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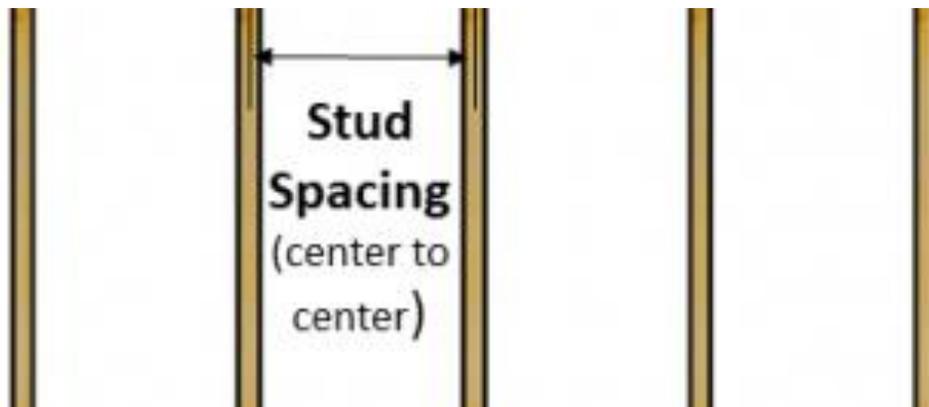
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## CEILING & WALL PLANKS INSTALLATION MANUAL TONGUE & GROOVE PLANKS

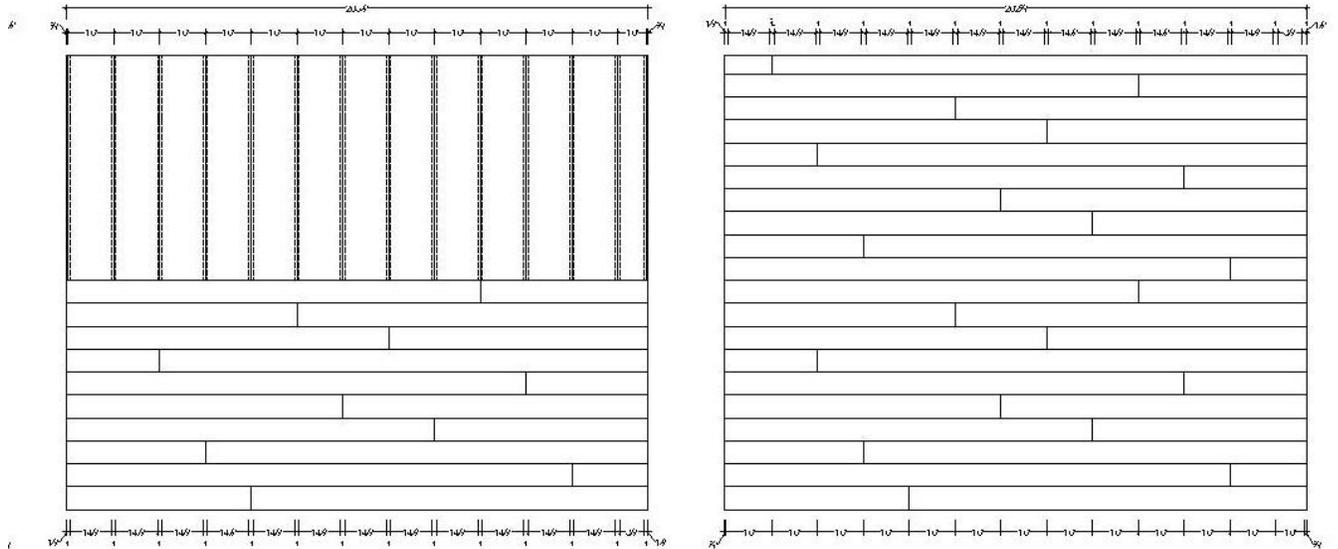
Depending on the specific Tongue & Groove Planks being used, they are supplied in various lengths, but are not intended to be installed in all full-length pieces (although they can be).

**TIP:** The optimal installation and appearance is achieved by understanding the spacing of your ceiling and/or wall framing (i.e. ceiling-joists and/or wall-studs).

Typical construction framing for both ceiling-joists and wall-studs is spaced at either 16" or 24" on-center.



Once you have identified the on-center joist or stud spacing, your Tongue & Groove Planks will be cut to lengths which conform to that spacing to ensure that the end-to-end seams land centered on a joist or stud as required for proper installation and as per the following diagram:



**Do Not Place End-to-End Seams Between Joists or Studs**

#### **For Example:**

##### **16" On-Center Spacing**

Planks will be cut into incremental lengths of 16" such as:

16" – 32" – 48" – 64" – 80" – 96" – 112" – 128" – 144" – 160" – 174" – 192"

##### **24" On-Center Spacing**

Planks will be cut into incremental lengths of 24" such as:

24" – 48" – 72" – 96" – 120" – 144" – 168" – 192"

**TIP:** Always add 15% to the actual total square footage of ceiling and/or wall area you will be covering to account for waste, cuts, and to achieve an optimal layout.

