads/cloths should not be used as they could scratch or alter the surface of the product.

If the dirt is difficult to remove, wipe clean with a solution of:

- 1/3 cup laundry detergent (e.g. Tide®)
- 2/3 cup tri-sodium phosphate (e.g. TSP®)
- 3.79 L (1 Gallon) of water

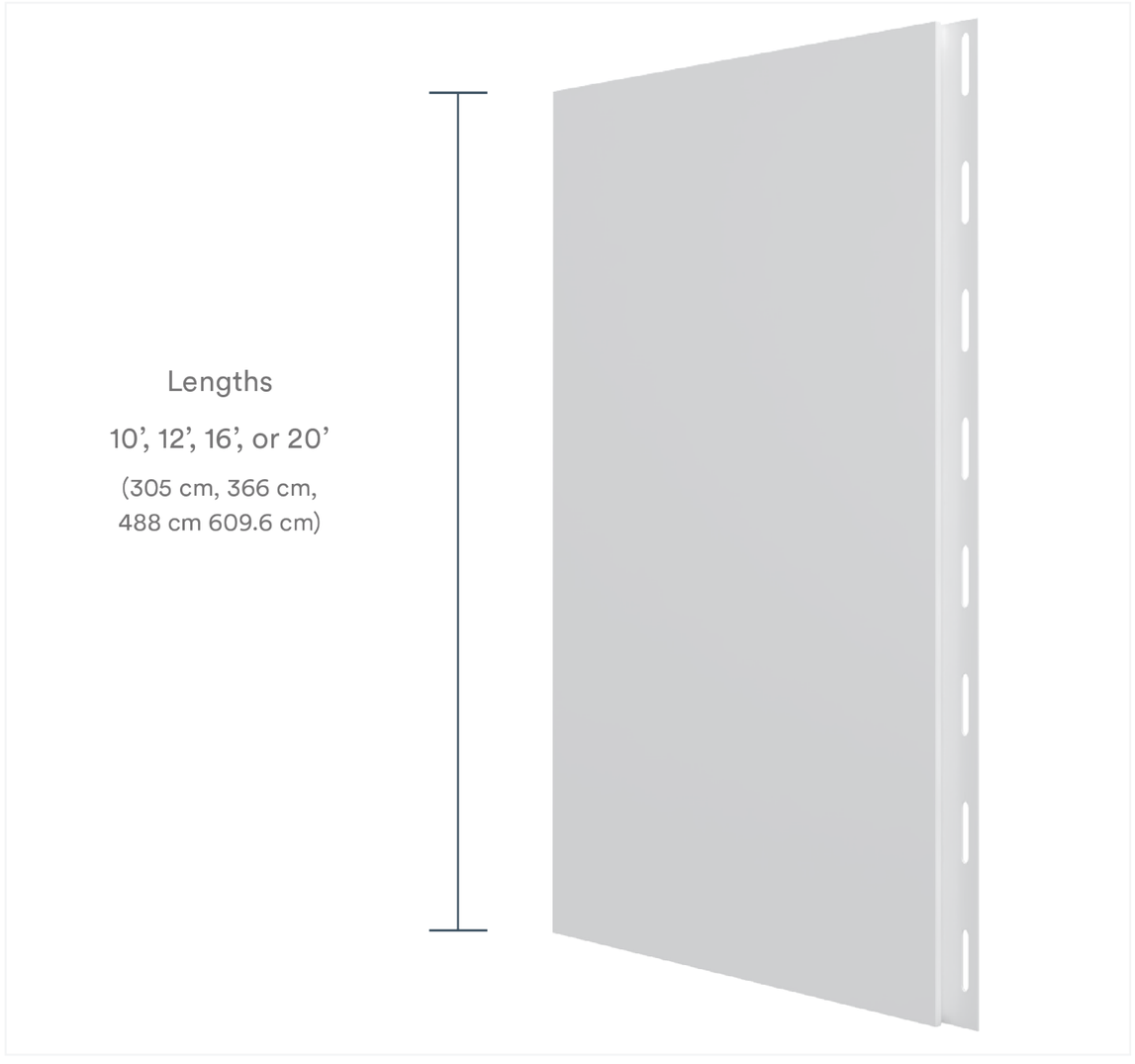
Swiffer® Dusters™ are very helpful in removing dust from Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard.
Mr. Clean® Magic Erasers™ can be used to remove marks on Trusscore Wall&Ceilingboard.

