



# PLY-BEAD® Installation and Finishing Instructions

Georgia-Pacific



*When durability is more important than formality.*

## Ply-Bead® Classic Ideal Do-It-Yourself Panel

- Durable Southern Pine Real Plywood
- Easy to Install Nominal 4' x 8' Panels
- Repaintable for Fresh Look
- Economical

## Recommended Applications

### Classic 1.6" on center

Wainscoting

- Bonus Rooms
- Finished Basements
- Screened-in Porches
- Closets

Porch Ceilings

Ply-Bead® is not recommended where a fine-furniture appearance is required. It is a great panel for weather-protected areas where durability and ease of installation are important. Ply-Bead is not suitable for exposed exterior applications such as exterior siding.

### Classic 3.5" on center

Interior Walls

- Bonus Rooms
- Finished Basements
- Garages
- Laundry Rooms

Porch Ceilings

## Tools & Supplies for Installation

Assemble all your tools and supplies before you begin the job. Here's what you will need for most common wall paneling installation:

- |  |             |                    |
|--|-------------|--------------------|
| tape measure   | level       | carpenter's square |
| chalkline  | drill       | pencil compass     |
| nails  | hammer      | miter box          |
| nail set   | keyhole saw | caulking gun       |
| power or hand saw ( <i>with fine-toothed blade</i> )                   |             |                    |
| eye goggles ( <i>must be worn when using any power or hand tools</i> ) |             |                    |

## Specifications

	Ply-Bead® Classic 1.6	Ply-Bead® Classic 3.5
<b>Nominal Panel Size</b>	4' <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " x 8' sanded surface, <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " beaded pattern approx. 1.6" o.c.	4' <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " x 8' sanded surface, <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " beaded pattern approx. 3.5" o.c.
<b>Nominal Thickness</b>	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>32</sub> "	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>32</sub> "
<b>Rating</b>	APA Series V-171	APA Series V-171
<b>Edge</b>	Shiplap	Shiplap
<b>Panel Weight</b>	35 lbs.	35 lbs.
<b>Net Exposed Face</b>	48"	48"
<b>Minimum Width</b>	48 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> "	48 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> "
<b>Minimum Length</b>	95 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> "	95 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> "
<b>Minimum Thickness</b>	<sup>10</sup> / <sub>32</sub> "	<sup>10</sup> / <sub>32</sub> "

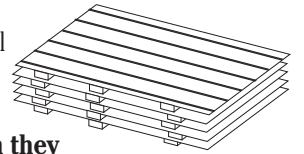
## Installation Instructions

### Care and Storage

Ply-Bead should be stored and handled with care to avoid damaging before installing and finishing. Store in a cool, dry place out of direct sunlight. Stack on a level surface.

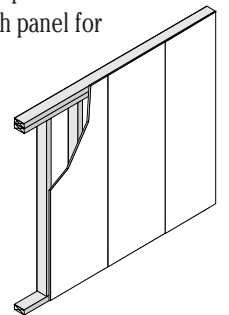
To minimize the amount of dimensional change that can occur due to changes in panel moisture content, **acclimate panels to the environment in which they will be installed for at least 48 hours prior to application.**

Stack the panels on the floor with a minimum of 3 spacers between each sheet. This allows air to circulate around each panel for proper acclimatization (see illustration).



### Wall/Ceiling Framing and Preparation

Panels can be installed over studs, 1" x 2" wood furring or existing solid backing wall surface by fastening to the furring or through the backing into the studs. Panels may be oriented with their long dimension (strength axis) vertically over supports 16" o.c., or horizontally over supports 24" o.c., for wall paneling, garage liner and wainscoting applications. When used on porch or interior ceilings, the long dimension (strength axis) must be perpendicular to ceiling joists. All panel ends and edges must be supported by framing, blocking, furring or a solid nailable backing. Drywall is **not** a nailable backing.



