I-Span Vinyl Interior Wall & Ceiling Liner System

INSTALLATION GUIDE

ABTCO
VINYL SIDING

Tools and Equipment

Common hand tools, such as a hammer, fine-tooth circular saw, square, chalkline, level, utility knife, tin snips, caulking gun, putty knife, drill/screw gun and tape measure, are needed for proper installation. Safety glasses are recommended for eye protection.

Other basic tools include:

Power Saw

A bench or radial-arm power saw can speed the cutting of vinyl I span wall panels. A fine-tooth plywood blade (12 to 16 teeth per inch) should be used with the blade installed in the reverse direction. Some applicators prefer a hand-held power saw. In extremely cold weather, move the saw through the material slowly to prevent chipping or cracking.

Nail Hole Slot Punch

Occasionally, it may be necessary to elongate a nail hem slot. The hole is elongated to allow for expansion and contraction.

Basic Installation Rules

Before getting started, it is important to review several rules of thumb for vinyl I span wall paneling system application. The following rules, which come up throughout this guide, are critical for proper vinyl I span wall paneling system installation:

1. Installed panels and accessories must move freely from side to side.

2. When installing a vinyl I span wall paneling system, push panel until the lock is fully engaged with the piece next to it. Without stretching the panel, fasten it into place.

3. Fasten nails or other fasteners in the center of the nailing slot and make sure the fastener penetrates a minimum of 1" (24mm) into a nailable surface.

4. Do not force the panels when fastening in position.

5. Do not drive the head of the fastener tightly against the vinyl I span wall paneling system nail hem. Allow approximately 1/16" (0.4mm) (about the thickness of a dime) clearance between the fastener head and the panel. Make sure the panels can move freely back and forth. Drive fasteners straight and level to prevent distortion and buckling of the panel.

6. Leave a minimum of 1/4" (6.4mm) clearance at all openings and stops to allow for normal expansion and contraction.

7. Caulk the panels where they meet the receiver of inside corners, outside corners, or J- trim. Do not caulk the overlap joints.

8. Do not face-nail or staple through vinyl I span wall paneling system. Vinyl I span wall paneling system expands and contracts with outside temperature changes. Face-nailing can result in ripples in the panel.

9. The installation of specific products may differ in details from the instructions given in this document. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions, using parts specified by the manufacturer, to ensure proper installation.

Fastener Choices

Use aluminum, galvanized steel, or other corrosion-resistant nails, staples, or screws when installing vinyl I span wall paneling system. All fasteners must be able to penetrate a minimum of 1" (24mm) into backing material keeping 1/16" (0.4mm) space between the head and the vinyl with max spacing 24" on center and 4" from the end of a panel. (Review your local building codes for variations that may apply to specific geographic areas.)

Nails

Nail heads should be 5/16" (7.9mm) minimum in diameter. Shank should be 1/8" (3.2mm) in diameter.

Screw Fasteners

Screw fasteners can be used if the screws do not restrict the normal expansion and contraction movement of the vinyl I span wall paneling system on the wall. Screws must be centered in the slot with approximately 1/16" (0.4mm) space between the screw head and the vinyl. Screws must be able to penetrate not less 1" (24mm) into backing material keeping 1/16" (0.4mm) space between the head and the vinyl.

- Size #8, truss head or pan head

- Corrosion-resistant, self-tapping sheet metal type

Staples

If staples are being used instead of nails or screws, they must:

- Not be less than 16-gauge semi-flattened to an elliptical cross-section.

- Penetrate not less than 1" (24mm) into backing material keeping 1/16" (0.4mm) space between the crown and the vinyl

Cutting the vinyl I span wall panels

When cutting vinyl I span wall paneling system, follow these guidelines:

- Safety goggles are always recommended for all cutting and nailing operations. As on any construction job, use proper safety equipment and follow safe construction practices.

- When using a circular saw, install the fine-tooth (plywood) blade backwards on the saw for a smoother, cleaner cut, especially in cold weather. Cut slowly. Do not attempt to cut materials other than vinyl with a reversed direction saw blade.

Caution! Use of a backwards blade on any other materials could be unsafe.

- With tin snips, avoid closing the blades completely at the end of a stroke for a neater, cleaner cut.

- With a utility knife or scoring tool, score the vinyl face up with medium pressure and snap it in half. It is not necessary to cut all the way through the vinyl.

Installation

Before starting installation, check that the wall surface is straight and if needed install furring strips. It is recommended to use vapor barrier and consult local building code for vapor barrier requirements.

Installation of vinyl I span wall panels can be parallel to ceiling joists, roof trusses and wall studs. If additional support is needed, use 1" x 4" or 2" x 4". Always check local building code for maximum spacing. We would recommend spacing of 24" as a minimum requirement if attached support is perpendicular to the structural members.

All trims used for windows and/or doors, as well as other openings should be attached to a furring strips.

The first fastener should be nailed at the center of a panel and continue to ends. After fastening check interlock and ease of movement.

If I span wall panels are used for wall and ceiling, make sure that wall panels are installed before ceiling panels.

Start installation along the bottom of a wall with Base trim or J-Channels*. After that install corner trim and appropriate trim on ceiling (corner trim or J-channel) and start with panel installation following Basic installation instructions.

• If J-channel is used make sure to drill ¼" holes along bottom 16" on center for drainage.