

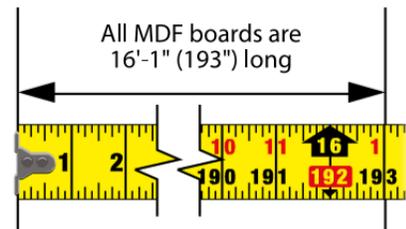
**Getting Started-**

Let DuraGroove® MDF acclimate before installation. Like all wood products DuraGroove® MDF should be conditioned to an indoor environment 48 hours before installation. Upon delivery, stack DuraGroove® MDF on runners or 2x4's above and off of the floor in the environment it will be installed in for acclimation. MDF and other like wood products will absorb moisture and swell if stored on a concrete floor. Proper handling and installation will provide the best results for a beautiful finish and product performance. This includes protecting DuraGroove® MDF from outdoor environments before, during and after installation.

When installing at the floor level, do not install with direct contact to a concrete floor. Use shims to raise and insulate the MDF from the concrete. This will allow additional time for the concrete to cure and provides adequate airflow to avoid trapping moisture behind the product. All areas must be free of debris and door openings must be plumb and square.

**Key Advantages:**

- Both 6" and 8" MDF have very tight specifications and all boards are exactly the same allowing for easy installation and a perfect finished project.
- All boards are sanded to a smooth 280 grit finish and then double primed on both sides and all grooves and edges minimizing prep for final paint finish.
- Being a full 5/8" thick MDF boards can be installed directly to studs spanning up to 24" on center studs.



**LONG LENGTHS MINIMIZE JOINTS**

**Fastening-**

DuraGroove® MDF may be hand nailed or fastened with pneumatic finish nailers. When hand nailing, pre-drilling is suggested, but not required. If using pneumatic nailers, the recommended air pressure should be 98-110 PSI. Installers who have not worked with MDF before should test and adjust the air pressure as needed for their equipment (this applies to new battery powered nailers as well).

“Conceal nailing” can be achieved by nailing in the groove and will hide the nail hole. Please note that this method requires testing your equipment to ensure that there is no “blow-out” of material and to adjust to the correct pressure or setting. **The best fasteners are 15 to 18-gauge brad and pin nails.**

**Troubleshooting-**

In nailing creates a “blow-out” or “puckering” effect with proper pressure and nail selection, rotate the fastener to a 90-degree angle, or perpendicular with the moulding and apply the nail. Staples and “T” nails may cause a puckering effect and are not recommended.

## **Cutting & Mitering-**

The best method to bring miters together starts with a precise, clean cut. Add a bead of carpenter's glue and apply one brad nail through the top of the joint down. This will pull and keep the miter together. A common mishap when edge nailing is splitting in a plan parallel to the surface. Using the finer gauge brad or pin will alleviate this problem. When installing long lengths of DuraGroove® MDF do not cut too tight. Leave a small gap about the width of a credit card at the square end. When a splice is required, use a 30-degree angle cut and glue and pin nail the splice to prevent separation.

In cases of separation it is recommended that a petroleum-based painter's putty be used to repair the separation.

## **Sanding & Finishing-**

DuraGroove® MDF is sanded to a fine 280 grit finish and double-primed on both sides. For best results light-sand boards with a 220-grit sandpaper and remove excess sanding dust to prepare the surface for painting. MDF can be spray painted, rolled or brush painted with a quality latex paint.

## **DuraGroove® MDF Reversible – Shiplap and T&G Installation Tips-**

- ✓ Can be applied directly to studs or over sheet rock. (Please check local building and fire codes to ensure requirements are met when applying directly to studs)
- ✓ If applying to sheet rock, mark stud location for nailing or you can apply with construction adhesive (i.e.: Liquid Nails or Loctite) running beads using 16" spacing.
- ✓ Applying directly to studs, use 15-gauge or higher brad nails.
- ✓ Properly setting the first piece will ensure a uniform application. Measure from the ceiling down to the top edge of the board in several places to ensure proper alignment before nailing.
- ✓ In runs longer than 16', stagger rows so that joints do not line up.
- ✓ If applying vertically, add furring strips to the studs every 24"
- ✓ Let product acclimate in the space where product will be installed.
- ✓ DuraGroove® MDF Reversible Shiplap and T&G panels are flexible and can be used in slight radius applications. It is recommended that both fasteners and adhesive are used to insure a snug fit over a supporting backer material.
- ✓ If boards are painted prior to installation DO NOT stack painted boards directly on top of each other as they could stick together damaging the finish and board surface.

PATENT PENDING