

## Quick Reference Guide

March 2024

Version 24.0

### Chapter 19 – Installing Floor Trim

Preparation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Make sure all door trim has been installed</li><li>2. Mark studs on floor if not already done</li><li>3. Scrape excess plaster from wall near the floor, pay particular attention to corners</li><li>4. In carpeted areas, use scrap floor trim pieces (<math>\frac{3}{8}</math>" ) to hold trim off the floor</li><li>5. In areas with hard flooring, install trim directly on and tight to the finished flooring. Hard flooring must be in place before installing trim</li><li>6. Do not install trim in kitchen or bathroom until cabinets are in place.</li></ol>
General Instructions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>7. Establish a plan for each room, deciding where trim must be coped or mitered. It is usually best to start on a wall with two inside corners that can be cut with straight end cuts.</li><li>8. Avoid trim pieces with both ends coped or one end coped and the other beveled, if possible.</li><li>9. Run trim under cold air return vent covers</li><li>10. Cope all inside corners, miter all outside corners. Glue all mitered corners</li><li>11. Bevel splices with matching 22.5° cuts arranged so overlap is angled away from room viewing area and with the overlap falling 2" away from the edge of a stud. Glue ends of the splice before nailing</li><li>12. Set all nails and fill holes with putty</li></ol>
Installation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>13. Use 2½" collated finish nails, nail about 1" into top of floor trim into each stud</li><li>14. Do not nail square cut ends at corners. The corresponding coped piece should hold these corners tight.</li><li>15. Use construction adhesive to install very short pieces to avoid splitting the trim</li><li>16. Trim that transitions from hard flooring to a carpeted area should be held level as the depth of the hard flooring equals the depth of the scrap floor trim used to position trim over carpeting. If a transition strip has been installed over the carpet/hard floor junction, cut the transition strip away from the wall using a scrap piece of floor trim as a width guide.</li><li>17. Hold trim over hard flooring tight to the flooring</li></ol>
Coping	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>18. Cut a 45° bevel so that back side of trim is longer than the face.</li><li>19. Make a 15° relief cut with bottom edge of trim up and face side toward front of saw, blade aligned with intersection of the bevel cut and face of the trim</li><li>20. Cut down the edge of the flat face leaving the curved edge in place</li><li>21. Use a coping saw held at a 5° back angle to cut the curved edge</li><li>22. Smooth or shape as needed for a good fit</li></ol>

## Quality Points

### Chapter 19 – Installing Floor Trim

- Trim is tight to hard flooring and spaced appropriately over areas to be carpeted
- All inside corners are coped, all outside corners are mitered. Mitered corners are glued
- Coped and mitered corners are tight to one another with no large gaps
- Splices are beveled and glued
- Trim is not split in any area
- Trim is nailed into each stud and all nail holes are set and puttied