

Basing a House – A Step-By-Step Checklist



Installing baseboard molding in a home is not an especially difficult task, but it's one that must be done correctly, the first time. The professionals at Younger Brothers Companies would like to offer this step-by-step checklist to assist you in this task. We hope this helps you to install professional, sturdy baseboards every time for your clients.



Gather Your Supplies:

- 16' tape measure
- claw hammer (16 oz.)
- nail setters 3/32
- 6" coping saw
- hand saw and miter box or electric miter saw
- floor scraper
- nail gun with 16 ga. 1 3/4" finish nails or 5 penny finish nails



Before You Begin...

- Look at each wall and take note of unevenness or bumps that will make installation difficult; these must be resolved *before* installing trim along that wall.
- Thoroughly clean the floor, making sure to remove any Drywall Compound or other substances.
- Check the space between the floor and drywall. If there is 1" of space or more, you will need to put base blocks (1/2" X 1/2" X 4") in the space to keep the trim from tilting.
- Plan on basing from right to left, starting with a door opening if available.
- Pre measure all closed-in walls. Measure walls from corner to door or corner to corner.
- Write the measurements on each wall with a pencil.
- Mark measurements on your baseboard pieces with a pencil.



Cope and Cut

- Inside corners best coped. Set your saw at 45 degrees (angled in) and make a cut.
- Cut along the face profile line with a coping saw, cutting at a slight 5 degree under cut. This will allow for a tight fit even if the corner is not an absolute 90 degree angle.

- Cut the opposite end of the trim at a 45 or 90 degree angle, depending on where it falls along the wall.
- For outside corners, miter it 45 degrees (angled out).



Install

- Once your trim is cut, dry fit your trim and make sure the corners line up properly.
- Nail into each stud.
- If the trim pattern is larger than 2 ¼" tall, double nail.
- Don't* nail inside the grooves of the trim pattern. Doing so creates problems when filling the nail holes with putty.
- Finally, caulk around the edges.

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