### Below Grade and All

**Masonry Walls** should be free of cracks and leaks. Repair cracks or leaks with a waterproof compound or sealer. Apply a minimum 4 mil polyethylene vapor retarder over the masonry wall prior to furring to prevent moisture from accumulating on the back of the panels. Preservative treated furring is recommended if masonry walls are below grade. If the below grade wall is open frame, treat as an exterior wall.

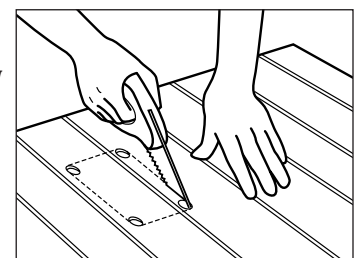


**Exterior Walls and Ceilings** separating attics from living spaces should be insulated and have a vapor retarder between the panel back and inner face of the studs, furring or solid backing. The vapor retarder may be a facing attached to the insulation or be a separate layer such as 4 mil polyethylene or a closed cell foam insulation panel.

### Cutting Panels

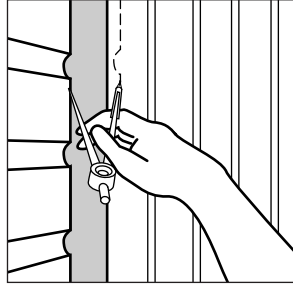
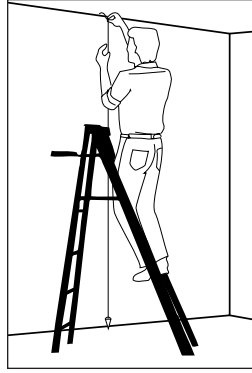
Use a sharp cross cut hand saw or power saw with a combination or cross cut blade. If using a hand saw or table saw, mark and cut panels face up. If using a portable circular saw or a sabre saw, mark and cut panels face down. Where rough edges develop, they can be dressed with a carpenter's plane, rasp, file or sandpaper.

Measure and mark carefully cut outs for door and window sections, electrical switches, outlets and heat registers. Many a good panel has been ruined by inaccurate measurement, marking and cutting. Double check your work before cutting. *Always wear eye protection when cutting or nailing.*



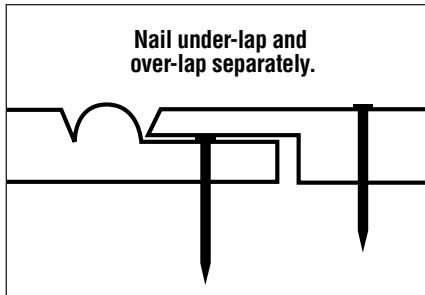
## Measuring and Fitting

Start panel installation at a corner by fitting the panel loosely into the corner. Scribing to the corner may be helpful to plumb the leading panel edge over the center line of the stud or furring, especially if the adjacent wall is rough or irregular. Leave a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " gap at the top and bottom of the wall. This space and a  $\frac{1}{8}$ " gap at corners and around window and door openings and cutouts can be concealed by mouldings, faceplates, etc. For interior applications, space panels at least  $\frac{1}{32}$ " apart at edges,  $\frac{1}{8}$ " for protected exterior applications, such as porch ceilings. Walls and studs behind joints can be painted, stained or taped to blend with the panel finish and prevent show-through. Gaps can be caulked with a non-hardening paintable caulk. Install subsequent panels in the same manner, checking for plumb periodically.



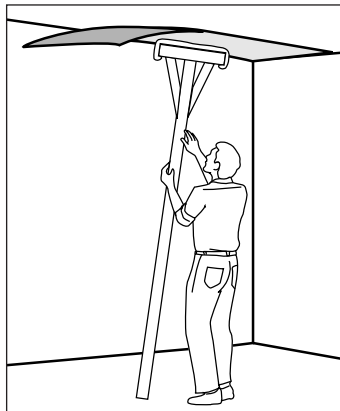
## Fastening

Nail panels 6" o.c. at panel ends and edges and 12" o.c. at intermediate supports in the field of the panel. Do not nail directly through the shiplap at long edges. Place nails  $\frac{3}{8}$ " from panel ends and edges. Nail under-lap and over-lap separately. For interior paneling, garage liner and wainscot applications, use a 6d casing, finishing or ring shank paneling nail. For protected exterior porch ceilings and soffits, use a 6d nonstaining (galvanized or stainless) box or casing nail. Longer nails are necessary if solid backing is over  $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick to achieve minimum 1" penetration into framing. Drive nails flush with the panel surface or set slightly using a nail set. Be careful not to damage the panel surface with the hammer. *Always wear eye protection when cutting or nailing.*



