

# Johnsonite®

## Rubber & Vinyl Wall Base

### Installation and Maintenance Instructions

#### Introduction

---

Johnsonite Rubber and Vinyl Wall Base are manufactured with the most advanced technology and from the highest quality materials to assure dimensional stability, precision fit, and uniform height and gauge. Johnsonite's unique "satin finish" resists scuffing, gouging, will not fade, discolor, or crack with age and is easy to maintain.

The highest quality of materials and workmanship are employed in the manufacture of Johnsonite Wall Base products and careful inspection is made before shipment. However, a quality installation is the responsibility of the installer and we recommend that all materials be checked for satisfactory color match before you begin installation.

Johnsonite cannot accept any responsibility for loss or damage that may result from the use of this information, due to the possibility of variations of processing or working conditions and/or workmanship outside our control. Users are advised to confirm the suitability of this product by their own tests.

#### Handling and Storage

---

1. Johnsonite Wall Base and adhesives must be site conditioned at room temperature for 24 hours prior to, during, and after the installation. **Room temperature must be between 65° and 75° F (18° and 22° C).**
2. Care must be taken not to pull the wall base excessively when removing it from the carton or unrolling the coils. **The wall base will not shrink, but it will relax to its original length, if stretched.**

#### Surface Preparation

---

1. Floors and walls must be clean, dry, free of dust, all paints, wallpaper, and all other foreign matter, which may affect adhesive bonding.
2. **Do not install Johnsonite Wall Base over vinyl wall coverings or epoxy painted surfaces using latex water-based adhesives. (Note: Some high solids containing latex paints formulations may impede the adhesive drying process similar to epoxy paint.)**
3. **Never install Johnsonite Wall Base on surfaces that will be exposed to drastic temperature changes or moisture.**

#### 4. Equipment/Material Requirements

- Approved Johnsonite Adhesive
- 1/8" square-notched trowel
- Utility knife
- Straight edge
- Tape measure
- Carpenter's square
- Hand roller
- Dividers (Crain #380 or equivalent)
- Top-Set or Pull-Type Gouge Tool

## Wall Base Installation

---

1. Allow coiled wall base to lay flat for at least 24 hours at 65<sup>0</sup> F prior to installation.
2. For installations on **porous wall surfaces**, spread Approved Johnsonite adhesive to the ribbed surface (back) of the wall base with an 1/8" square-notched trowel. **The adhesive should cover 80% of the back surface.** Leave a 1/4" (6.35mm) uncovered space at the top of the wall base to prevent the adhesive from oozing onto the wall above the base when installed.
3. For installations on **non-porous wall surfaces** (i.e.: metal, epoxy paint, ceramics, etc.) apply Johnsonite #945 Contact Bond adhesive to both the wall surface and the back of the wall base. Allow adhesive to thoroughly dry to the touch. The adhesive will turn from "white to clear" when dry. Carefully position the wall base on the wall surface. **Note: Once contact is made to the wall surface, the wall base cannot be moved.**
4. