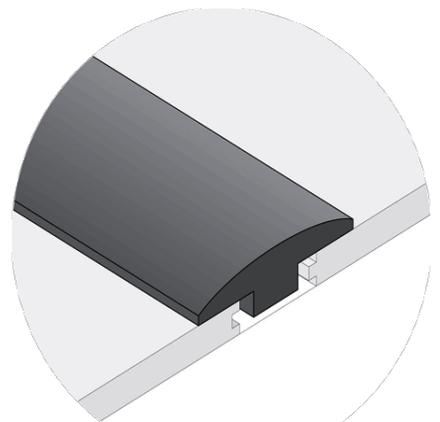
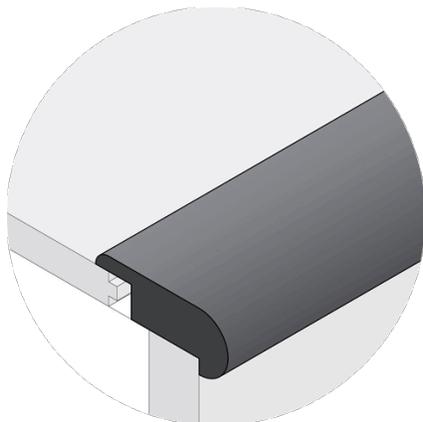
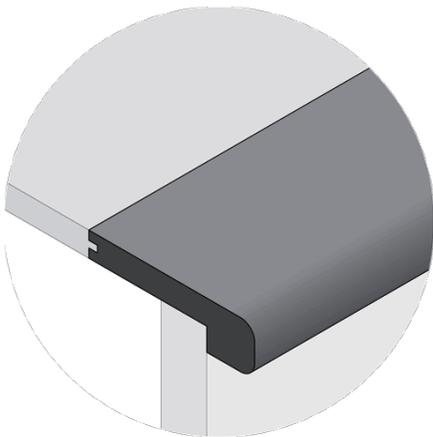
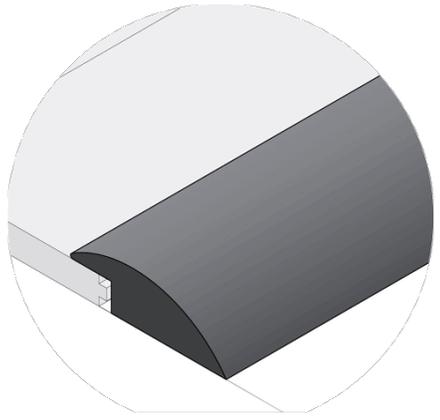
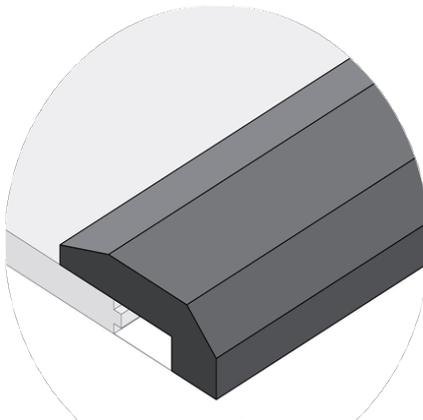
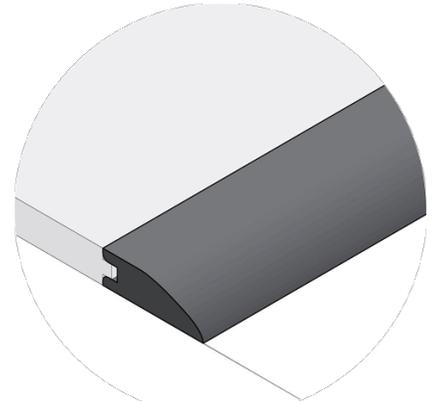
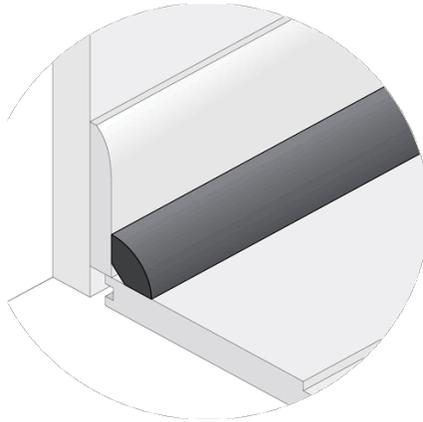
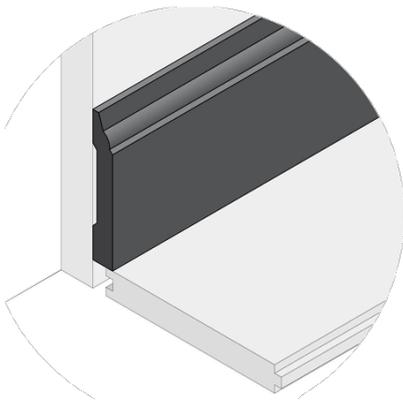


# Wood Molding Installation Guide



## Estimating the Quantity of Molding Required for the Job.

Calculate the following:

1. Total lineal feet of **Wall Base** required for the job: \_\_\_\_\_ Lineal feet
2. Total lineal feet of **Quarter Round** required for the job: \_\_\_\_\_ Lineal feet
3. Total lineal feet of **T-Molding** will be used: \_\_\_\_\_ Lineal feet
4. Total lineal feet of **Threshold** for doorways or against hearths: \_\_\_\_\_ Lineal feet
5. Total lineal feet of **Reducer** where hardwood floor adjoins floors of different heights: \_\_\_\_\_ Lineal feet
6. Total lineal feet of **Stair Nose** (stair width times number of steps): \_\_\_\_\_ Lineal feet
7. Total lineal feet of **Base Shoe** required: \_\_\_\_\_ Lineal feet

