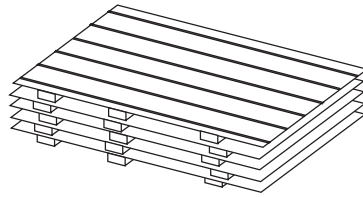# PLY-BEAD® PANELS

Installation Instructions

Care and Storage

Ply-Bead® panels should be stored and handled with care to avoid damaging before installing and finishing. Store in a cool, dry place out of direct sunlight. Stack on a level surface.

To minimize the amount of dimensional change that can occur due to changes in panel moisture content, acclimate panels to the environment in which they will be installed for at least 48 hours prior to application. Stack the panels on the floor with a minimum of 3 spacers between each sheet. This allows air to circulate around each panel for proper acclimatization (see illustration).

Wall/Ceiling Framing and Preparation

Panels can be installed over studs, 1″ x 2″ wood furring or existing solid backing wall surface by fastening to the furring or through the backing into the studs. Panels may be oriented with their long dimension (strength axis) vertically over supports 16″ o.c. for wall paneling, garage liner, and wainscoting applications, or horizontally over supports 24″ o.c. When used on porch or interior ceilings, the long dimension (strength axis) must be perpendicular to ceiling joists. All panel ends and edges must be supported by framing, blocking, furring or a solid nailable backing. Drywall is not a nailable backing.
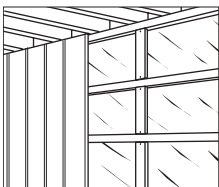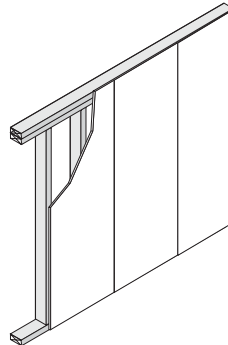
Below Grade and All Masonry Walls should be free of cracks and leaks. Repair cracks or leaks with a waterproof compound or sealer. Apply a minimum 4 mil polyethylene vapor retarder over the masonry wall prior to furring to prevent moisture from accumulating on the back of the panels. Preservative-treated furring is recommended if masonry walls are below grade. If the below grade wall is open frame, treat as an exterior wall.

Exterior Walls and Ceilings separating attics from living spaces should be insulated and have a vapor retarder between the panel back and inner face of the studs, furring or solid backing. The vapor retarder may be a facing attached to the insulation or be a separate layer such as 4 mil polyethylene or a closed cell foam insulation panel.
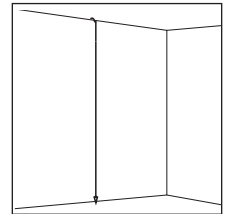
Cutting Panels

Use a sharp cross-cut hand saw or power saw with a combination or cross-cut blade. If using a hand saw or table saw, mark and cut panels face up. If using a portable circular saw or a sabre saw, mark and cut panels face down. Where rough edges develop, they can be dressed with a carpenter's plane, rasp, file or sandpaper.
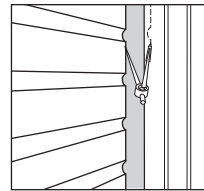
Measure and mark carefully cutouts for door and window sections, electrical switches, outlets and heat registers. Many a good panel has been ruined by inaccurate measurement, marking and cutting. Double check your work before cutting. Always wear eye protection when cutting or nailing.

Measuring and Fitting

Start panel installation at a corner by fitting the panel loosely into the corner. Scribing to the corner may be helpful to plumb the leading panel edge over the center line of the stud or furring, especially if the adjacent wall is rough or irregular. Leave a 1/4″ gap at the top and bottom of the wall. This space and a 1/8″ gap at corners and around window and door openings and cutouts can be concealed by mouldings, faceplates, etc. For interior applications, space panels at least 1/32″ apart at edges, 1/8″ for protected exterior applications, such as porch ceilings. Walls and studs behind joints can be painted, stained or taped to blend with the panel finish and prevent show-through. Gaps can be caulked with a non-hardening paintable caulk. Install subsequent panels in the same manner, checking for plumb periodically.

Fastening

Nail panels 6″ o.c. at panel ends and edges and 12″ o.c. at intermediate supports in the field of the panel.

