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material + science

Wall&CeilingBoard
Installation Guide

Click to watch the Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard installation video

Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard

Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard is designed with a high-strength polymer formulation and engineered to be the perfect alternative to traditional drywall systems or fiberglass reinforced panels (FRP). 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

Warranty

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

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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

Drill/Screw Gun

Radial Arm Saw or Handheld Power Saw

Tin Snips

Tape Measure

Level

Putty Knife

Utility Knife

Ladder and/or Scaffolding

Safety Glasses

Face Mask
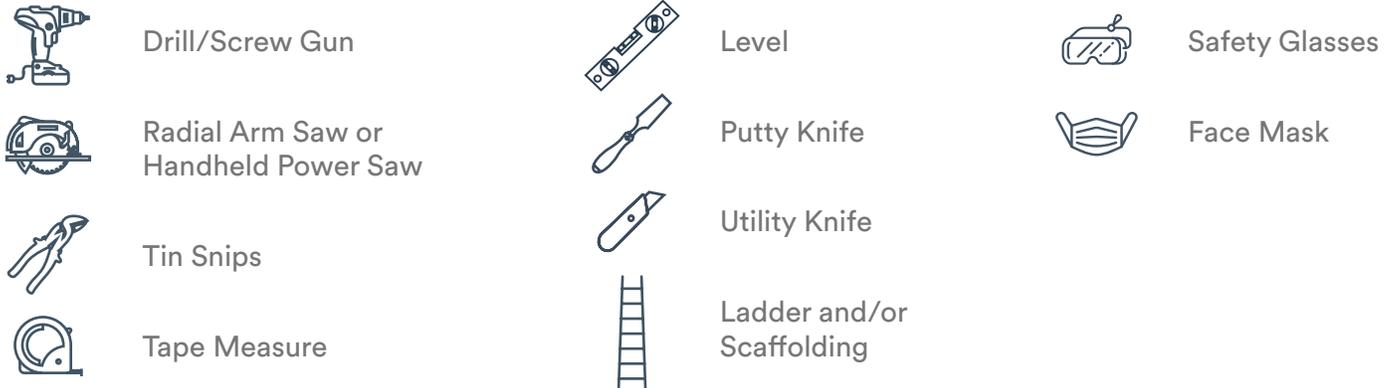
Acclimatizing your product

Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard must sit in the location where it will be installed for a minimum of 24 hours before installation. This will minimize the amount of expansion or contraction that occurs after the product is installed and ensure the best possible installation.

We recommend that you loosen or remove any packaging material that may restrain the product while acclimatizing.

Temperature range

Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard is designed to be installed between 10-20°C (50-68°F). For installations outside that temperature range, please consult our [Cold Weather Installation Guide](#).

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".

⚠ Do not use nails or staples

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

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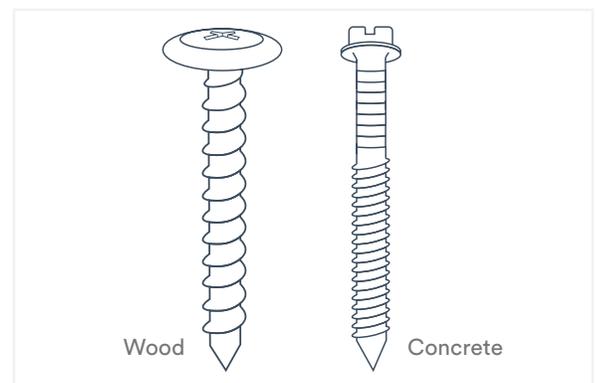
If applying over drywall, screws should be 1-3/4" to 2" long. If furring strips or strapping are part of your installation, screws should be 2-1/2".

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

Fastening tips

- **Do not over tighten fasteners**

- Allow a minimum of 1/16" (about the thickness of a dime) between the back of the fastener head and the screw flange (Fig 1)

- 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 (Fig 2)

- Screws must be installed straight and level to allow for movement (Fig 3)

- 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

Top view

Minimum 1/16" gap allowing for expansion
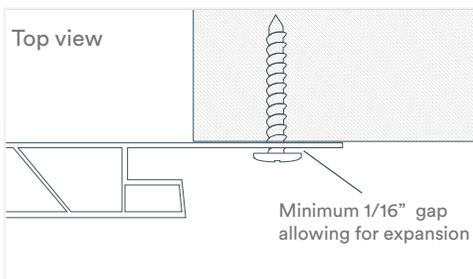
Fig. 1
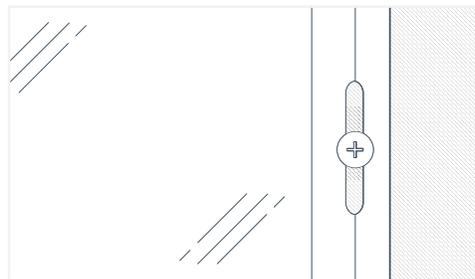
Fig. 2
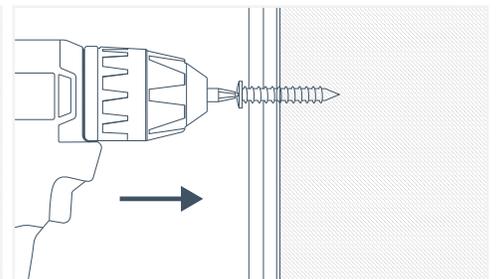
Fig. 3

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 furring strips or strapping where necessary; make sure that all vapor barriers, etc are installed to code prior to Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard being installed

- Trusscore Wall&CeilingBoard should be installed perpendicular to ceiling joists or roof trusses; when additional strapping must be installed, 1"x4" or 2"x4" furring strips or strapping should be the minimum that is installed; if installing parallel, joists must be 16" on center

- If furring strips or strapping are 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

- If you're suspending lights 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 (Fig 4).

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

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

Any offcuts you create are recyclable.

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

Fig. 4

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.
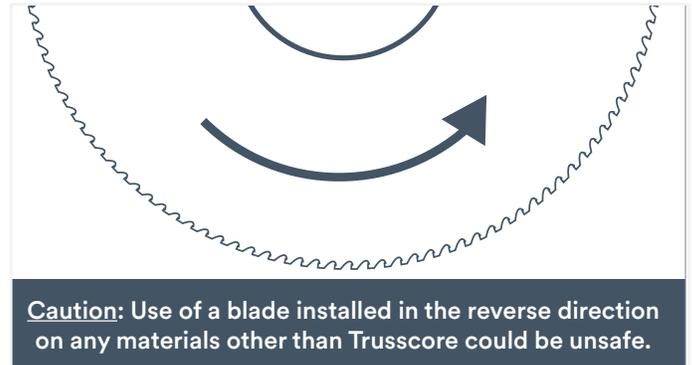
Ceiling installation

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 (Fig 5). 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 (Fig 6). **Remember not to over tighten your fasteners.**

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 (Fig 7). 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 (Fig 8).