Molding	# Moldings Required
	Lineal Feet (from above) x 10% (cutting allowance) ÷ Molding length
	( ) x (1.10) ÷ ( ) = # Moldings Required
<b>Wall Base</b>	( ) x (1.10) ÷ (Length)
<b>Quarter Round</b>	( ) x (1.10) ÷ (Length)
<b>Base Shoe</b>	( ) x (1.10) ÷ (Length)
<b>T-Molding</b>	( ) x (1.10) ÷ (Length)
<b>Threshold</b>	( ) x (1.10) ÷ (Length)
<b>Reducer</b>	( ) x (1.10) ÷ (Length)
<b>Stair Nose</b>	( ) x (1.10) ÷ (Length)

*Notes: If the number of moldings is uneven, round up to the nearest full piece.*

## Installation Instructions - Hardwood Moldings

This installation guide covers the installation of hardwood moldings on glue down/nail down flooring installations and floating floor installations. Please refer to the appropriate section of the guide for the instructions that apply to your installation.

## Preparation and Installation Tips

### Preparation

Preparation for the installation of hardwood moldings is the same as the preparation for installation of the hardwood floor. Subfloors must be flat and level. “High spots” should be sanded down and “low spots” filled with a high-compressive strength underlayment patch or self-leveling cement compound developed by a reputable manufacturer.

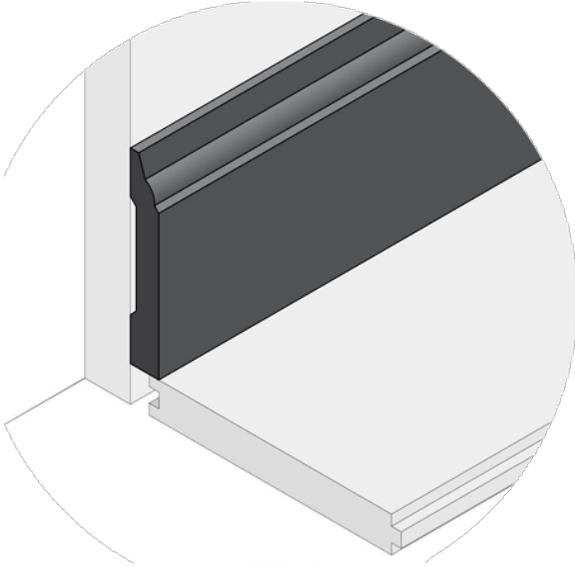
**Color and grain matching** – It is important to consider color and grain matching of any molding and hardwood flooring that will be installed adjacent to one another. Because hardwood flooring and moldings are products of nature, they are susceptible to variations in grain and wood color. These natural variations add variety and natural beauty to the overall look of your floor. However, pre-selecting flooring and moldings that will be installed adjacent to one another will enhance this beauty. *Just prior to installation*, the installer should sort through and set aside several pieces of flooring that most accurately match the required moldings. Following this simple, but often overlooked guideline will provide a pleasing and trouble-free finish on every job.

### Dos and Don'ts with Hardwood Moldings

The following guidelines are presented as an overview of steps the installer can take to assure the hardwood molding installation goes well. These “**dos and don'ts**” have been gathered from the experiences of many installers across the country and can help to assure your installation goes well.

- ✓ Prefinished moldings must be handled carefully to avoid chipping and marring of the face.
- ✓ Moldings must be pre-drilled to avoid splitting whenever they are to be secured with nails or fasteners.
- ✓ Avoid splits in moldings by controlling the size of the fastener and its proximity to the end of a cut or the edge of the molding.
- ✓ If a pneumatic nail gun is to be used, test it on a scrap molding before the installation to assess possible damage due to fastening.
- ✓ The tool of choice for cutting hardwood moldings is a 10 or 12 inch motorized miter saw with pre-set adjustments for the basic miter cuts at 22.5°, 45°, and 90°. A carbide tipped blade makes the best cuts.
- ✓ Always use miter cuts rather than butt cuts when splicing. Decide the direction of the miter by cutting the molding with the long point oriented in the same direction as your natural line of vision when you enter the room.
- ✓ When installing Wall Base moldings, eliminate the need to putty holes on the molding by placing the bottom nail below the finished line of the Quarter Round molding.
- ✓ On Wall Base or Quarter Round moldings, never restrict the hardwood floors natural contraction/expansion movement by driving the fasteners at a downward angle into the floor. Rather, attach the moldings to the wall or vertical surface.