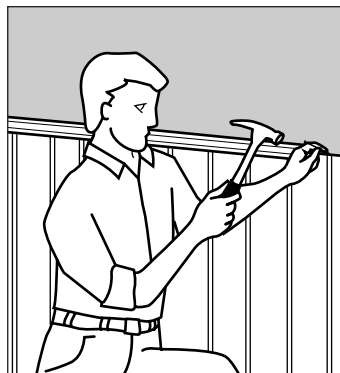
## Porch Ceilings

To ease the installation process, make a T-shaped prop of 2" x 4" lumber with a padded top surface. Make it a few inches longer than the ceiling height and use it to wedge the panel in place while you nail. All panel ends and edges must fall over furring, framing or blocking. If ends and edges cannot be supported for nailing, unsupported ends and edges should be covered with batten strips or moulding.



## Wainscot Applications

To minimize waste, consider cutting 4' x 8' panels into thirds (32" x 48" sections). The resulting 32" high wainscot panels will cover 12 lineal feet of wall per 4' x 8' panel. Cap the top of the wainscot panel with a cap moulding or chair rail moulding. The  $\frac{1}{4}$ " space at the floor/wall intersect will be covered by the base moulding.



## Finishing Instructions

### General

Panel surfaces should be clean and the panels dry before finishing. Be sure to use a good quality finish system recommended for plywood. Acrylic latex paint systems are the only recommended finish. When in question, a brush-out test should be performed on a representative sample to demonstrate the finished appearance.

### Edge Sealing (Paint)

Moisture enters the end grain of plywood or other wood-based products faster than through the surface. Consequently, edges and ends of plywood panels should be sealed. Although paints are not necessarily moisture-proof or permanently durable, they help to minimize sudden changes in moisture content in the panels due to humidity changes.

### Surface Preparation

Proper surface preparation is a must to assure optimum performance of finishes on any surface.

- Apply wood filler to any damaged areas on the panel faces and over set nails; allow to dry prior to application of finishes.
- Remove dirt and loose wood fibers with a stiff non-metallic bristle brush. Smooth rough areas by light sanding.
- Finishes should be applied as soon as possible after installation of the panels.
- Extra care is required not to damage the finished surface if finished prior to installation.
- Finishes should not be applied when the air temperature is expected to drop below 50°F (10°C) within 24 hours for latex finishes.\*
- Wood surfaces should be clean and dry before finishing.
- Use only top-quality finishes and equipment.
- The first coat should be applied by brush.
- Subsequent coats of finish may be applied by brush or roller.

### Paints (acrylic latex)

An acrylic latex paint system composed of at least **one stain-resistant primer coat and two companion topcoats should be applied**. A paint finish tends to mask surface characteristics more than an opaque stain. A top quality 100% acrylic latex paint system will provide a more durable finish. Follow the primer and compatible topcoat manufacturers' recommendations for application to plywood sidings. A satin gloss is recommended for cleanability and best appearance.

\*Always follow the finish manufacturers' recommendations. Finishes should be applied according to the spread rates recommended by the manufacturer.

*These installation and finishing instructions are abbreviated and are not intended to cover every installation requirement. For detailed installation requirements, refer to your local building code authority and the APA Residential & Commercial Design/Construction Guide E30M. You can obtain the APA guide from APA – The Engineered Wood Association, P.O. Box 11700, Tacoma, WA 98411-0700. Or call (253) 564-6600 or visit their website at [www.apawood.com](http://www.apawood.com).*

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