

RAPID WALL MANUFACTURED HOME SKIRTING INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

TOOLS:

Hammer, plumb bob, chalk line, tin snips, snap-lock tools, tape measure and a saw

MATERIALS:

Trim kit includes: 16 pieces of top rail (4 notched pieces), 16 pieces of bottom F-channel, 16 pieces of backer, 125 ground spikes and 225 nails, 14 pieces of paneling per carton.

Once you have procured all your skirting material, gathered your tools, and arrived at the job site, you are ready to start.

You must prepare the surface around the home so no large hills or valleys are present. This may be done by raking the perimeter of the home, also eliminate any weeds or obstacles in the way.

INSTALLING BOTTOM TRACK

The bottom track or F-Channel should be located on the ground directly below (plumb with) the outside edge of the home. This can be accomplished by positioning the plumb cord on the outside bottom of the home so that the bob hangs down to the ground. Position the very tip of the plumb bob to the back vertical leg of the channel.

Corners may be made by cutting a "V" shape into the front and backsides of the channel, then bending the track to form the corner. Do not cut the bottom that goes along the ground.

It is not necessary to put a spike in every hole in the bottom track. You are provided with more than enough round spikes to evenly secure your bottom rail to the ground.

INSTALLING TOP BACK RAIL

First determine the point on the lower part of the home where you want the Top Back Rail to be hung, then snap a chalk line along that line. Be sure when nailing you do not make it tight to the home, give it a small amount of room to expand, therefore decreasing any bowing that might occur.

Starting at a corner, bend the back rail around the corner; do not cut at the corner, or butt tow end together to form a corner. Attach the back rail to the home using the nails given to you for that purpose. Hammer the nails loosely in the elongated punched holes. *It is also important to leave a space of approximately 1/4" between each section of backer, allowing for expansion and contraction.*

CUTTING AND INSTALLING SKIRTING PANELS

Measure around the home making notations of the different height measurements so you can identify how many panels need to be cut at the same length and those that need a special cut, then locate the point of the home at which the panels will be the tallest. Installing the tallest section first will give you a chance to use any shorter pieces in the lower areas. If you are stalling in the summer, measure from the

ground to the bottom line located on the backer, in the winter measure to the top line. After you have measured you are now ready to cut the panels.

It is recommended that you cut panels with an electric powered circular saw with a fine-tooth blade, turned backward in the saw. **Always wear protective eyewear when operating a power handsaw.** Be sure to hold panels tight while cutting to prevent clipping due to vibration from the saw.

The bottom edge of all panels should be cut to match the contour of the ground. The skirting panels sit in the bottom track (ground channel) and therefore wants to follow the contour of the ground. For example, if your home is on a slope and you cut the bottom of the panels straight across and not at an angle, the panels will shift to match the contour of the ground, causing the paneling to look crooked.

Three or more locking tabs are to be punched on the bottom and top edge of each panel to ensure that the panel stays in the bottom and top tracks, preventing the skirting from blowing out in the wind.

For Rapid Wall the corners are made by cutting a V in the foam and bending the vinyl (see illustration page 3). Never butt the sides to form a corner. Do not attempt to bend panels in extreme cold weather. Panels should be pre-heated before attempting to bend them in freezing weather.

Start the first panel from the corner along the front side of the home, then begin to work your way around your home. Panels are interlocked by sliding the panel downward into the self-aligning groove on the adjoining panel until it snaps into the ground F-Channel.

Should your home be excessively high off the ground, (over approximately 36") or should you have difficulty keeping the panels from blowing out during high wind, here is a solution.

The skirting panels have an opening of approximately 5/16" diameter at the point where they interlock. Simply purchase some 1/4" OD steel rods at your local hardware store. Cut the steel the same length as the skirting panels and drop into the 5/16" opening where the panels interlock. The steel rod adds strength, which will reduce the chance of a blowout.

INSTALLING TOP FRONT RAIL

While holding the panels in place push the top rail into the backer, this may be stiff, but it is ensuring a tighter fit. You will feel top rail click into place, causing a secure interlocking fit.

All vinyl skirting systems expand and contract with temperature change. The two-piece rail system has factory pre-notched top rails which conceal this expansion and contraction. This alleviates any unsightly gaps which may be present in some skirting systems. This will also allow you to overlap the ends of the top rail to prevent buckling during expansion and contraction due to weather.

Notice: Exercise caution when using a string-type grass trimmer near any vinyl skirting.

Vinyl skirting should be cleaned with mild soap and water twice a year.

DIAGRAM A: {title}

Installation of bottom track is the same for skirting and rapid wall except for spide placement. Plumb down from outside edge of home and line up back leg of bottom track with the outer edge of home.

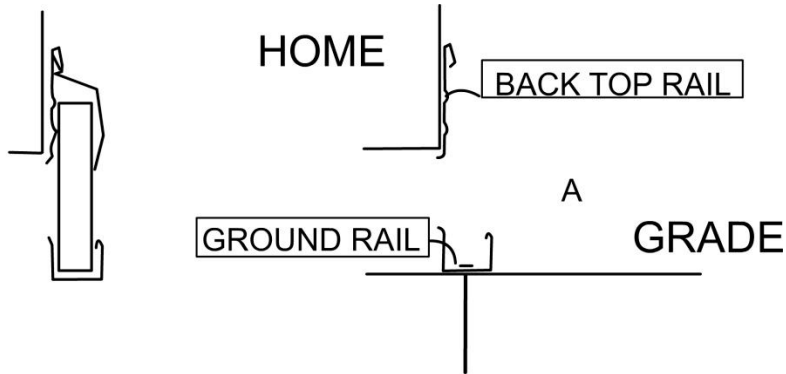


DIAGRAM B: {title}

Cutting a corner for ground rail. Plumb down from the house corner and mark the ground rail. Transfer your mark to the front of the ground rail while taking into account the thickness of the panel you are installing. Notch the back side of the ground rail to the front side at a 45 degree angle. Do not cut the front it is to be bent at a 90 degree angle.

