

1" T&G NOTES

- 1. Keep Dry!**
- 2. Best to acclimate – if installing inside.**
 - a. Heating/AC system must already be running.
 - b. Stack with sticks/spacers between every layer in the room in which it will be installed.
 - c. 2-3 days normally. If you're in an area that's far more humid (beach) or far less humid (desert) then you might give it 7 days or more.
- 3. Preparing to install over studs**
 - a. Studs should be 16" apart.
 - b. T&G should run perpendicular to the studs.
 - c. If you want to run the T&G another direction, then you will need to first install either ½" plywood (or 7/16" OSB) or 1x3 batten strips every 16" over the studs.
 - d. It is best to cover the inside of all the perimeter walls with ½" plywood (or 7/16" OSB) before installing T&G.
- 4. Preparing to install over existing thin paneling or sheetrock.**
 - a. Locate and mark the studs.
 - b. You can install either ½" plywood (or 7/16" OSB) or 1x3 batten strips every 16" over the paneling or sheetrock. Use screws long enough to penetrate the studs be at least 1".
 - c. OR...you can just use longer nails to install the T&G directly over the paneling or sheetrock making sure to hit the studs. For example: If you're nailing thru ½ sheetrock then you're nails need to be an extra 1/2" long. In the case of ¾" T&G that means you will need to use 2-1/2" nails.
 - d. Popcorn ceiling must be scraped off.
- 5. Pre-sealing / Pre-priming (for areas exposed to humidity)**
 - a. T&G being installed in areas where it is exposed to high humidity like kitchens, bathrooms, and porches must be pre-sealed or pre-primed front and back before installing.
 - b. After installation you will need to apply at least 3 top coats.
- 6. Installing the T&G**
 - a. Use at least 2" nails when installing ¾" T&G. Either 6d finishing nails or 15 to 16 gauge brad nails. (you can rent air guns at your local box store)
 - b. Make sure the first board is level.
 - c. Face nail the first board every 16" with the groove to towards the wall and the tongue turned in the direction in which you will be installing. If you're using 6d finishing nails you'll want to use a nail punch to sink the heads and then putty over them.
 - d. (The first board is usually installed furthest away from the room's entrance because it's face nailed. However, If the room is out of square it's best to start in the center of the room and work your way out. That way it will split the difference throughout the room.)
 - e. Then insert the groove of the next board into the tongue of the first one. Make sure it's seated completely together. Tap using a scrap block if necessary. Nail at a 45 degree angle through the tongue to hide the nail. This is called "blind nailing".
 - f. Nails go about every 16" making sure they are hitting plywood, lath strips, or studs.
 - g. Best to leave a ¼" gap around the edges of your wall or ceiling.

- h. Plan to stagger your lengths.
- i. Use crooked/bowed pieces as the ones you'll cut for shorter lengths.
- j. For joints it's a good idea to 45 the ends so that the end of one board holds down the end of the next.
- k. Use a jigsaw to cut out places for electrical boxes and such.



7. Finishing

- a. **CLEAR COATING** - If you're just clear coating, then we recommend Minwax Polycrylic. It's waterbased, fast drying, and doesn't yellow like oil based polyurethanes. Apply 2 coats after installation for most interior applications. For kitchens, bathrooms, and porches apply one coat front and back before installing and then 3-4 coats after.
- b. **PAINTING** – If you're painting then you will want to prime it first with a good stain blocking primer. Then apply 1-2 coats of your paint.
- c. **STAINING** – If you're staining it's easiest to apply the stain before installation. Be sure to use exterior stain for porches. Test your stain on a small piece to make sure it's the color you're looking for.

DISCLAIMERS: This is not an exhaustive list of instructions. Be sure to check with local building codes and read all labels and follow all directions regarding use of air nailers, etc...and the applications of stains, clearcoats, etc... Also, there are many instructional resources online.

Hope these tips help! Compliments of Southern Wood Specialties in Flomaton, AL