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.


Tongue

J Trim

Flange

2a.

Fig. 5

1/8" gap

2b. Ceiling side view

Fig. 6

H Channel Snap-In Kit

Wall&CeilingBoard

3. Ceiling side view

Fig. 7

Measure

Measure the distance from the walls to the edge of the panels at both the top and bottom

Measure

4. Ceiling

Fig. 8

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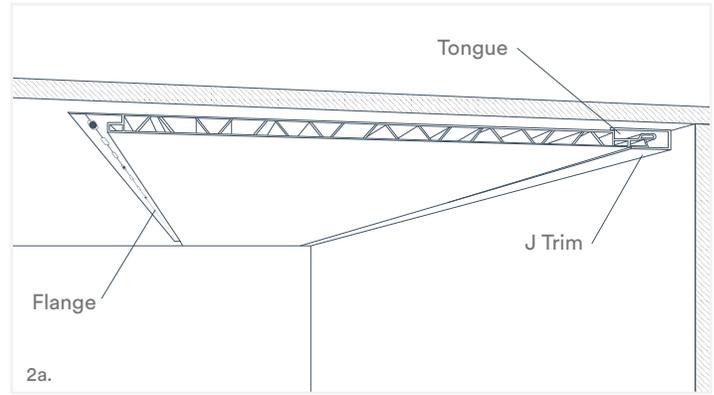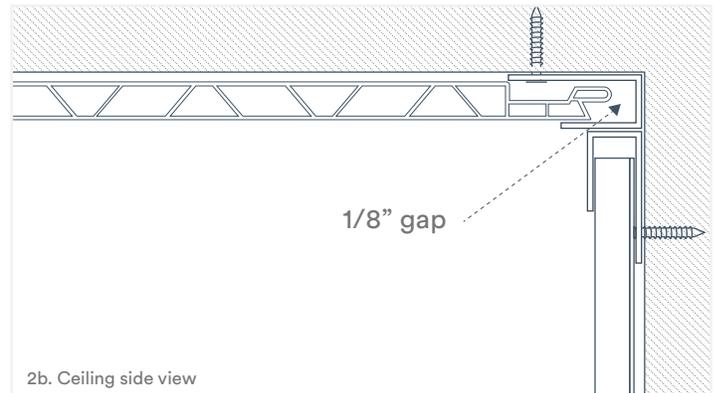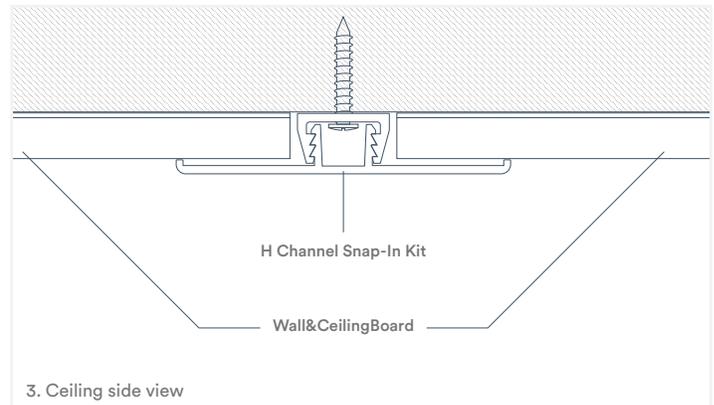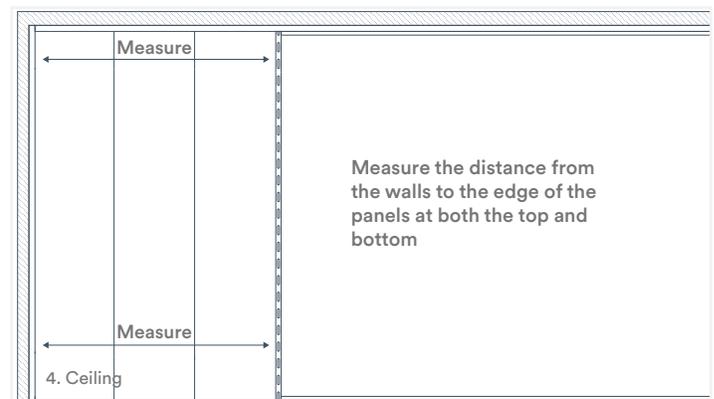
Wall installation

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 (Fig 9). 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. **Remember not to over tighten your fasteners.**
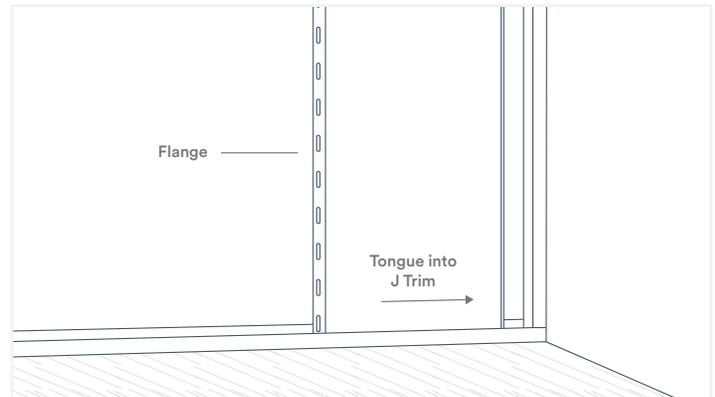
5. With the first panel row installed, you can now install the rest of your wall. The tongue of the second panel will be inserted into the groove of the first panel. Panels should be firmly pressed together during installation to ensure a proper connection. Once they are firmly together, they can be 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 (Fig 10). If the measurements are uneven, you will need to correct the positioning of your board.
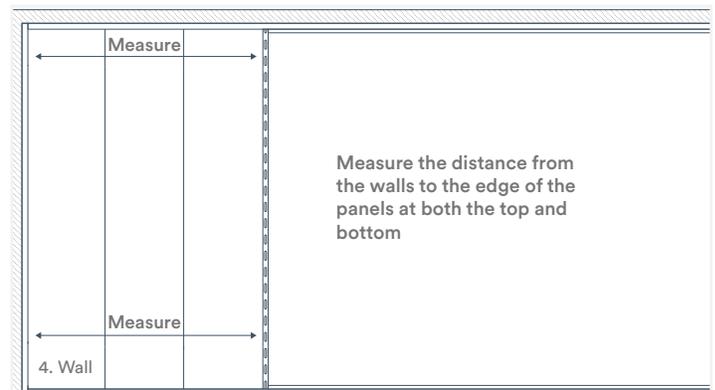
6. Your last panel may need to be trimmed to fit it in. Refer to the [Ripping panels](#) section for details on how to do this.

