

## Beadboard Installation Guidelines

### Supplies/ Tools Needed

Tape measure, mitersaw, jigsaw, pneumatic finish nailer, combination square.

### Cutting

VERSATEX can be cut using standard woodworking tools. Conventional carbide tipped blades designed for cutting wood are recommended. Avoid using fine tooth metal-cutting blades.

### Fastening

VERSATEX beadboard can be hand or power nailed the same as wood. In cold temperatures below 40°F, pre drilling is recommended to prevent splitting or cracking of the tongue. Blind nailing is acceptable for single pieces up to eighteen (18) feet in length. For runs in excess of eighteen (18) feet separating each run of beadboard with a "T" or "H" mullion is preferred. A "T" or "H" mullion creates an excellent break between the runs of beadboard while providing a pocket that allows for any expansion or contraction. A simple method of creating a "T" is to take a piece of trimboard at least  $\frac{5}{8}$ " thick at a minimum width of 2" and cut a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " deep by  $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide groove down both sides of the board. When nailing, nails should be at least  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " long so that each fastener penetrates the substrate a minimum of one (1") inch. The stronger the shank of the nail, the more it will resist movement due to thermal expansion and contraction. VERSATEX beadboard should be nailed a maximum of 12" on center along its length with fasteners at least 2" or less from the end of each board.

### Installation

#### 1) Cut the beadboard to length

Measure the depth of the porch front to back at the end where you will start installing the beadboard. Subtract  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch from this measurement to account for the  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch gap you want to leave around the perimeter of the ceiling to allow the beadboard to expand. Using a miter saw, cut beadboard to this measurement.

#### 2) Trim the first board

Before installing the first piece, calculate how many boards it will take to cover the ceiling. Divide the width of the porch ceiling by the width of the beadboard to get the number of whole boards needed to cover the ceiling. If the last board is less than 2 inches,

trim down the first and last board to make the ceiling look evenly spaced. To do that, add the width of the last board to the width of a full board. Subtract  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to account for the expansion gap. Then divide by two. This final figure is the width of each end board.

#### 3) Saw off the grooved edge

Trim the first board to width, cutting off the groove side of the beadboard, leaving the tongue edge for nailing. If your calculations from Step 2 show that the last board will end up wider than 2 inches, start with a full board.

#### 4) Face nail the first board

Position the first board on the ceiling, groove side  $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the wall. Using a pneumatic gun and 2 inch finish nails, face nail the bead board to the plywood underlayment or ceiling joists every 12 inches on center. Position the nails  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch from the outer edge of the beadboard so they can be covered later by perimeter moulding trim.

#### 5) Toenail the rest of the boards

All bead boards, including the first one, should be nailed every 12 inches on center through the tongue or extended leg in the case of Stealth bead board. Position the pneumatic gun at the back edge of the board's tongue, angle it away from the tongue and to one side. This will keep the nail from pulling out and blocking the tongue when you fit the groove of the next board over it. Slide the groove of the next board into the tongue of the previous board. If necessary, tap it tightly in place with a hammer and woodblock. Continue installing beadboard in this manner.

**Tip:** Use a scrap of beadboard as your woodblock so you can fit the groove over the tongue and keep the tongue from mushrooming when you hammer it.

#### 6) Install the Perimeter Moulding

Finish installing beadboard over the ceiling. Trim the final board, if necessary, from the tongue side. Install one or more mouldings around the perimeter of the ceiling, making sure the mouldings cover the expansion gap.

#### 7) Long Runs

For runs longer than 18', cut a bevel or ship lap joint into the end of the beadboard. Leave a  $\frac{1}{8}$ " gap when installing beadboard at temperatures below 40°F. Consider a "T" moulding or faux beam as a means of hiding the butt ends of the bead board.

## 8) Beadboard Orientation

Where possible orient the beadboard in the direction that uses the shortest possible board length. The shorter the bead board length the less expansion or contraction it will display.

## Beaded Sheet Installation Guidelines

Before installing VERSATEX beaded sheets, be sure the underside of the ceiling joists are true and level. If not, you may want to place a 1/2" or 7/16" sheet of OSB or plywood to the underside of the ceiling joists to level the ceiling in an effort to reduce or eliminate waviness and joist read through.

Assuming all joists are level and true, VERSATEX beaded sheets are to be glued to the joists using Liquid Nails Sub-Floor Adhesive (LN-602) or Heavy Duty Construction Adhesive (LN-901) or equal. Nails should be long enough to penetrate 1" to 1 1/2" into the framing member and should be spaced 16" O.C. across the sheet and 12" O.C. around its perimeter. I would recommend a heavy gauge finishing nail with a blunt point since trim head nails would not seat themselves in the bead groove which is the typical location used to fasten beaded sheet to conceal the fasteners as much as possible. As with any ceiling application, be sure any space above the ceiling is properly ventilated to prevent heat build up.

A "T" or "H" mullion creates an excellent break between runs of beaded sheet while providing a pocket that allows for any expansion or contraction. A simple method of creating your own "T" to separate long runs of beadboard is to take a piece of trimboard at least 5/8" thick at a minimum width of 2 1/2" and cut a 1/2" deep by 1/2" wide groove down both sides of the board.

See our beadboard installation guideline recommendations (above) for further instructions.

## Painting

- Like all VERSATEX cellular PVC products our nominal 4" and 6" beadboards can be painted but do not require painting for protection. A 100% acrylic latex or 100% acrylic latex with a urethane additive should be used to achieve superior coating durability and flexibility. Only light to medium colored paints with a light reflective value of 55 units or greater should be used over VERSATEX. Consult your local paint representative or prefinisher for available heat reflective paints. Be sure these paints have an equivalent LRV of 55 units or greater. Darker acrylic latex colors absorb heat and not only increases expansion and contraction but can cause the temperature to reach or exceed the heat distortion temperature of cellular PVC permanently distorting the product.

- Finished results and paint longevity depends upon the amount of paint applied, proper application and the weather/climatic conditions during application. Always follow the paint manufacturer's application instructions. Be sure to read and follow the instructions and warnings on the label.

- **IMPORTANT** - Use 100% acrylic latex or 100% acrylic latex with urethane additive paint with a **light reflective value (LRV) equal to or greater than 55 units**. Failure to follow this requirement will void our product warranty.

- Consult Sherwin Williams or Blue River Coating on heat reflective paints in applications where the paint color has an LRV value less than 55 units.

- Paint life is longer when applied to VERSATEX versus wood due to the absence of moisture in our trim.

- To obtain adequate paint adhesion be sure the surface of the VERSATEX Trimboard is clean, dry and free of dirt, loose or peeling paint, mildew, chalk, grease and any other surface contaminants before paint applications.

- Paint can take up to 30 days to fully cure depending on outside temperatures and humidity conditions.

- Follow the paint manufacturer's surface preparation and application recommendations.

- VERSATEX is not liable for paint used on VERSATEX and/or the results of its use.

VERSATEX does not require painting for protection. If painting is preferred, follow the guidelines below. See Technical Bulletin Nos. B-1, B-2, B-4 and B-5 for more information on VERSATEX paint specifications and application.

**To access the VERSATEX technical bulletins go to**

**<http://www.versatex.com/trimboard-product-technical-information.php>  
or contact us at (724) 857.1111.**