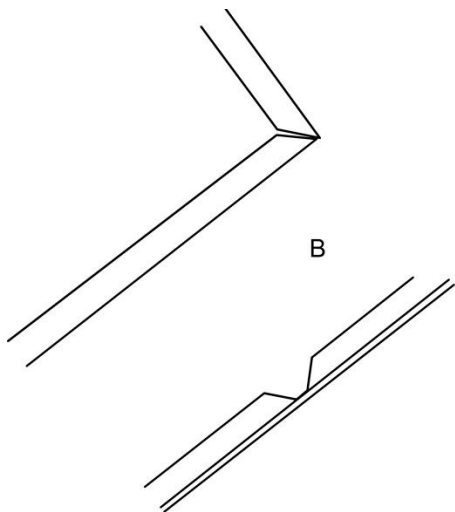


DIAGRAM C: Corner Detail for Front Rail (Front View)

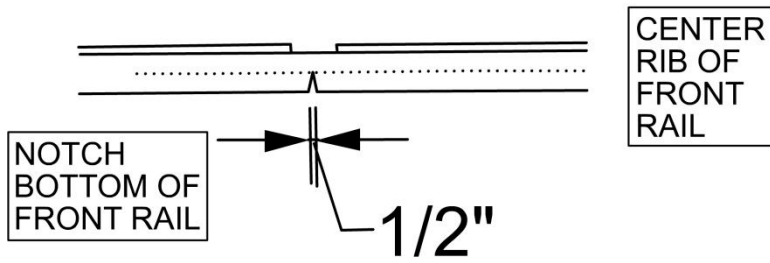


DIAGRAM D: Corner Detail for Front Rail (Top View)

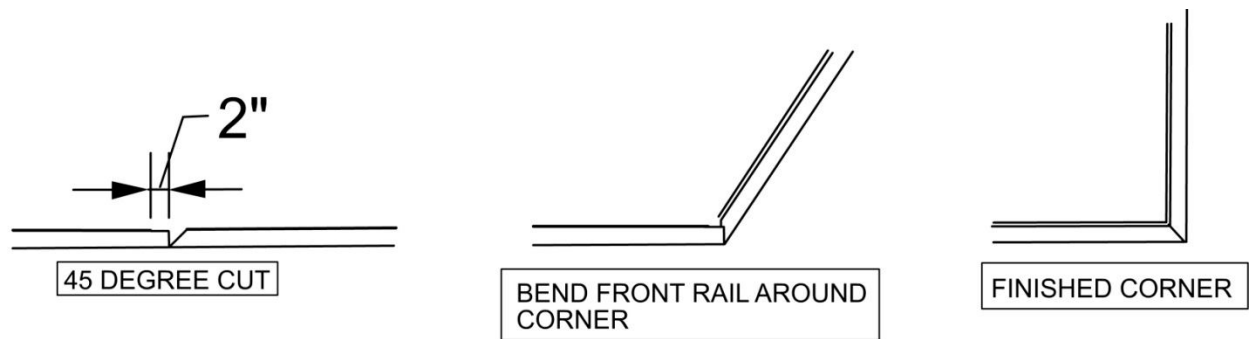
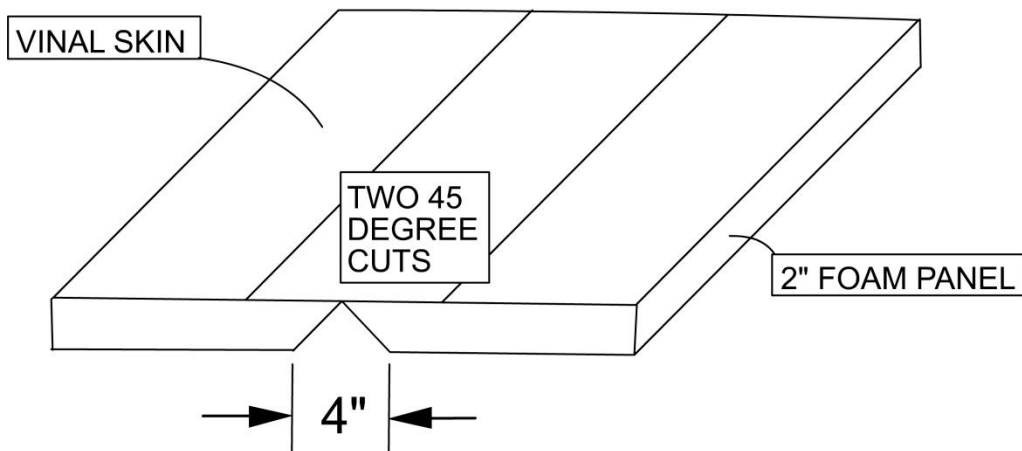


DIAGRAM E: Cutting Rapid Wall Panel to Go Around Corners



Instructions for Cutting Rapid Wall Panel to Go Around Corner

1. Mark vinyl skin with a pencil 2" longer than the corner you are going around. Square off of this mark to the foam side of the product.
2. Put corresponding marks at the top and bottom of th rapid wall panel.
3. Chalk a line 2" to the left and 2" to the right of these marks.
4. Take a circular saw, set the angle for 45 degrees and being careful not to cut all the way through the panel, score the foam.
5. Panel is now ready to be bent to a 90 degree angle.