Flange

Tongue into J Trim

Fig. 9

Measure

Measure the distance from the walls to the edge of the panels at both the top and bottom

Measure

4. Wall

Fig. 10

Horizontal panels

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

- The tongue side of the panel should be installed facing towards the floor, the groove side facing towards the ceiling (Fig 11)

- As you add panels, insert silicone into the panel joint to ensure no water will pool in that connection

- If your wall is longer than your panels, you'll need to join them with an H channel snap-in kit (Fig 12)

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

Fig. 11

Fig. 12

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.

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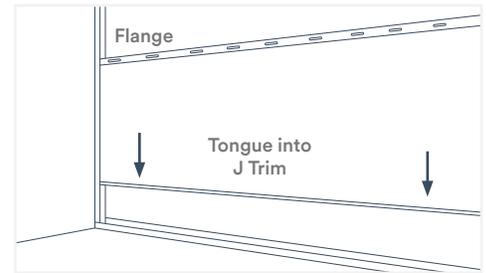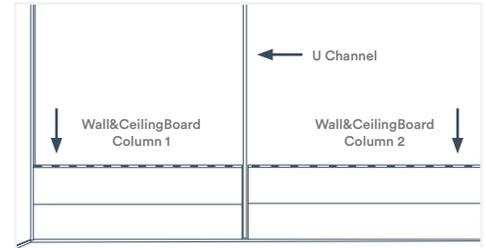
Cutouts

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. Insert the blade into the hole and proceed to cut out along your marked lines.
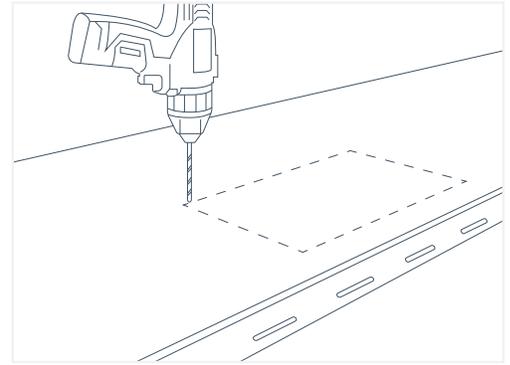

Fig. 13

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, insert a small bead of silicone caulking on channel opening of trim pieces before installing panels

Inside corners

One J Trim

Top view

Two J Trim

Top view

For information on the required spacing between Wall&CeilingBoard panels and trims, refer to page 6 for ceilings and page 7 for walls.