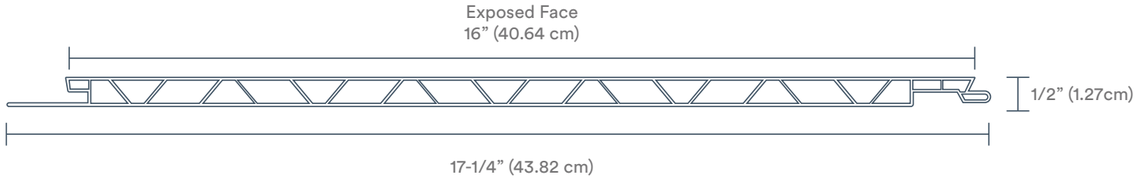
Pressure washing

When hand cleaning doesn’t get the job done, pressure washers may be used with mild soap and a sponge or soft cloth, provided the guidelines below are followed:

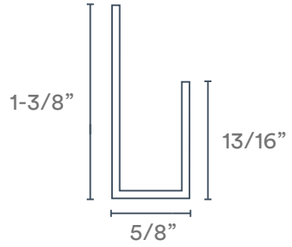
- Power washing nozzle should be at least 4-6 ft away from the wall
- Use a small-to mid-size power washer with less than 3,000 psi
- Use a wide spray nozzle angle (40° or greater is preferred) to distribute the water pressure across the wall