## Installing Wall Base Moldings with a Glue Down/Nail Down Floor



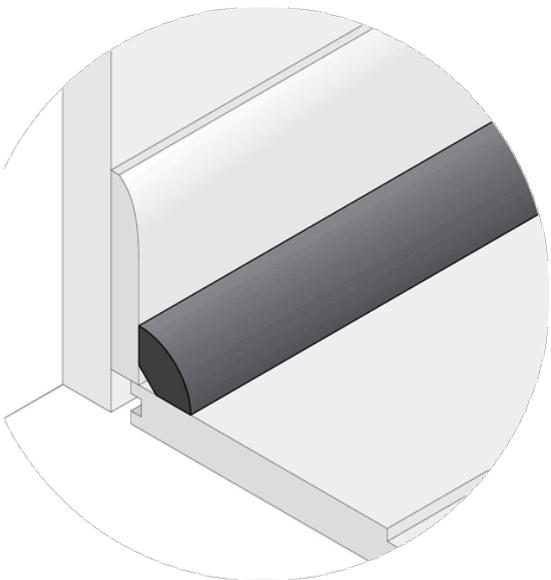
**Application** – Borders the wood floor at the base of the wall to give the room a finished look. This molding helps conceal the required expansion space between the wall and the hardwood flooring. It is also sometimes used under cabinet toe kicks.

**Installation** – Wall Base moldings should be installed after the hardwood floor is in place. You must make allowances for an expansion space between the floor and wall in accordance with the hardwood flooring manufacturer’s recommendations. The molding should be fastened to the wall (**not the subfloor**) to assure that the contraction or expansion space for the floor is not restricted. Pre-drill the molding to avoid splitting.

**Helpful Tip:** If the expansion space between the wall and the hardwood floor is wider than the Wall Base molding, you will need to use an Artistic Finishes Quarter Round or Base Shoe molding to complete the job. In this case, place the lower nail securing the Wall

Base molding below the finished line of the Quarter Round or Base Shoe molding. By doing this, the Quarter Round molding will cover the lower nail in the Wall Base molding and avoid the need to putty the lower nail holes.

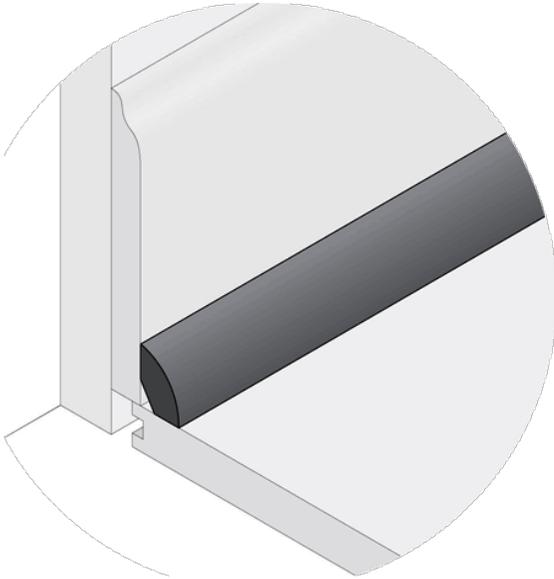
## Installing Quarter Round Moldings with a Glue Down/Nail Down Floor



**Application** – The Quarter Round is used in much the same manner as a Wall Base molding to conceal the required expansion space between the wall and the hardwood flooring. It is sometimes used under cabinet toe kicks where a Wall Base won’t fit or at the base of a stair to provide a subtle blend between the floor and the wall or vertical surface. Adding the Quarter Round in front of a Wall Base softens the transition and adds a decorative touch.

**Installation** – Quarter Round moldings should be installed after the hardwood floor is in place. You must make allowances for an expansion space between the wall and floor in accordance with the hardwood flooring manufacturer’s recommendations. The molding should be fastened to the wall (**not the subfloor**) to assure that the contraction or expansion space for the floor is not restricted. Pre-drill the molding to avoid splitting.

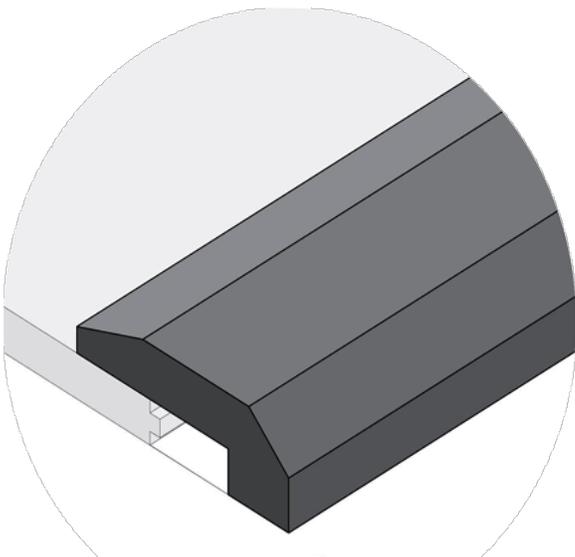
## Installing Base Shoe Moldings with a Glue Down/Nail Down Floor



**Application** – Used as a transition to vertical surfaces in tight spots where Wall Base will not fit, such as the toe-kick area under cabinets. Also used as a substitute for Quarter Round when a lower profile molding is desired to preserve an existing Wall Base molding.

**Installation** – Base Shoe moldings should be installed after the hardwood floor is in place. You must make allowances for an expansion space between the floor and vertical surface in accordance with the hardwood flooring manufacturer’s recommendations. The molding should be fastened to the wall and/or Wall Base molding (**not the subfloor**) to assure that the contraction or expansion space for the floor is not restricted. Pre-drill the molding to avoid splitting. When used to transition other floors, such as vinyl or tile floors, fast to the wall or toe plate.