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Inside Cove Corner

Top view
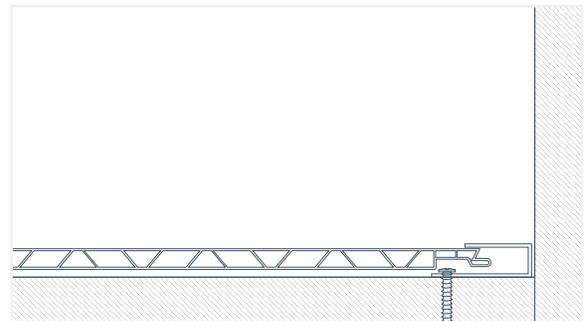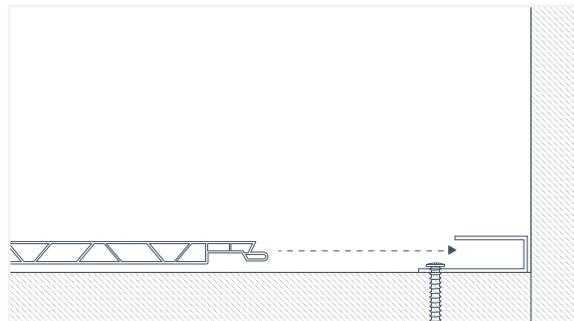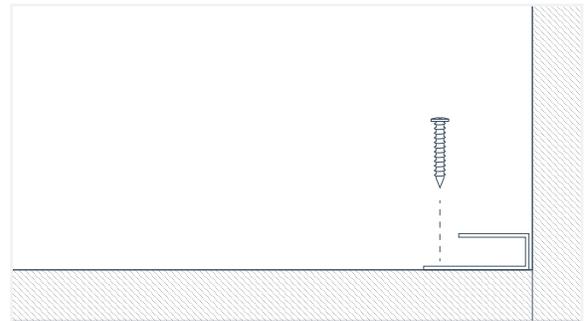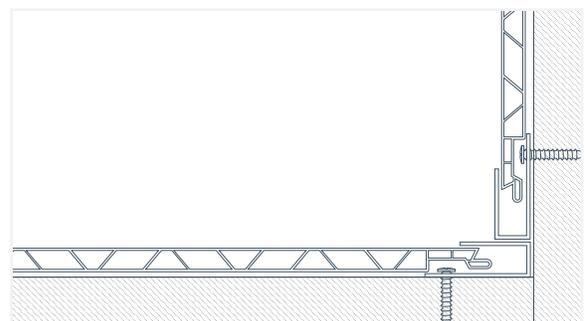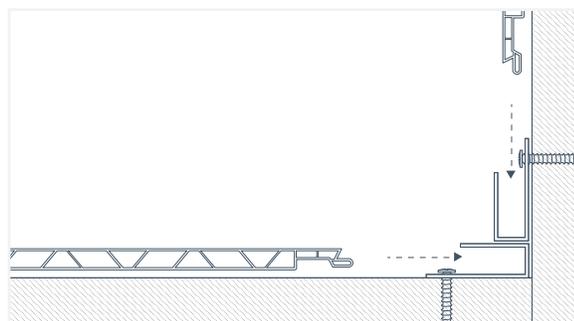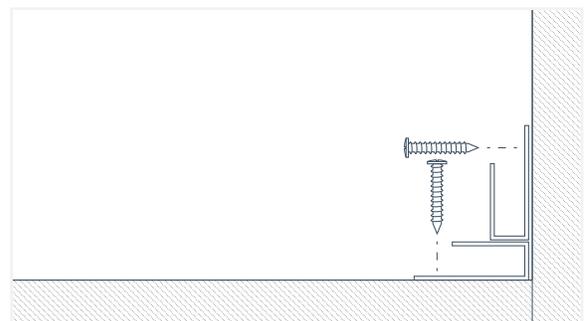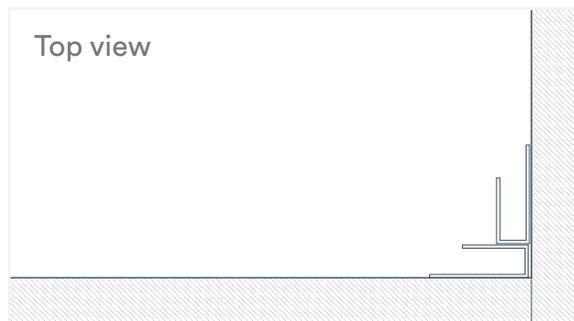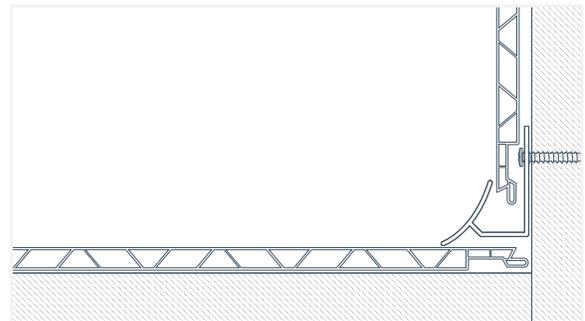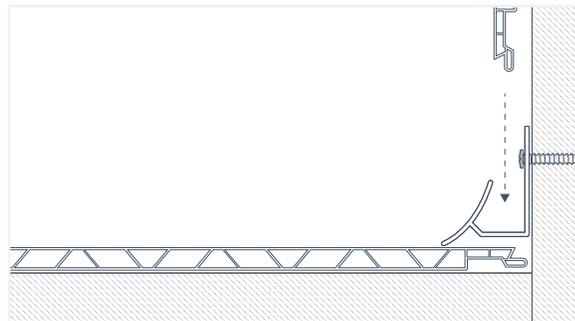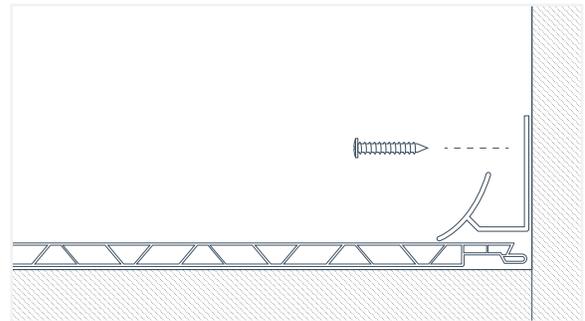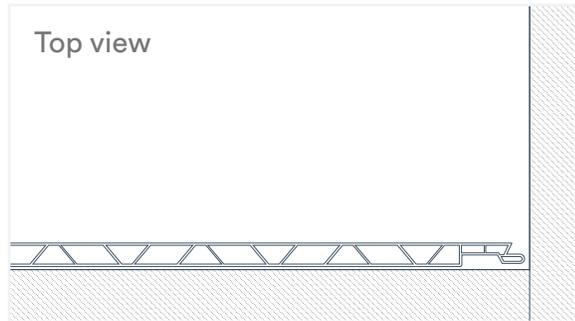
Outside corners

Outside Corner Rounded
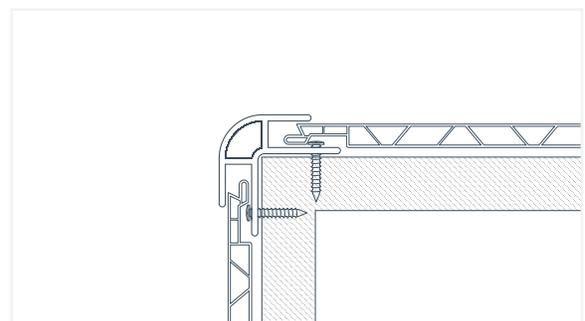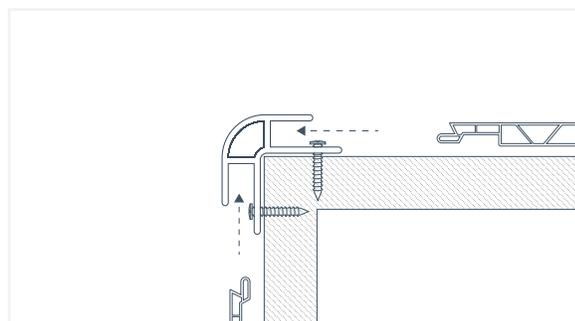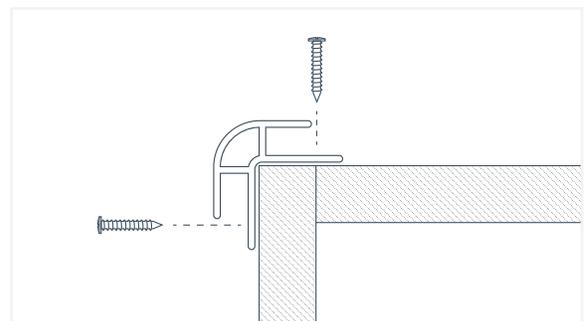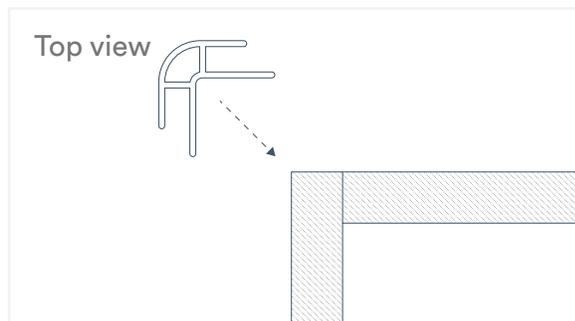
Top view

For information on the required spacing between Wall&CeilingBoard panels and trims, refer to page 6 for ceilings and page 7 for walls.