Specifications

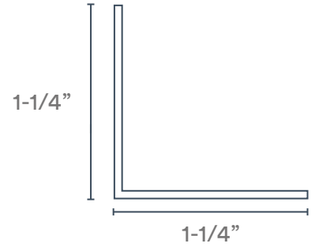




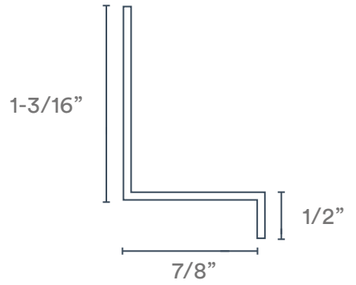
Trim dimensions



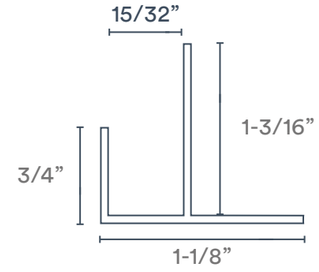
1/2” J Trim



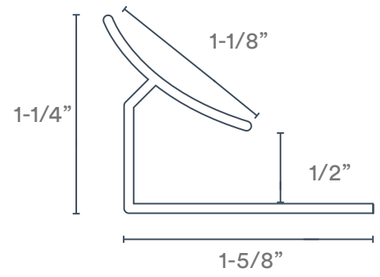
Outside Corner



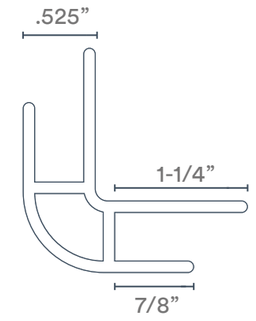
Base Trim



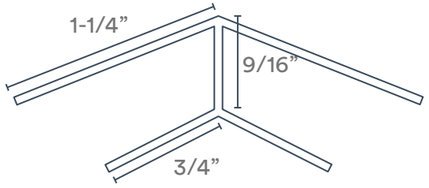
F Trim



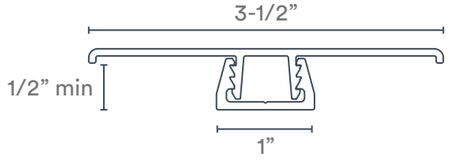
Inside Cove Corner



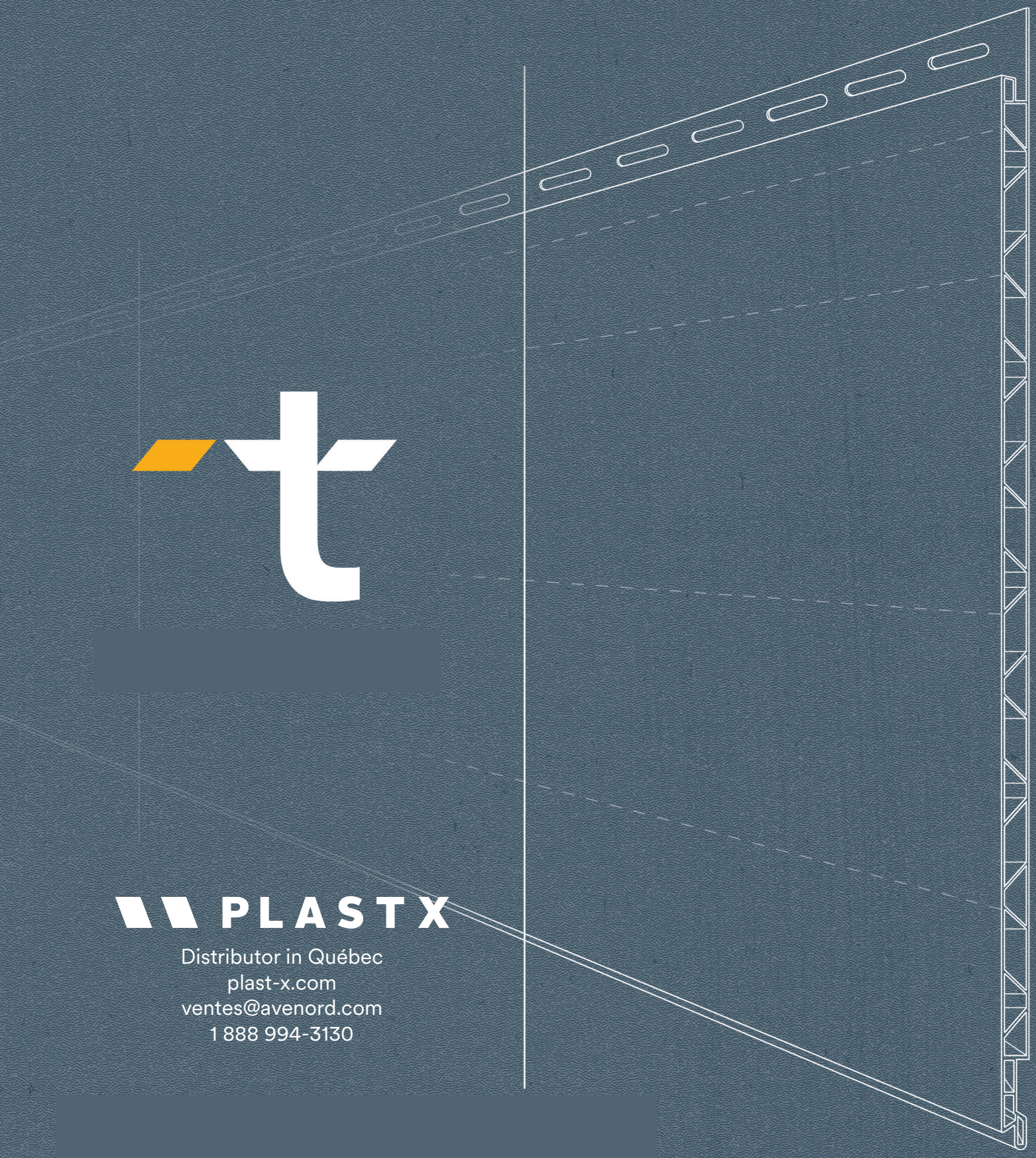
Outside Corner Rounded



45° H Channel



H Channel
Snap-In Kit



PLASTX

Distributor in Québec
plast-x.com
ventes@avenord.com
1 888 994-3130

Copyright © 2021 Trusscore Inc. Trusscore is a trademark of Trusscore Inc. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

Specifications are subject to change. T-IG101-002 01/2021

Plast-X is a division of Avenord company