RoyalThane™ Polyurethane Crown Molding Measuring and Installation Instructions
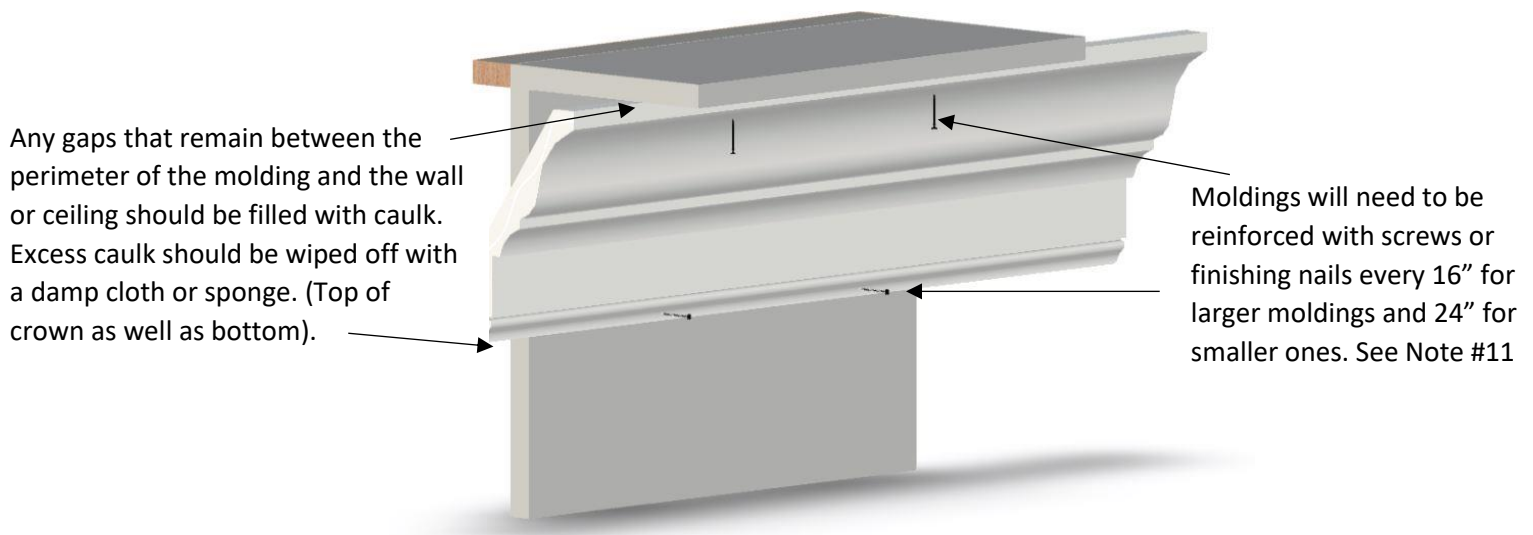
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Tools/Materials Checklist

Not all of the items listed below are needed for every installation. Please read the installation instructions in its entirety to determine what tools and materials are needed for a particular installation.

• Ladder • Tape Measure • Pencil • Chalk Line • Safety Googles • Safety Gloves • Paint Brush • High Quality Latex Paint • Cloth or Sponge • Caulk Gun	• Paintable Adhesive Caulk/Sealant "caulk" (compatible with polyurethane) • PL Premium Construction Adhesive "adhesive" (compatible with polyurethane) • Extra Fine Sandpaper • Screw Gun, Screwdriver, Hammer, or Nail Gun • Table Saw or Handsaw w/ Miter Box • Wood or Drywall Screws or Finishing Nails (Corrosion Resistant) • Putty/Bondo Filler (compatible with polyurethane) • Putty Knife

Any gaps that remain between the perimeter of the molding and the wall or ceiling should be filled with caulk. Excess caulk should be wiped off with a damp cloth or sponge. (Top of crown as well as bottom).

Moldings will need to be reinforced with screws or finishing nails every 16" for larger moldings and 24" for smaller ones. See Note #11

Lay the molding upside down onto a scratch resistant surface and apply a ½" bead of the adhesive all the way around the top and back edge of the molding. Apply adhesive in a manner that limits the amount that seeps out. (Top of crown as well as bottom).

When installing into an adjoining molding, apply adhesive to the butt joint or miter edge.

Installation Steps

Please read the installation instructions in its entirety prior to starting the installation.