Compared to drywall (which includes steps of taping, mudding, sanding, and painting at 2-3 times per step) installing Tongue & Groove Planks is a much quicker, easier and cleaner process that provides a more attractive appearance.

#### **ACCLIMATION & PREPARATION:**

1. Upon delivery immediately remove the Tongue & Groove Planks from their packaging and move them indoors where they can acclimate to the environment where they will be installed.
2. Allow Tongue & Groove Planks to acclimate to the installation environment for at least 72 hours prior to installing. This will allow the planks to adjust to differences in moisture and temperature.

**TIP:** Tongue & Groove Planks are intended for interior use but may also be used in dry exterior environments where they are protected from direct contact with the water (i.e. underside of a covered porch ceiling/roof). For these exterior type applications, you may skip Steps 1 & 2.

3. Once Tongue & Groove Planks have been acclimated, gather the following recommended materials to perform the installation:

#### **Fasteners**

##### Option A

15ga or 16ga finish nails:

- 2" long nails for installation directly to the framing
- 2-1/2" long nails for installation over drywall.

#### **Adhesive**

In addition to mechanical fasteners (i.e. nails or screws) it is recommended, but not required, that you use a construction adhesive such as [Loctite PL 510 Wood & Panel](#) or similar on the back of the planks for additional security.

#### **Vapor Barrier**

A vapor barrier may be necessary when installing directly to the framing against exterior ceilings and/or walls (refer to your local building code requirements prior to installation).

### **INSTALLATION – Perpendicular to Ceiling and/or Wall Framing:**

1. Cut to length so that end-to-end seams fall centered on a joist or stud.
2. Position the first row of Tongue & Groove Planks perpendicular to the ceiling or wall framing with the "groove" side of the planks facing the wall or floor. Leave a 1/4" space between the side edge of the planks and the wall or floor and a 1/8" space between the ends of the planks where they meet with any perpendicular surfaces (i.e. walls or inside corners).

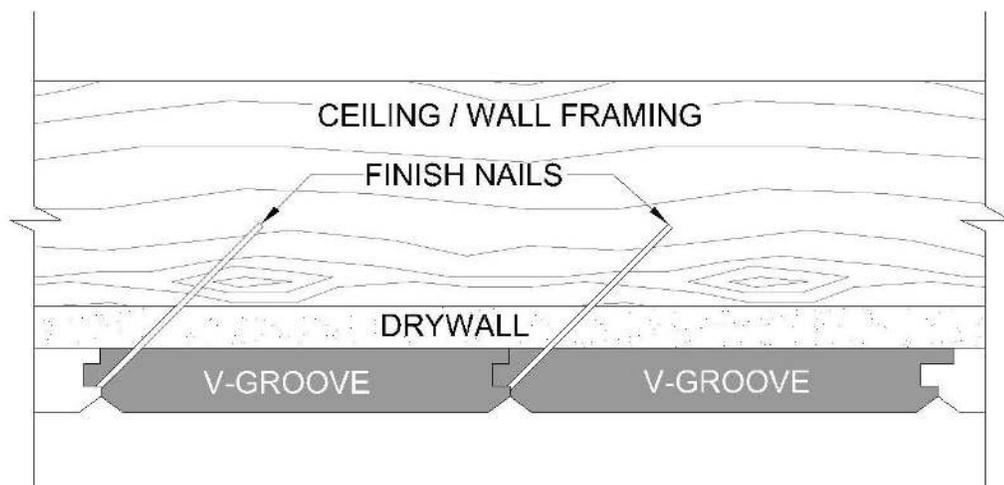
**TIP:** It is easiest to start at the low point of a vaulted ceiling or at the base of a wall so that gravity is on your side while installing the planks. It is also important to

**ensure that the first row of planks is set parallel, square and/or level to ensure proper installation of the remaining planks across the entire area.**

3. Once properly positioned secure the first row of planks in place by nailing straight through the face of the “groove” side at a 45-degree angle through the crotch of the “tongue” of the opposite side of the planks at each of the framing joist or stud locations.
4. When the first row of planks is secured you can slide the groove side of the second row of planks over the exposed tongue side of the first row to interlock them. This not only provides a tight fitting joint between planks which eliminates gaps, but also covers and hides the nails in the tongue side of the first row of planks which is commonly referred to as “blind-nailing”.

**TIP:** When interlocking the planks, you may need to gently tap the tongue side to get them to fit tightly together. Use a rubber mallet or a hammer with a scrap piece of the planks to prevent damaging the material when doing so.

5. Nail through the crotch of the tongue of the second row of planks at a 45-degree angle at each of the framing joist or stud locations. Each nail should pass through the tongue and penetrate into the joist or stud. It is important to adjust the depth setting of your nail gun to ensure that the nails sit flush with or just slightly below the surface of the tongue so that they do not obstruct the next row of planks when interlocking them as per the following diagram:



6. Repeat Step 4 for each subsequent row of planks until you have covered the entire ceiling and/or wall area.

7. When you reach the final row, rip-cut the planks on a table saw to the required width to fit the remaining space. Face nail the final planks in place to complete the installation.