## Installing Threshold Moldings with a Glue Down/Nail Down Floor

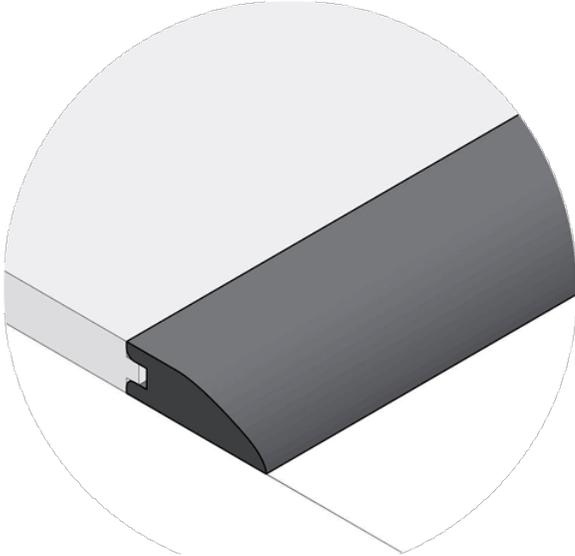


**Application** – Typically used at exterior doorways as a transition between flooring and the threshold. Also used to transition a wood floor to different floors to make them fit together perfectly, such as high pile carpeting or tile. The Threshold molding is also commonly used interchangeably with a Square Nose molding to conceal the expansion space when the flooring runs up to a vertical object that cannot be framed by Wall Base or Quarter Round molding. Examples include fireplace hearths, sliding glass doors and large thresholds.

**Installation** – Artistic Finishes manufactures two sizes of Threshold moldings to cover the range of flooring options. ***When installing Threshold moldings, it is important not to attach the molding directly to the hardwood floor, as the hardwood floor must be able to expand and contract under the lip of the molding in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations.*** After the hardwood floor is installed, lay the variable Threshold molding in place. The Threshold

molding should overlap the flooring by  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch, leaving the balance for required expansion or contraction. To attach the molding, apply one or two  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch beads of construction adhesive to the subfloor and set the molding in place. If nailing, pre-drill the molding to prevent splitting and nail to the subfloor behind the lip of the molding. Be sure when nailing, not to obstruct the floor’s expansion space under the molding.

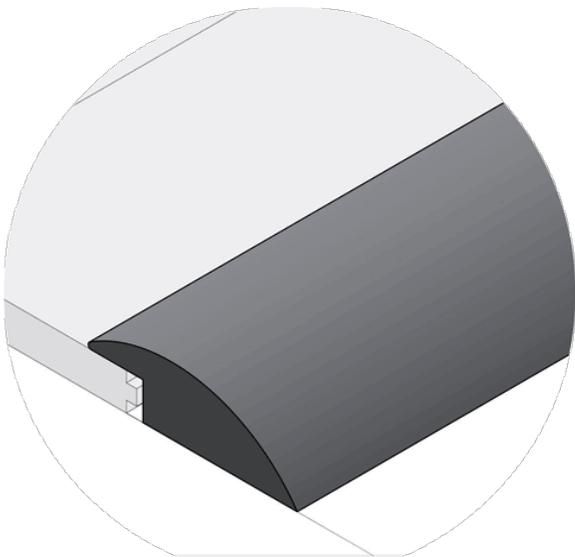
## Installing Reducer Moldings with a Glue Down/Nail Down Floor



**Application** – Used to join hardwood floors with floors of different heights such as vinyl, ceramic tile or low pile carpeting.

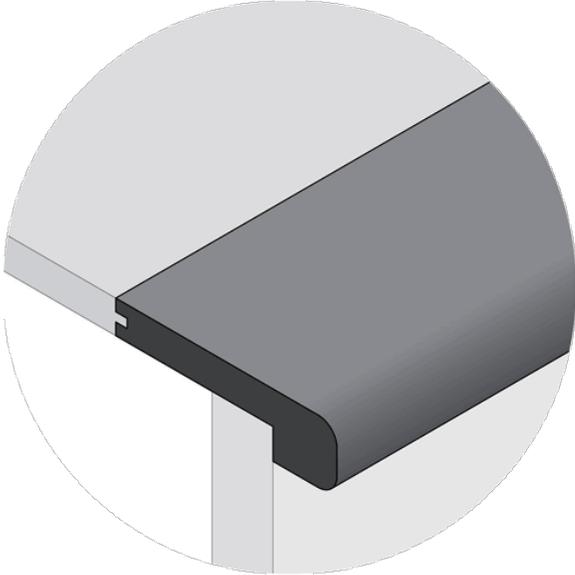
**Installation** – Artistic Finishes manufactures two types of Reducers. The standard Flush Reducer is for nail down or glue down floors. The Overlap Reducer is designed for floating floor installations. Because of variances in thickness with some manufacturers' hardwood floors, there are different molding sizes available. Artistic Finishes matches the molding up to a piece of the manufacturer's flooring to verify the best molding is assigned to each specific flooring line.

**Flush Reducers** – To install the molding, apply glue to the front edge of the molding as recommended by the manufacturer. Apply one or two ¼ inch beads of construction adhesive to the subfloor and set the molding in place. If nailing, pre-drill the molding to prevent splitting. To assure a flush surface in any glue down installation, it is recommended that the molding be taped with blue tape (Scotch 3M #2090) to the floor while the glue is setting.