Outside Corner Square

Top view

Bottom of wall

Base Trim

Right side

RibCore Panel
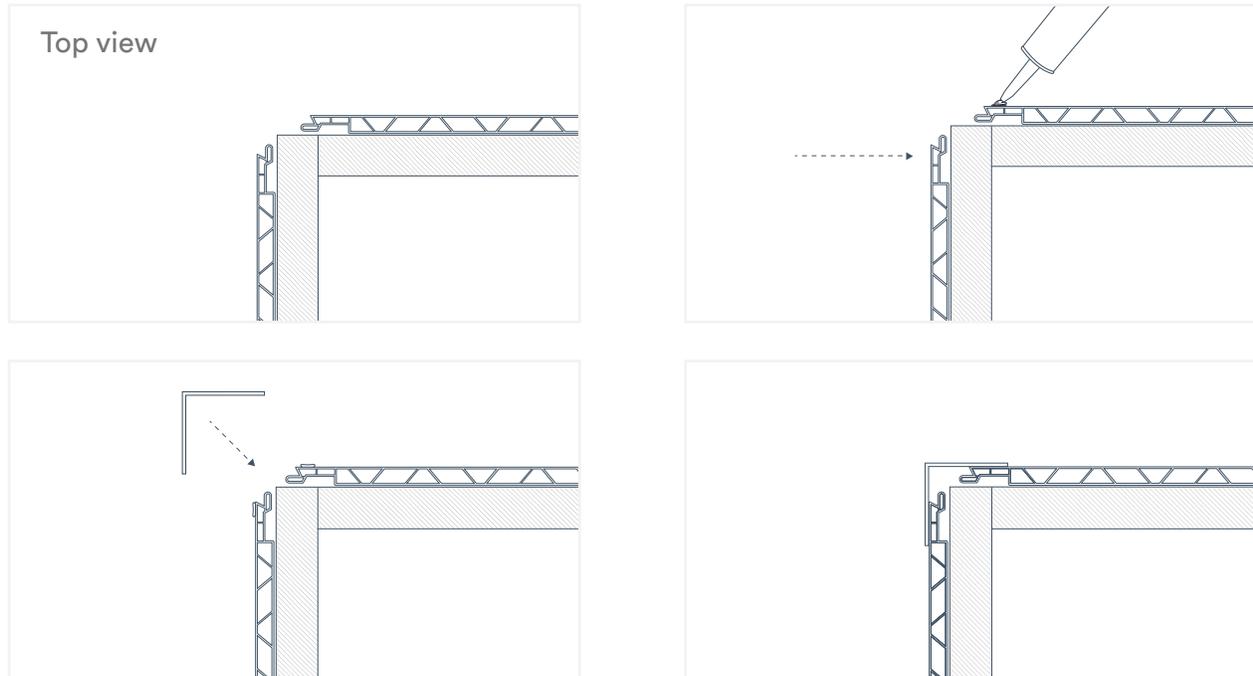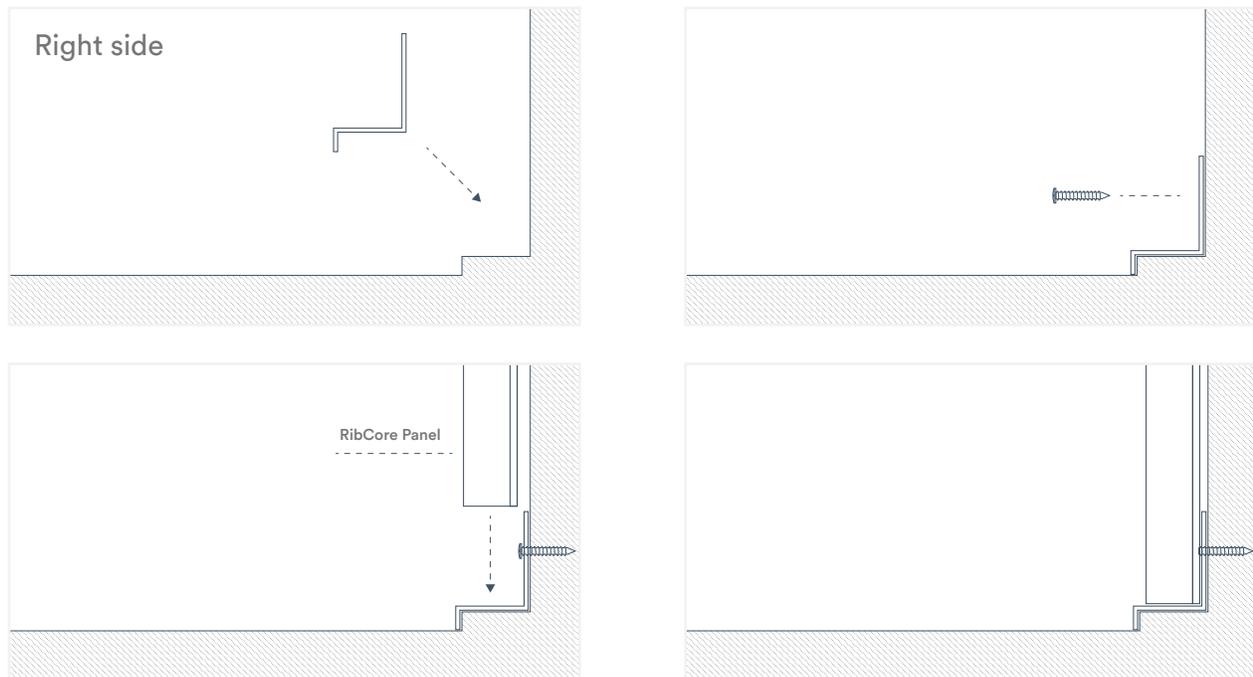
Do not use base trim on sloped floors.

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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.

