



# Elemental Edges | Architectural Wall Base

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

For Use With Architectural Wall Base Only

This document has been created to provide installation instructions for Mohawk's Architectural Wall Base projects. Please read the entire document prior to initiating installation and follow exact instructions. Failure to follow the published installation steps will void all product warranties.

All instructions and recommendations are based on the most recent information available and should be followed for an ideal installation. For questions about product installation contact Mohawk Group Technical Services at [mohawk\\_tech@mohawkind.com](mailto:mohawk_tech@mohawkind.com) or 800-833-6954 Monday-Friday, 8am – 5pm EST; or visit our website at [www.mohawkgroup.com](http://www.mohawkgroup.com) to ensure you have the most up to date version of our installation instructions.

### STORAGE & HANDLING

- Maintain base, adhesive, and room air at a uniform temperature of at least 72°F.
- Relative humidity should stay in a range of 30-60% for 48 hours prior to, during, and for 48 hours after installation.

### TOOLS

- Compound Miter Saw (standard or sliding), Radial Arm Saw, or Table Saw equipped with a carbide finishing blade (e.g., 12", 80 tooth)
- Straight Edge
- Tape Measure
- Carpenter's Square
- Protractor or Miter Angle Gauge
- Hand Roller
- M45 Adhesive

### JOB SITE CONDITIONS

- The 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 non-porous surfaces because poor adhesion may result.

### INSTALLATION

- Spread adhesive either to the back of the base or to the wall using a 3/8" V-notched trowel or cartridge gun.
- If applying adhesive with a cartridge gun: Use a 3-hole nozzle for a 4" base or an 8" base with two applications, and a 5-hole nozzle for 6" base.
- Apply adhesive at least 1/4" inch from the top of the base if using a trowel and 1" from the top of the base if using a



cartridge. This will prevent the adhesive from seeping out as the base is rolled. BE CERTAIN THAT AT LEAST 75% OF THE BACK OF THE BASE IS COVERED WITH ADHESIVE.

- Install base within 10 minutes of adhesive application.
- Roll thoroughly with hand roller immediately after applying the base. If the roller is unavailable, wipe the base with a soft cloth, firmly pressing base against the wall. Note: Always roll toward the previously installed piece in order to prevent stretching the base.
- Base applied to curved or irregular surfaces may require bracing.
- If the wall or floor surface is uneven, it may be necessary to trim edges before installing the adjoining pieces of the base. If this is the case, use a razor-type utility knife and cut the base from face to back.
- Immediately remove excess adhesive from the base or wall with water. To remove set-up adhesive, use isopropyl alcohol. Excess adhesive may leave a stain if not removed promptly.
- Avoid exposure of base to excessive heat, such as direct sunlight, until the adhesive has completely set.

**Note:** Every application of the Architectural Wall Base is different. Complications may arise for many reasons, including the squareness of the wall, floor, or both. When these complications lead to a gap between the Architectural Wall Base and the wall, there are two standard options:

1. Caulk the top edge of the profile to eliminate any gap.
2. After applying the adhesive, apply pressure (by roller or by hand) to the top side of the profile, pushing it against the wall to ensure there is no gap between the wall and the profile. (Any gapping would then be out of sight on the bottom reverse side of the profile, between the wall and the back of the profile that sits on the floor).

## PREPARATION

### GENERAL

1. Determine the necessary length and cut the Architectural Wall Base, using a saw with a finishing blade (e.g., a compound miter saw with an 80 tooth 12" blade or equivalent).
2. For continuous runs, the Architectural Wall Base may be installed by utilizing either a butt joint or a scarf joint for a more seamless finish. For a scarf joint, the wall base ends should be cut at an opposing 45° angle or greater. Apply contact cement on the two mitered edges before installing.

**Note:** When butting seams together, it may be necessary to square cut the factory edge if the butt ends do not align.

3. Apply adhesive per above instructions.
4. Position wall base on wall surface and roll as recommended above.

**Note:** Always roll back toward the starting point to prevent stretching the wall base.

5. Clean-up: Remove wet adhesive with a water-dampened cloth. If the adhesive has dried, use a cloth dampened with mineral spirits

### CORNERS

Architectural Wall Base Inside and Outside Corners are fabricated utilizing the same equipment and techniques required for traditional wood molding or baseboard profiles.



### Outside Corners

1. Position a sufficient length of wall base so that it tightly abuts the previously installed section and extends past the corner.
2. Using a scribe or pencil, mark the wall corner bend location along the top edge of the wall base.
3. Using a protractor, set the saw blade angle to the required miter angle for the corner.
4. Place the wall base section against the saw fence or miter guide so that the wall base lays flat on the machine table with the surface facing up and perpendicular to the saw blade.
5. Align the mark on the top edge of the wall base with the saw blade and cut the wall base to the proper miter angle. Repeat the procedure for the other side of the corner.
6. Place the two mitered sections of the wall base on the corner and check for proper fit. Trim, if necessary, to obtain a tight fit at the corner.
7. Apply the adhesive to the ribbed back of one section of the wall base, position the section in place, and roll with a hand roller to ensure proper adhesion to the wall surface.
8. Repeat procedure #7 for the opposite side of the corner. Attention should be given to a tight and even fit to the corner.

**Note:** To obtain a tighter and more secure fit between the two mitered sections at the corner, glue the two mitered areas together with a compatible contact bond adhesive.

### Inside Corners

1. Using a protractor, set the saw blade angle to the required miter angle for the corner.
2. Place the wall base section against the saw fence or miter guide so the wall base is laying flat on the machine table. The contoured (show) surface should be facing up and perpendicular to the saw blade.
3. Cut the wall base to the proper miter angle. Repeat the above procedure for the other side of the corner.
4. Place the two mitered sections of the wall base on the inside corner and check for proper fit. Trim, if necessary, to obtain a tight fit at the corner.
5. Apply the adhesive to the ribbed back of one section of the wall base corner, position the section in place, and roll with a hand roller to ensure proper adhesion to the wall surface.
6. Repeat procedure #5 for the opposite side of the corner. Attention should be given to a tight and even fit to the corner.

**Note:** To obtain a tighter and more secure fit between the two mitered sections at the corner, glue the two mitered areas together using a compatible contact bond adhesive.

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