Polyurethane is a wood alternative that installs with typical woodworking tools on most clean interior or exterior surfaces. Polyurethane moldings will expand with heat, so it is important to allow moldings to acclimate to the temperature of the room in which they will be installed. A good practice is to leave moldings in the room for 48 hours prior to install. Not allowing moldings to acclimate can result in separation at the seams.

1. **Good Practices:** Make sure to use safety goggles, common sense, good construction practices, and follow paint and power tools manufacturers' instructions for safe and proper use. Consult with licensed experts as needed to ensure code compliance and safe and proper installation.
2. **Determine Height of Crown Molding:** Ceiling height and style, room size, existing millwork in the surrounding area, and personal preference are used to determine the height of the crown molding in a room. One suggested rule of thumb is to use 3" to 5-3/4" tall crown for 8' ceilings, 4-1/4" to 7" tall crown for 9'-10' ceilings, and 7" and up for ceilings over 10' or vaulted ceilings. A room that is wider and/or longer than a smaller room with the same height ceiling can get away with a taller crown within the aforementioned ranges.
3. **Determine Quantity of Crown Moldings Needed:** Crown molding is usually available in 8', 12', and 16' contractor length sections. Measure the perimeter of each room that will have a particular crown molding and divide by the length of the chosen crown molding to determine the quantity needed. For example, if a room is a 16' x 20' rectangle, the perimeter is 72'. If the chosen molding is 12', the room will require 6 full pieces of 12' crown (72/12 = 6). If the crown molding will be installed with mitered corners, 7 pieces might be needed to account for loss due to the miter cuts. If the crown will be installed with corner blocks or pre-mitered corner pieces,

6 pieces will be sufficient. A suggested rule of thumb is to allow for 10-15% for waste and up to 20% if there are a lot of corners to miter.

4. **Paint Molding Prior to Install:** It is recommended to paint the moldings with high quality latex paint prior to installation and touch up as needed after the install. 1 coat is usually sufficient (moldings arrive primed but might require some touch up work). Factory finished moldings are available in solid and marbleized colors.

5. **Support Border or Chalk line:** Screw a support border for the molding to sit on while installing. If more experienced or confident, use a chalk line as a reference instead. The support border is removed once moldings are secured with screws/nails and the screw holes that held the border are filled.

6. **Dry Fit, Trim, and Align:** For moldings with a repetitive pattern, it is important to plan ahead in order to ensure room congruity. Before any adhesive is applied, cut and dry fit each molding to make sure it fits as expected. If using pre-mitered corners, prep the corners and molding by trimming and matching up the detail as necessary. The last piece on any run should be cut ¼" longer and should be "snapped" into place to ensure a snug fit.

7. **Miter Corners:** If mitering corners instead of using corner blocks or pre-mitered corners, use a table saw for smaller moldings and a miter box for larger moldings. Miter boxes can be built by hand or purchased. Instructions for building and using a miter box are available upon request or can be found on YouTube.com. The last piece on any run should be cut ¼" longer and should be "snapped" into place to ensure a snug fit.

8. **Clean Surfaces:** Clean the backside of the molding of any debris with a soft cloth or sponge as well as the installation surface of the wall and ceiling. Make sure everything is completely dry prior to the next step.

9. **Apply Adhesive:** Lay the molding upside down onto a scratch resistant surface and apply a ½" bead of the adhesive all the way around the top and back edge of the molding. Apply adhesive in a manner that limits the amount that seeps out. When installing into an adjoining molding, apply adhesive to the butt joint or miter edge.

10. **Adhere Molding:** Align molding with support border or previously marked chalk line. Gently press the molding up against the wall and ceiling. Apply pressure along the entire perimeter of the molding. Wipe off any excess adhesive that seeps out.

11. **Screw/Nail and Fill:** Moldings will need to be reinforced with screws or finishing nails every 16" for larger moldings and 24" for smaller ones. Place screws away from the edge to prevent cracking (predrilling not necessary). Countersink screws/nails 1/8" deep. Toenailing at butt joints is preferred. Fill the screw/nail holes with caulk, bondo, or putty, smooth the surface with finger or putty knife, let dry, and then sand if needed to make the surface flush with the crown. Do the same for all butt and miter joints if needed.

12. **Caulk Perimeter:** Any gaps that remain between the perimeter of the molding and the wall or ceiling should be filled with caulk. Excess caulk should be wiped off with a damp cloth or sponge.

13. **Touch Up/Paint:** Touch up the molding with paint if already painted prior to the install. Otherwise, paint the molding after everything is dry (prime exposed areas if needed first).