Right side

**Top of wall**

J Trim

Right side

Inside Cove Corner

Right side
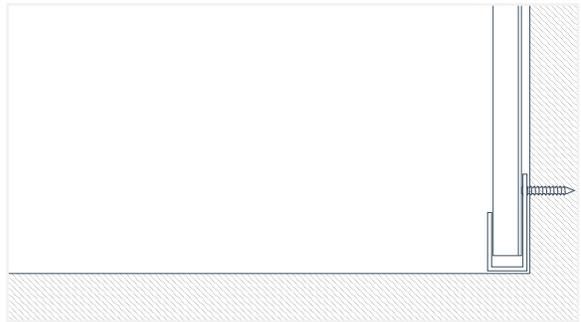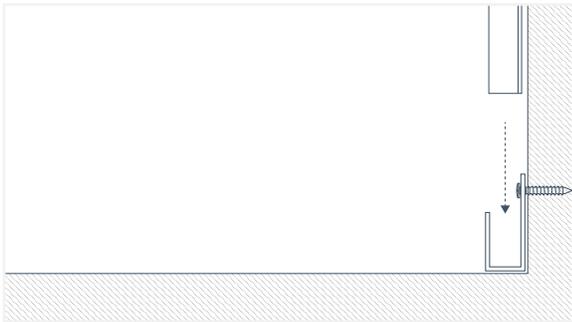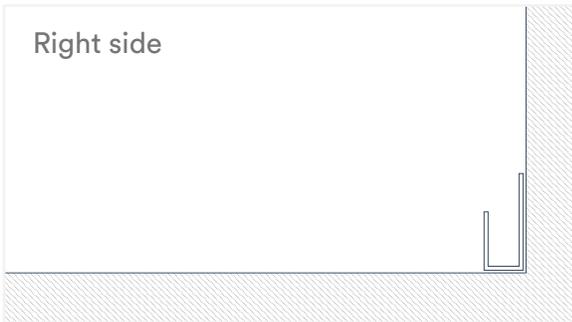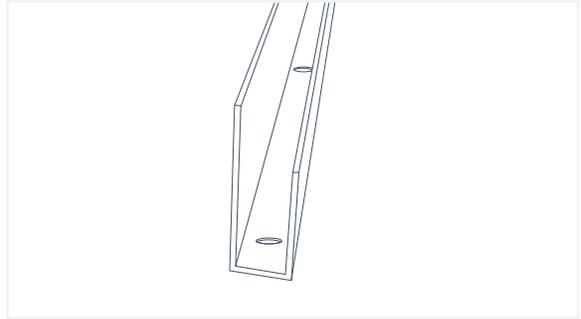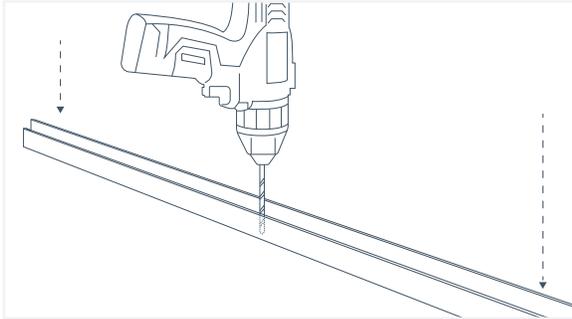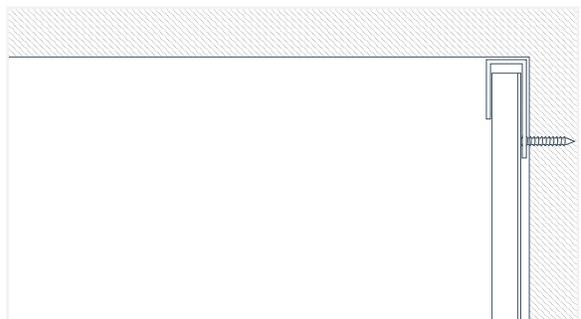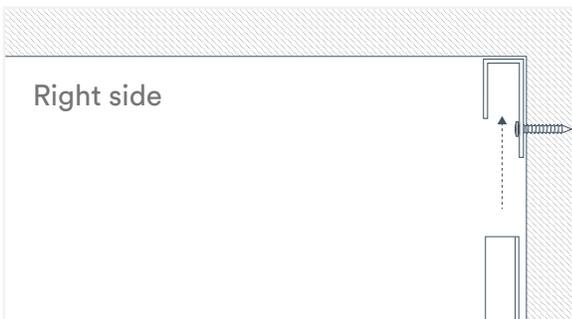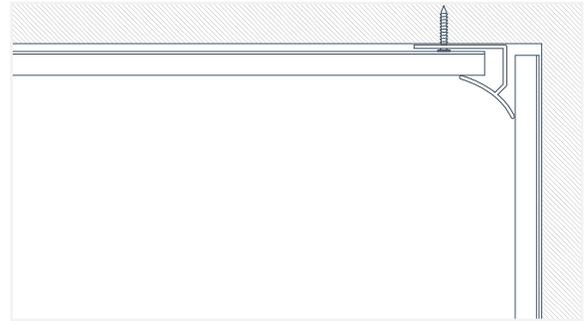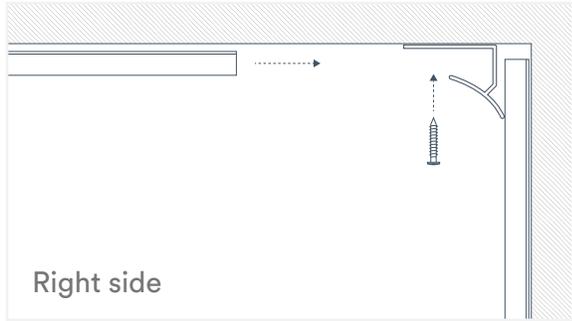
Ceiling perimeter