Do not nail directly through the shiplap at long edges. Place

Nail under-lap and over-lap separately.

nails 3/8″ from panel ends and edges. Nail under-lap and over-lap separately. For interior paneling, garage liner and wainscot applications, use a 6d casing, finishing or ring shank paneling

Georgia-Pacific
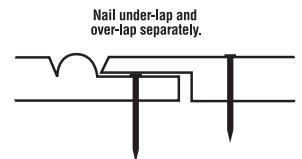
nail. For protected exterior porch ceilings and soffits, use a 6d nonstaining (galvanized or stainless) box or casing nail. Longer nails are necessary if solid backing is over 1/2″ thick to achieve minimum 1″ penetration into framing. Drive nails flush with the panel surface or set slightly using a nail set. Be careful not to damage the panel surface with the hammer. Always wear eye protection when cutting or nailing.

Porch Ceilings

To ease the installation process, make a T-shaped prop of 2″x4″ lumber with a padded top surface. Make it a few inches longer than the ceiling height and use it to wedge the panel in place while you nail. All panel ends and edges must fall over furring,

framing or blocking. Panel joints may be covered with batten strips or moulding.

Wainscot Applications

To minimize waste, consider cutting 4′x8′ panels into thirds (32″x48″ sections). The resulting 32″ high wainscot panels will cover 12 lineal feet of wall per 4′x8′ panel. Cap the top of the wainscot panel with a cap moulding or chair rail moulding. The 1⁄4″ space at the floor/wall intersect will be covered by the base moulding.
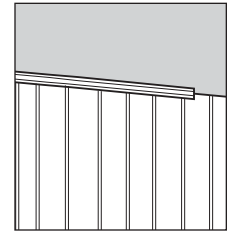
Finishing Instructions

General

Surfaces should be clean and dry before finishing. Be sure to use a good quality finish system recommended for plywood. Acrylic latex paint systems are the only recommended finish. When in question, a brush-out test should be performed on a representative sample to demonstrate the finished appearance.

Edge Sealing (Paint)

Moisture enters the end grain of plywood or other wood-based products faster than through the surface. Consequently, edges and ends of plywood panels should be sealed. Although paints are not necessarily moisture-proof or permanently durable, they help to minimize sudden changes in moisture content in the panels due to humidity changes.

Surface Preparation

Proper surface preparation is a must to assure optimum performance of finishes on any surface.

- Repair any damaged areas on the panel faces and over set nails with a wood filler and allow to dry prior to application of finishes.
- Remove dirt and loose wood fibers with a stiff non-metallic bristle brush. Smooth rough areas by light sanding.
- Finishes should be applied as soon as possible after installation of the panels.

- Extra care is required not to damage the finished surface if finished prior to installation.
- Finishes should not be applied when the air temperature is expected to drop below 50°F (10°C) within 24 hours for latex finishes.*
- Surfaces should be clean and dry before finishing.
- Use only top-quality finishes and equipment.
- The first coat should be applied by brush.
- Subsequent coats of finish may be applied by brush or roller.

Paints (acrylic latex)

An acrylic latex paint system composed of at least one stain-resistant primer coat and two companion topcoats should be applied. (NOTE: If using Ply-Bead® primed panels, only the two companion topcoats are necessary.) A paint finish tends to mask surface characteristics more than an opaque stain. A top-quality 100% acrylic latex paint system will provide a more durable finish. Follow the primer and compatible topcoat manufacturers' recommendations for application to plywood sidings. A satin gloss is recommended for cleanability and best appearance.

* Always follow the finish manufacturers' recommendations. Finishes should be applied according to the spread rates recommended by the manufacturer.

Care and Handling

Plywood products are certified by APA-The Engineered Wood Association. An EXPOSURE 1 interior panel is able to withstand limited exposure to elements during construction. An EXTERIOR panel is meant for interior or exterior applications and can be permanently exposed to weather when properly stored, handled, installed and finished. The user is responsible for proper use and installation of our panels. Our panels must be installed in strict conformity with our instructions and all applicable building code requirements and other regulations. In addition, if not specifically covered by our installation instructions or construction detail illustrations, the panels must be installed in accordance with generally accepted design and construction practices. We do not warrant and are not responsible for the design and construction of any finished structure or system into which our panels may be incorporated or other building components that may be used with our panels.

Our panels may support mold growth if exposed to certain conditions, including moisture, dampness, condensation, humidity, water or wet conditions. Mold, mildew, fungi, algae, moss, bacterial growth, decay, rot or similar conditions are not manufacturing or product defects and we assume no responsibility or liability for such conditions, regardless of cause.

Georgia-Pacific panels contain formaldehyde. A Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) containing potential physical and health hazard information is available by contacting the Product Safety and Health Information Department at Georgia-Pacific LLC, P.O. Box 105605 Atlanta, GA 30348-5605, (404) 652-5119 or by visiting www.gp.com/build.

GP **Georgia-Pacific**

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