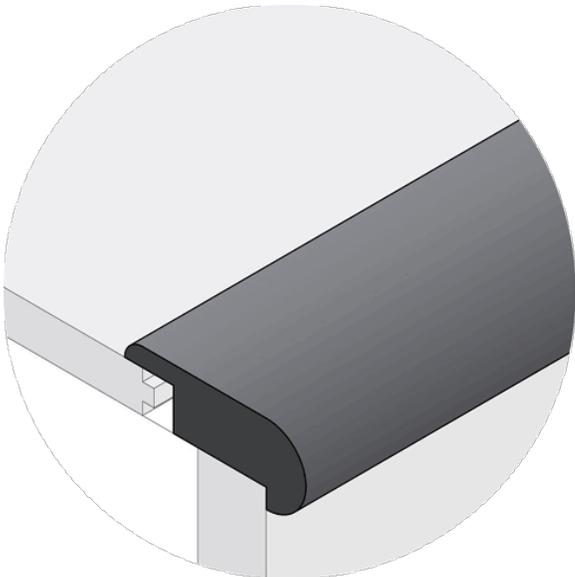
**Overlap Reducers** – The Overlap Reducer is typically used for floating floor applications. *See the floating floor section of this installation guide for instructions on how to install the Overlap Reducer.*

## Installing Stair Nose Moldings with a Glue Down/Nail Down Floor



**Application** – The Stair Nose molding combines style and function to create an attractive molding that catches the brunt of floor traffic while enhancing the beauty of a staircase or step. The Stair Nose also provides the proper overhang for a transition from one floor level to the next, such as the step into a sunken living room.

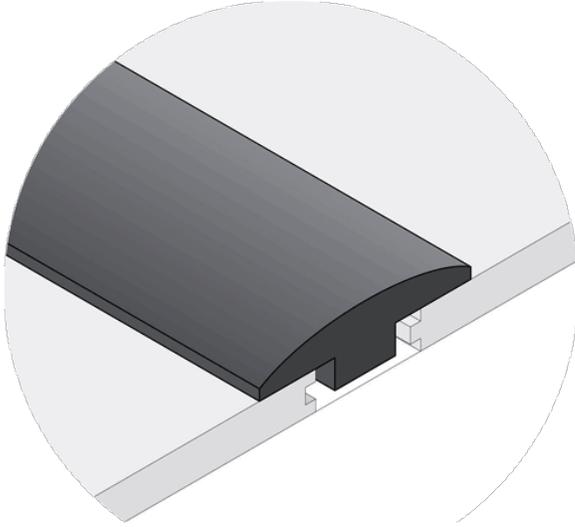
**Installation** – Artistic Finishes manufactures two types of Stair Nosing. The standard Flush Stair Nose is for nail down or glue down floors and installs flush with the hardwood floor to provide a clean transition to the next step or sunken room. The Overlap Stair Nose is designed for floating floor installations. Stair Nose moldings are available for floors ranging from ¼ inch in thickness up to ¾ inch. Artistic Finishes matches the molding up to a piece of the manufacturer’s flooring to verify the best molding is assigned to each specific flooring line.



**Flush Stair Nose** – When used on a step, the Stair Nose molding should cover and overlap the riser. When used on a step-up to another room, the Stair Nose molding becomes the starting “edge” of the floor. Because of the interlocking of the molding with the floor, the Stair Nose molding should be installed first. Once the molding is in place, the interlocking floor can be installed out from this point. To install the Flush Stair Nose molding, apply one or two ¼ inch beads of construction adhesive to the subfloor and set the molding in place. If nailing, pre-drill the molding to prevent splitting and nail to the subfloor. To assure a flush surface in any glue down installation, it is recommended that the molding be taped with blue tape (Scotch 3M #2090) to the floor while the glue is setting.

**Overlap Stair Nose** – The Overlap Stair Nose is typically used for floating floor applications. *See the floating floor section of this installation guide for instructions on how to install the Overlap Stair Nose.*

## Installing T-Moldings with a Glue Down/Nail Down Floor



**Application** – Commonly used in doorways to join two wood floors in adjoining rooms. Also recommended when making a transition from a wood floor to another floor that is approximately the same height such as ceramic tile. T-Moldings are also used to provide expansion joints when a floor dimension exceeds 40 feet.

**Installation** – Artistic Finishes manufactures T-Moldings to fit floors ranging from ¼ inch in thickness up to ¾ inch. *When installing T-Moldings, it is important not to obstruct the space for expansion or contraction recommended by the flooring manufacturer. For this reason, you will need a space between the two adjoining floors of approximately 1 ¼ inches to properly install the T-Molding.*

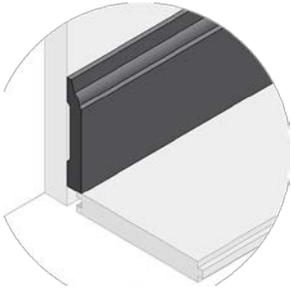
**Installing T-Molding between a wood floor and another floor of the same height** – Lay the T-Molding in place to determine proper fit. To attach the T-Molding between a ceramic tile floor and hardwood floor,

apply a ¼ inch bead of construction adhesive to the top edge of the ceramic tile. Set the molding in place, making sure that you have a minimum of a ¼ inch molding overlap on the wood flooring, including an expansion space between the T-Molding and the wood floor to handle expansion or contraction (*See flooring manufacturer's recommendations on required space*).

**Installing T-Molding between two wood floors of the same height** – Lay the T-Molding in place to determine proper fit. To attach the T-Molding between two hardwood floors, apply a ¼ inch bead of construction adhesive to the top edge on one side of the hardwood floor. Set the molding in place, making sure that you have a minimum of a ¼ inch molding overlap on the wood flooring on the adjacent floor. Check to make sure that you have also provided an expansion space between the T-Molding and the wood floor to handle expansion or contraction (*See flooring manufacturer's recommendations on required space*).