J Trim

Top view

J Trim perimeter

Right side

Inside Cove Corner

Top view

Inside Cove Corner perimeter

Right side

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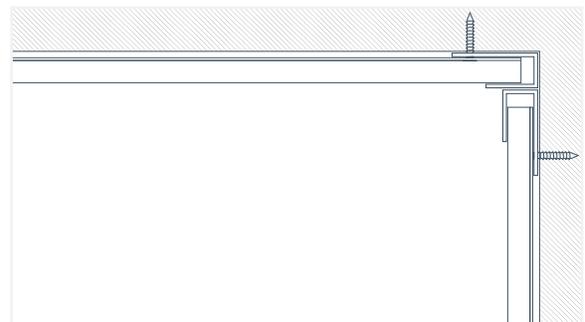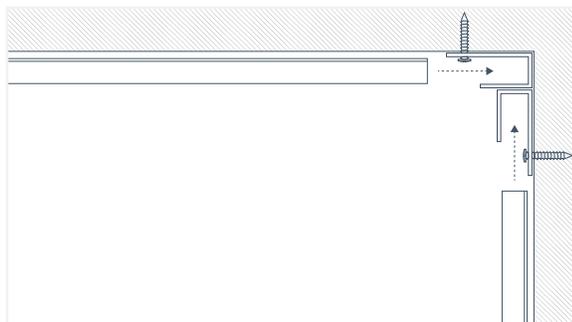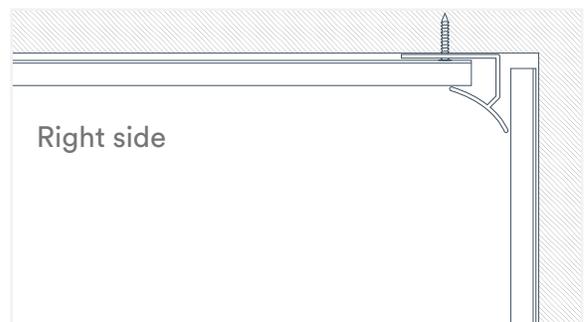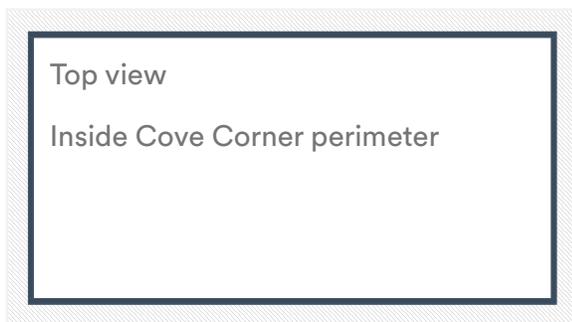
Panel joints

H Channel Snap-In Kit

Top view
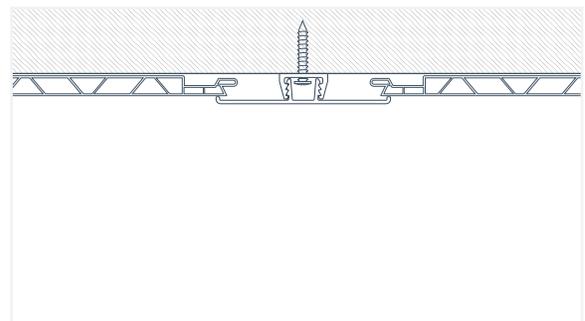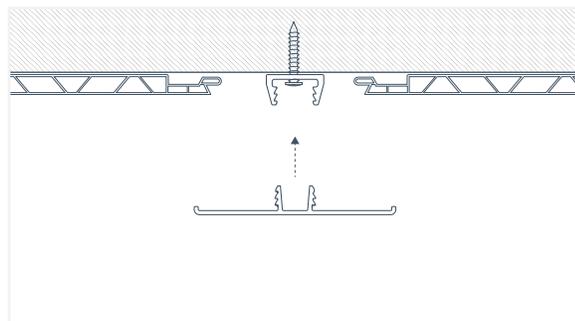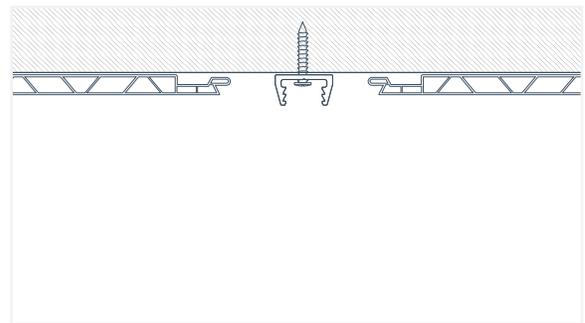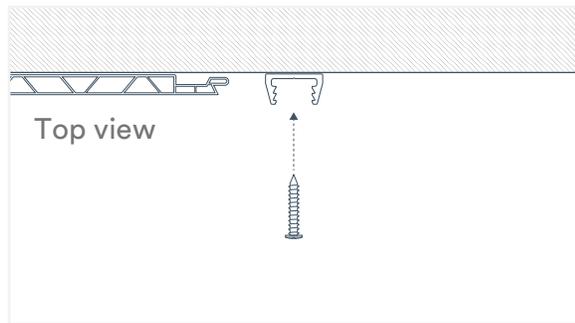
Window & door openings

J Trim
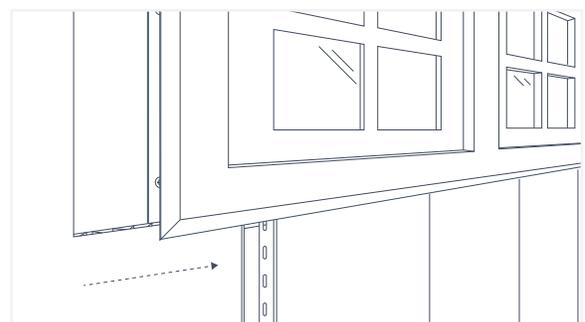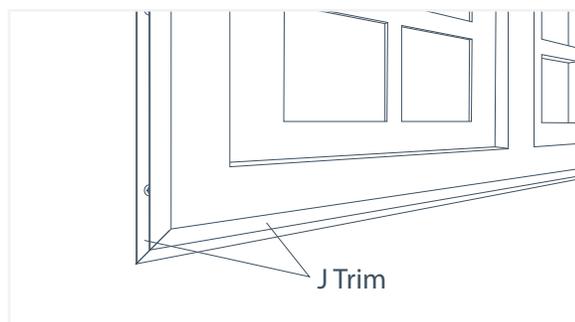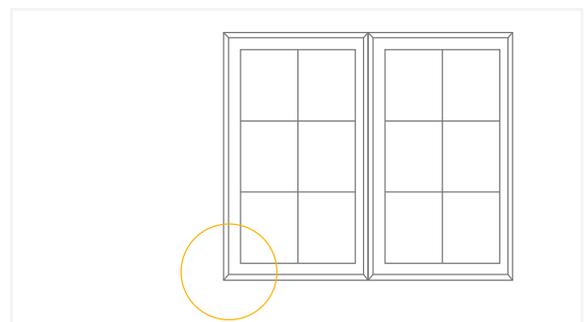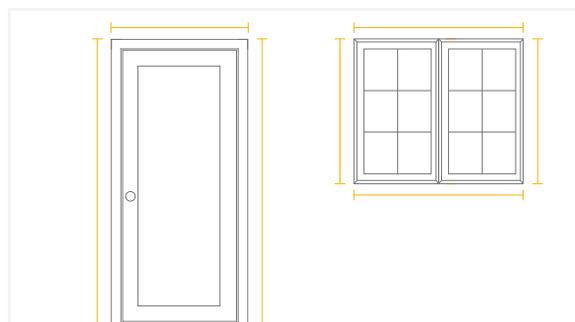
J Trim

For information on the required spacing between Wall&CeilingBoard panels and trims, refer to page 6 for ceilings and page 7 for walls.

