

# Installation and Maintenance Instructions WALL BASE



## NOTICE TO INSTALLER

This brochure contains important installation, maintenance and warranty information as well as cautions and warnings. Our warranty will become effective only if these instructions are followed in every respect. FOR A COMPLETE STATEMENT OF VPI'S WARRANTY, contact: VPI, Manager, Customer Service, P.O. Box 451, Sheboygan, WI 53082-0451. PLEASE MAKE CERTAIN THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE PLACED IN THE HANDS OF THE FLOOR OWNER.

**Read complete instructions before beginning installation.**

## GENERAL

Wall surface must be thoroughly dry, smooth, and free from dirt, wallpaper, vinyl wall covering, grease, old adhesives, and other extraneous material. DO NOT apply directly over outside walls in contact with earth (such as unfurred basement walls) or over ceramic tile, metals, or other impervious surfaces because poor adhesion may result.

Maintain base, adhesive, and room air at a uniform temperature of at least 70° F. for 24 hours prior to, during, and for 48 hours after installation. Rolled base should be unrolled and allowed to lie flat for 24 hours prior to installation to regain normal shape.

Use only VPI #600 wall base adhesive carefully following directions on container label. THE USE OF ANY OTHER ADHESIVE WILL VOID VPI'S WARRANTY.

## INSTALLATION OF BASE

Spread adhesive either to back of base or to wall using a triangular notched trowel or cartridge gun. Trowel notches should be 3/32" deep by 3/32" wide with 3/32" flats. If applying adhesive with a cartridge gun, use a 2-hole nozzle for 2-1/2" base, a 3-hole nozzle for a 4" base, and a 5-hole nozzle for 6" base.

Apply adhesive at least 1/4" from top of base if using a trowel and 1" from top of base if using a cartridge so that adhesive does not seep out as base is rolled.

Bond base within 20 minutes of adhesive application. Roll thoroughly with hand roller immediately after applying base (figure 1). If roller is unavailable, wipe base with soft cloth, firmly pressing base against the wall. Base applied to curved or irregular surfaces may require bracing.



(figure 1)

If wall or floor surface is uneven, it may be necessary to trim edges before installing adjoining pieces of base. Use a razor-type utility knife, cutting base from face to back.

Immediately remove excess adhesive from base or wall with water. Excess adhesive may leave a stain if not removed promptly.

Avoid exposure of base to excessive heat, such as from direct sunlight, until adhesive has completely set.

For special procedures required for installing weldable roll cove base, see page 2.

## CORNERS

Preformed outside corners are available if desired. However, both outside and inside corners can be formed easily from standard 4-foot lengths or rolls.

### Outside Corners

(Suggested Method)

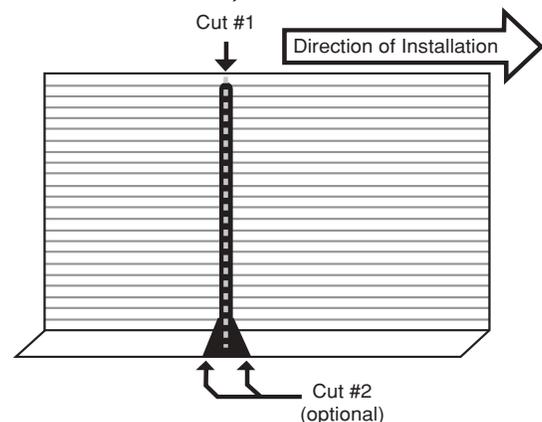
1. When you come to an outside corner, butt the next section of base to the last installed section (or continue to the corner when using coils). Make sure the base is in the proper position on the wall as you would install it.
2. Using a pen or pencil, mark the back of the base using the wall as a guide. This will give you the correct contour of the wall.