## Floating Floor Molding Installations

Artistic Finishes offers a full line of quality hardwood moldings for floating floor applications. The following installation guidelines provide suggestions on how to properly install these moldings for a picture perfect look.



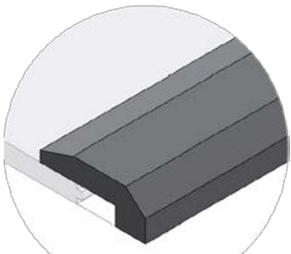
**Wall Base** – The installation instructions for Wall Base moldings on a floating floor are the same as a glue down/nail down floor installation. *See the “glue down/nail down” section of this installation guide for instructions on how to install Wall Base.*



**Quarter Round** – The installation instructions for Quarter Round moldings on a floating floor are the same as a glue down/nail down installation. *See the “glue down/nail down” section of this installation guide for instructions on how to install Quarter Round.*



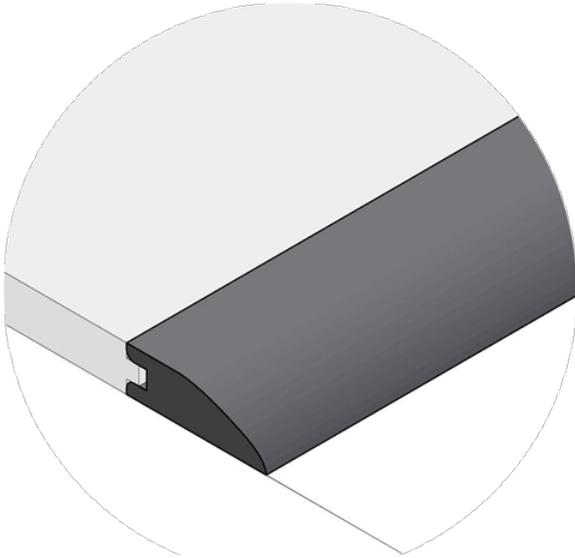
**Base Shoe** – The installation instructions for Base Shoe moldings on a floating floor are the same as a glue down/nail down installation. *See the “glue down/nail down” section of this installation guide for instructions on how to install Base Shoe.*



**Threshold** – Artistic Finishes manufactures two sizes of Threshold molding to cover the range of flooring options. *When installing Threshold moldings, it is important not to attach the molding directly to the hardwood floor, as the hardwood floor must be able to expand and contract under the lip of the molding in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations.*

Start the installation by installing wood shims wherever you plan to install Threshold moldings (i.e. against fireplace hearths, sliding glass door tracks, ceramic tile, etc.). The shim should be placed directly against the vertical object or floor where you plan to install the Threshold molding. This shim serves as a base or foundation for the molding. Secure the shim in place by either nailing or gluing it down. Install the pad with the edge of the pad placed directly against the shim. Install the floating floor so that it overlaps the shim approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch. The shim serves to stabilize the floor from compressing under weight and provides a foundation for the Threshold molding. Lay the Threshold molding in place. The Threshold molding should overlap the flooring by  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch, leaving the balance for required expansion or contraction. To attach the molding, apply one or two  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch beads of construction adhesive to the shim and set the molding in place. If nailing, pre-drill the molding and shim to prevent splitting and nail to the subfloor behind the lip of the molding. Be sure when nailing, not to obstruct the floor’s expansion space under the molding.

## Installing Reducer Moldings with a Floating Floor

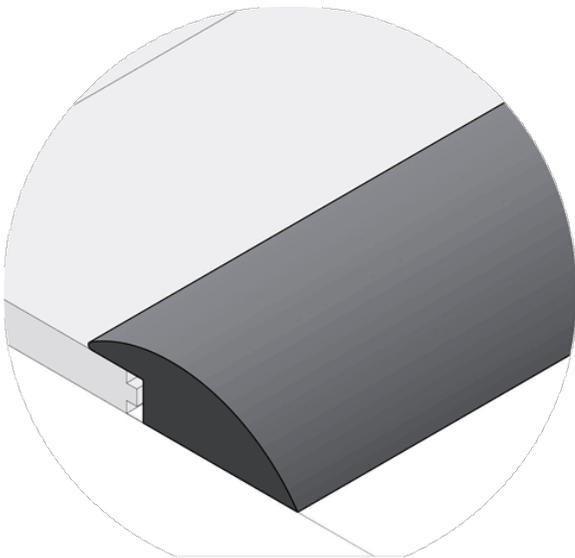


**Application** – Used to join hardwood floors with floors of different heights such as vinyl, ceramic tile or low pile carpeting.

**Installation** – Artistic Finishes manufactures two types of Reducers. The standard flush Reducer is for nail down or glue down floors. The Overlap Reducer is designed for floating floor installations. Because of variances in thickness with some manufacturers' hardwood floors, there are different molding sizes available. Artistic Finishes matches the molding up to a piece of the manufacturer's flooring to verify the best molding is assigned to each specific flooring line.

