Fiberglass Cornice Installation Instructions

By Architectural Mall, Inc

For cornice without a return at the top, install exterior grade plywood with metal flashing. For cornice with a return, plywood is not required.

In moderate or cold weather, allow for a 1/8” to 1/4” expansion joint between sections of cornice. Use sealant to cover the expansion gap between two sections of cornice.

Continuous sealant should be applied by the installer upon completion of the installation.

All framing, blocking, and substrate should be exterior grade lumber or corrosion resistant metal studs.

Where there is a lap joint, the attachment framing needs to be notched or set back to ensure a flush fit.

Adhesive should be applied by the installer to the lap flange prior to installing the adjoining section of cornice.

Installation should progress from left to right when the lap flange is on the right side of the cornice and vice versa.
### Tools and Materials

*Not all 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.*

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<th>Safety Glasses</th>
<th>Lumber or Metal Studs</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pencil</td>
<td>Nail Countersink Tool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Measuring Tape</td>
<td>#7 x 1-5/8&quot; Stainless Steel Trim Head Screws</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drill / Screw Gun</td>
<td>Corrosion Resistant Nails or Screws</td>
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<td>Level</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caulk Gun</td>
<td>Adhesive “adhesive”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circular Saw or Equivalent</td>
<td>Colored or Paintable Sealant “sealant”</td>
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<td>Combination Square</td>
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<td>Hammer or Nail Gun</td>
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<td>Polyurethane Based Paint</td>
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</table>

### General Notes

1. Framing, blocking, and substrate pictured is a suggestion for that particular cornice profile. Every cornice will have different framing requirements. Framing may need to be verified by a licensed engineer in the state in which the cornice will be installed. All framing, blocking, and substrate should be exterior grade lumber or corrosion resistant metal studs.
2. All blocking/framing/substrate, metal flashing, fasteners, and adhesive/sealants/caulk/Bondo/putty are supplied by the installer.
Installation Instructions

1. Wood or galvanized frame blocking should be installed every 16”-24” on center.
2. Blocking needs to be notched or set back by a 1/4” to 1” at every lap joint location.
3. Most cornices will have an integrated lap flange on the left side of the cornice so begin an elevation at the right side of the building and move left. Do the opposite for cornice with the lap flange on the right side of the cornice.
4. For cornice with a repetitive pattern, plan ahead in order to insure congruity from one end of the elevation to the other.
5. If painting the cornice, make sure to wipe down the cornice with wax/grease remover, lightly and thoroughly sand each piece, and wipe down again. Do this at ground level.
6. Priming the cornice is not needed unless areas where body work was done are exposed or if recommended by the paint manufacturer.
7. Cornice may be painted with polyurethane based paints. Painting at ground level is recommended although that would require touchups at screw holes once installed. Factory finishes in an assortment of colors as well as stone and granite finishes are available.
8. Lap flanges should be sanded at ground level prior to installation and wiped down in order to accept adhesive properly. Do not prime/paint lap flanges.
9. Once ready to raise and install the cornice, countersink holes where blocking occurs. The countersink should allow for a #7 trim head screw to sit just below the surface of the gelcoat.
10. Once the section of cornice is attached with #7 x 1-5/8” stainless steel trim head screws, apply a bead of adhesive onto the lap flange that should be resting inside of the notched blocking.
11. In cold to moderate weather, allow for a 1/8” to 1/4” expansion joint when positioning the adjoining cornice piece.
12. Finish the seams with color matching caulk/sealant or paintable sealant if cornice is to be finished onsite to allow for expansion and contraction.
13. Continuous sealant should be applied where the cornice meets the façade.
14. Screw heads, if desired, can be concealed with the color matching caulk/sealant or filled with Bondo/putty and touched up with primer/paint.
15. For cornice without a return at the top, install exterior grade plywood with metal flashing. For cornice with a return, plywood is not required.