Outside Corner
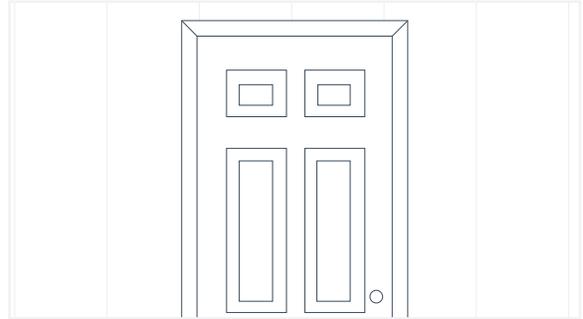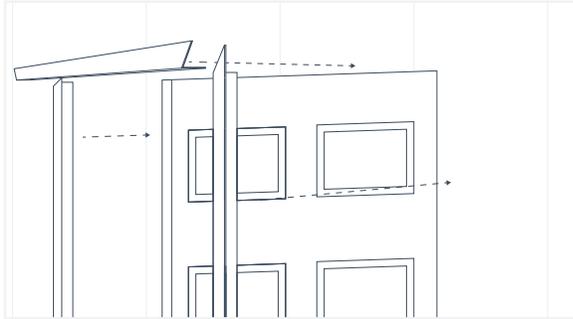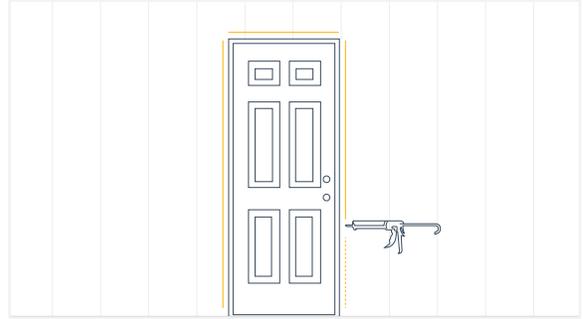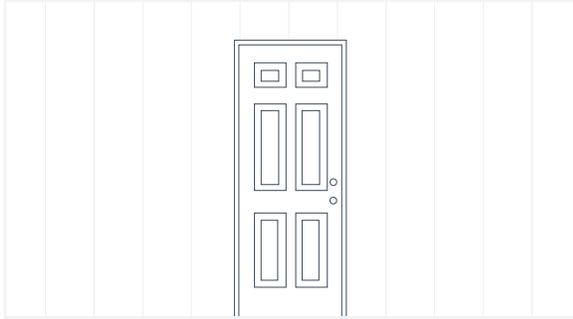
How to replace a damaged panel after installation

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.

trusscore
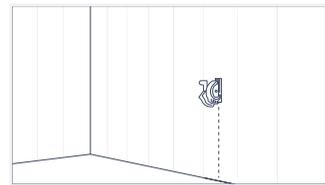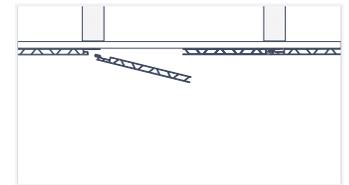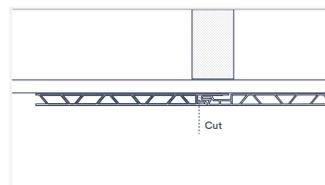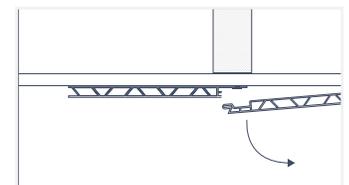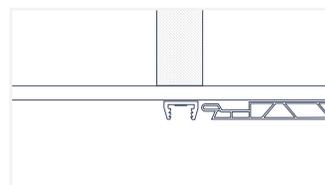
7. Cut your replacement panel to fit between the existing panel joint and the U base.

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.
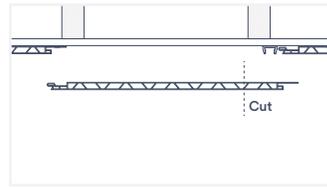
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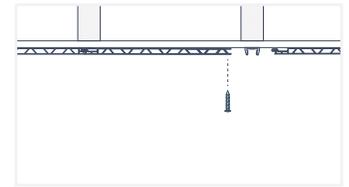
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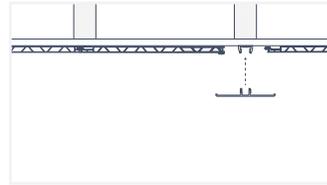
9.

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

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.

As part of our focus on continuous innovation, Trusscore leverages advancements in material science to improve the performance and environmental impact of our products. Through the use of zero wastewater production processes, incorporation of recycled material in our products, and commitment to using raw materials with low environmental impact we are developing more sustainable building products.

Our drive to continually develop better-looking, better-performing, and more sustainable products can result in minor changes to the color and texture of our products when compared to previously manufactured products. Therefore, install products of the same package and/or pallet when completing your project to ensure the best possible results to minimize any minor variations.

Specifications

Lengths

10', 12', 14', 16', or 20'

(305 cm, 366 cm, 427 cm, 488 cm, 610 cm)

Exposed Face
16" (40.64 cm)

1/2" (1.27cm)

17-1/4" (43.82 cm)

trusscore

Trim dimensions

1-3/8"

13/16"

5/8"

1/2" J Trim

1-1/4"

1-1/4"

Outside Corner

1-3/16"

1/2"

7/8"

Base Trim

15/32"

1-3/16"

3/4"

1-1/8"

F Trim

1-1/8"

1-1/4"

1/2"

1-5/8"

Inside Cove Corner

.525"

1-1/4"

7/8"

Outside Corner Rounded

1-1/4"

9/16"

3/4"

45° H Channel

3-1/2"

1/2" min

1"

H Channel
Snap-In Kit

trusscore.com