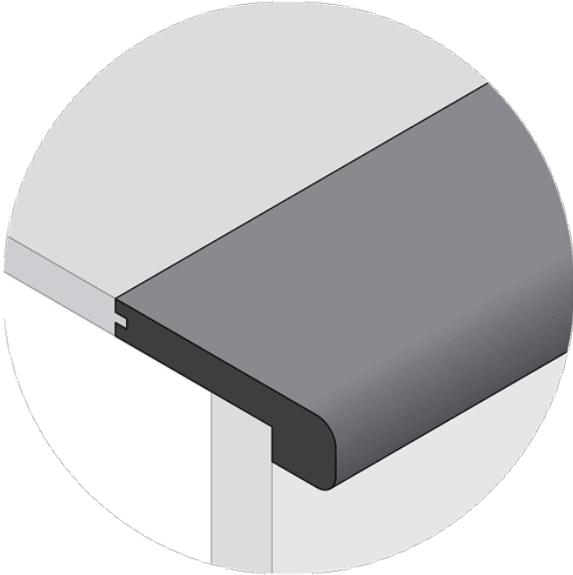
**Flush Reducers** – The Flush Reducer is typically used for glue down/nail down applications. *See the glue down/nail down section of this installation guide for instructions on how to install the Flush Reducer.*

**Overlap Reducers** – The Overlap Reducer is typically used for floating floor applications. *When installing Overlap Reducer moldings on a floating floor, it is important not to attach the Overlap Reducer directly to the hardwood floor as the hardwood floor must be able to expand or contract under the lip of the molding per the manufacturer's recommendations.*



Start the installation by installing wood shims wherever you plan to install an overlap reducer. The shim should be placed approximately 1- $\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the edge of the floor to which you are transitioning. Secure the shim in place by either nailing or gluing it down. Install the pad with the edge of the pad placed directly against the shim. Next, install the floating floor over the shim so that only  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch of the shim is showing under the floor. The shim serves to stabilize the floor from compressing under weight. Lay the Reducer molding in place. **Note: The shim should not extend under the base of the Overlap Reducer.** Lay the Overlap Reducer in place. The Overlap Reducer should overlap the flooring by  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch, leaving the balance for required expansion or contraction. To attach the molding, apply one or two  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch beads of construction adhesive to the subfloor and set the molding in place. If nailing, pre-drill the molding to prevent splitting and nail to the subfloor behind the lip of the molding. Be sure when nailing, not to obstruct the floor's expansion space under the molding.

## Installing Stair Nose Moldings with a Floating Floor

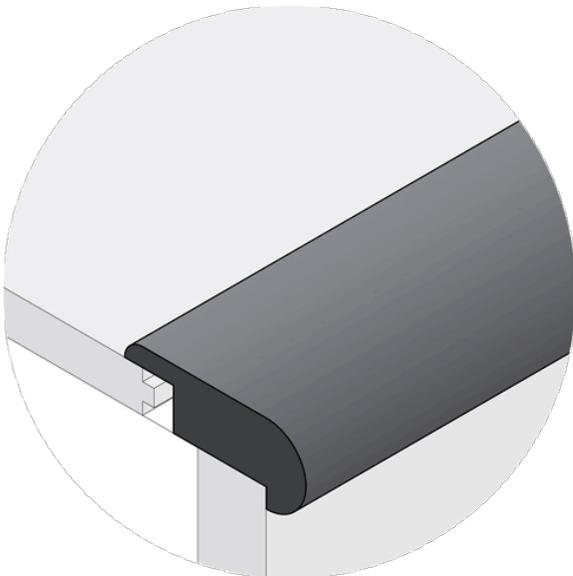


**Application** – The Stair Nose molding combines style and function to create an attractive molding that catches the brunt of floor traffic while enhancing the beauty of a staircase or step. The Stair Nose also provides the proper overhang for a transition from one floor level to the next, such as the step into a sunken living room.

**Installation** – Artistic Finishes manufactures two types of Stair Nosing. The standard flush Stair Nose is for nail down or glue down floors and installs flush with the hardwood floor to provide a clean transition to the next step or sunken room. The Overlap Stair Nose is designed for floating floor installations. Stair Nose moldings are available for floors ranging from ¼ inch in thickness up to ¾ inch. Artistic Finishes matches the molding up to a piece of the manufacturer’s flooring to verify the best molding is assigned to each specific flooring line.

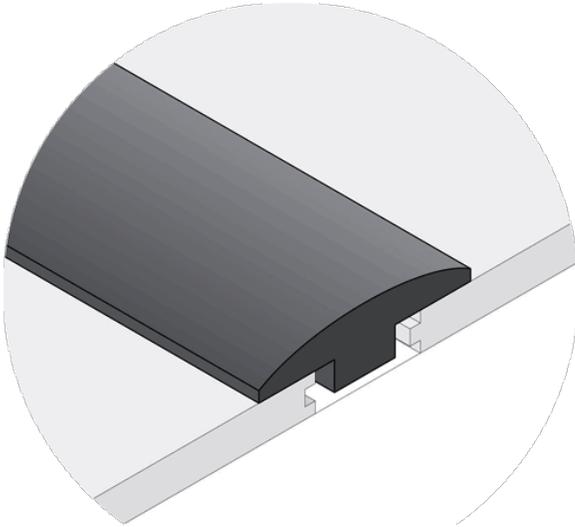
**Flush Stair Nose** – The Flush Stair Nose is typically used for glue down/nail down applications. *See the glue down/nail down section of this installation guide for instructions on how to install the Flush Stair Nose.*

**Overlap Stair Nose** – The Overlap Stair Nose is typically used for floating floor applications. *When installing Overlap Stair Nose moldings on a floating floor, it is important not to attach the molding directly to the hardwood floor as the hardwood floor must be able to expand or contract under the lip of the molding per the manufacturer’s recommendations.*