(figure 2)

3. Fold the base at the line, face in, and shave the back while folded (figure 2), removing the line and approximately 1/8" of base material on either side of it. If you are using a topset gouge to make these cuts, turn the base face down and make your cut starting at the top and working down to the bottom (Cut #1). Note: Always gouge on the side of the line in the direction the base will be going.

*Important: The depth of this area at its deepest point should not exceed 20% of the base thickness.*



(figure A)

- To ensure that the toe sits flush against the floor, the initial cut (Cut #1 - fig. A) can be widened on either side of the line (Cut # 2 - fig. A) near the bottom of the base. This cut is optional. Make the cut (gouge) downward, widening the initial cut to approximately one half inch at the bottom. This will allow the corner to be easily formed.

*Note: If you are installing vinyl base, the next two steps must be completed before continuing to Step 5.*

*- Use a hot air blower to heat the shaved area. Apply heat carefully because excessive heat will blister or deform the base.*

*- Fold base with face out where corner will occur and roll with hand roller (figure #3).*



(figure 3)

- Pull up on the toe and turn it inside out. Position the base after applying adhesive and set into place allowing the toe to drop down to form a perfect corner.
- Roll thoroughly or firmly press corner against wall.

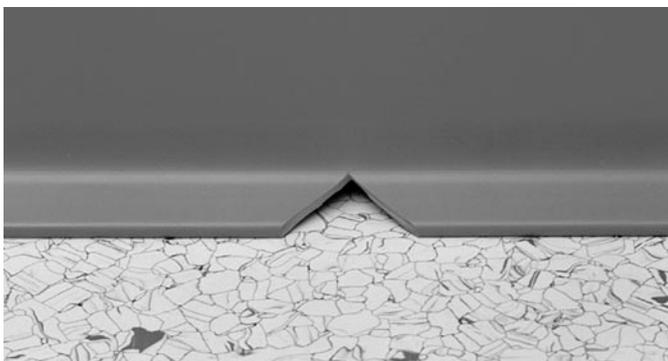
*Note: If you are installing vinyl base, you should cool the heated area by placing a wet cloth against the corner. Wipe dry.*

- Remove excess adhesive.

### Inside Corners

(Suggested Method)

- Draw a line on back of base where corner will occur
- Using a straight edge as a guide, lightly cut along line from top to bottom of base to a depth of approximately 20% of the base thickness.
- Cut a small 90° triangular wedge to remove toe of cove base at line (figure 4).



(figure 4)

- Use a hot air blower to heat back of base along the line. Apply heat carefully because excessive heat will blister or deform the base.
- Fold base at mark with face in. While base is still warm, apply adhesive and press base into corner. Carefully push the toe of cove base against the wall to close the triangle (figure 5).

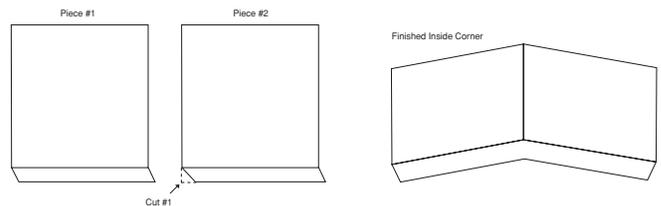


(figure 5)

- Promptly roll base.
- Cool by holding a wet cloth against corner. Wipe dry.
- Remove excess adhesive.

### (Optional Method)

- When you come to an inside corner, use a scribe to mark the base using the corner as the pattern to get the exact curvature of the wall.
- Cut the base to the exact length allowing a good, tight fit to the wall.
- Apply the proper amount of adhesive and install this piece of base.
- Using the same procedure as above, scribe and cut the second piece for the corner. (**DO NOT** install the second piece yet.)
- After cutting the second piece of base, turn the piece front side down and make a back angle cut in the toe, starting at the top of the toe and cutting down to the bottom of the toe. (See Cut #1)



(figure B)

(figure C)

- Check the fit with the previously installed piece.
- Make any additional cuts to ensure a snug fit.
- Apply adhesive and install.