Start the installation by installing wood shims wherever you plan to install an Overlap Stair Nose. The shim should be placed approximately 1-¾ inches from the front edge of the riser. Secure the shim in place by either nailing or gluing it down. Install the pad with the edge of the pad placed directly against the shim. Next, install the floating floor over the shim so that only ¼ to 3/8 inch of shim is showing under the floor. The shim serves to stabilize the floor from compressing under weight. Lay the Overlap Stair Nose in place. **Note: The shim should not extend under the base of the Overlap Stair Nose.** Lay the Overlap Stair Nose in place. The Overlap Stair Nose should overlap the flooring by ¼ to 3/8 inch, leaving the balance for required expansion or contraction. To attach the molding, apply one or two ¼ inch beads of construction adhesive to the subfloor and set the molding in place. If nailing, pre-drill the molding to prevent splitting and nail to the subfloor behind the lip of the molding. Be sure when nailing, not to obstruct the floor’s expansion space under the molding.

## Installing Stair Nose Moldings with a Floating Floor



**Application** – Commonly used in doorways to join two wood floors in adjoining rooms. Also recommended when making a transition from a wood floor to another floor that is approximately the same height such as ceramic tile. T-Moldings are also used to provide expansion joints when a floor dimension exceeds 40 feet.

**Installation** – Artistic Finishes manufactures T-Moldings to fit floors ranging from  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in thickness up to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch. *When installing T-Moldings, it is important not to obstruct the space for expansion or contraction recommended by the flooring manufacturer. For this reason, you will need a space between the two adjoining floors of approximately 1- $\frac{1}{4}$  inches to properly install the T-Molding.*

**Installing T-Molding between a stationary floor and a floating floor** – Start the installation by installing wood shims wherever you plan to install a T-molding. The shim should be placed approximately

1 inch from the edge of the floor to which you are transitioning. Secure the shim in place by either nailing or gluing it down. Install the pad with the edge of the pad placed directly against the shim. Next, install the floating floor over the shim so that only  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch of shim is showing under the floor. The shim serves to stabilize the floor from compressing under weight. Lay the T-molding in place. Apply a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch bead of construction adhesive to the top edge of the stationary floor. Set the molding in place, making sure that you have a minimum of a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch molding overlap on the wood flooring, including an expansion space between the T-molding and the wood floor to handle expansion or contraction. (See flooring manufacturer's recommendations on required space.)

**Installing T-Molding between two floating floors** – When installing the T-molding between two floating wood floors, begin the installation by installing wood shims under the edges of the floating floors where you plan to install T-molding. The shims can be butted together or separated no more than 1 inch. Secure the shims in place by either nailing or gluing them down. Install the pad with the edge of the pad placed directly against each shim. Next, install the floating floor over the shim so that only  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch of shim is showing under the floor. The shim serves to stabilize the floor from compressing under weight. Lay the T-molding in place. Apply a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch bead of construction adhesive to the top edge of one side of the wood floor. (**Caution: Do not glue both sides.**) Set the molding in place, making sure that you have a minimum of a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch molding overlap on the side of the flooring that is not glued. Make sure you also include an expansion space between the molding and the sides of the wood floor that are not glued to handle the expansion or contraction of both floors. (See flooring manufacturer's recommendations on required space.)

## Installing Square Nose Moldings with a Floating Floor



**Application** – Completes the end of floating hardwood floors. Ideal for concealing expansion spaces when the floor runs up to a vertical object that cannot be framed by wall base or quarter round.

**Installation** – *When installing Square Nose moldings on a floating floor, it is important not to attach the molding directly to the hardwood floor as the hardwood floor must be able to expand or contract under the lip of the molding per the manufacturer’s recommendations.*

The shim should be placed approximately 1-½ inches from the edge of the floor to which you are transitioning. Secure the shim in place by either nailing or gluing it down. Install the pad with the edge of the pad placed directly against the shim. Next, install the floating floor over the shim so that only ¼ to 3/8 inch of shim is showing under the floor. The shim serves to stabilize the floor from compressing under weight. Lay the Square Nose molding in place.

**Note:** The shim should not extend under the base of the Square Nose.

Lay the Square Nose in place. The Square Nose should overlap the flooring by ½ to ¾ inch, leaving the balance for required expansion or contraction. To attach the molding, apply one or two ¼ inch beads of construction adhesive to the subfloor and set the molding in place. If nailing, pre-drill the molding to prevent splitting and nail to the subfloor behind the lip of the molding. **Be sure when nailing, not to obstruct the floor’s expansion space under the molding.**

## Preventative Maintenance

- Use rugs in high traffic areas to reduce wear
- Use dirt trapping walk-off mats at all exterior doors to keep sand, dirt, grit, grease and oil outside
- Do not use oil soaps, liquid or paste wax products or other household cleaners that contain lemon oil, tung oil or ammonia
- Never wet-mop clean your floor with water or other water-based products as this can severely damage the flooring
- Remove spills promptly using a soft cloth and use cleaning products recommended by your flooring manufacturer
- Sweep or vacuum regularly
- Keep pets’ nails trimmed and paws clean and free of dirt, gravel, oil and stains
- Place protective pads beneath furniture legs and feet to reduce scratches and dents
- Use a dolly and protective sheets of plywood when moving heavy objects, furniture or appliances
- Make certain furniture casters are clean and operate properly (a minimum 1 inch width is recommended)
- Remove shoes with spiked or damaged heels before walking on the floor / moldings
- Follow all other preventative recommendations of the flooring manufacturer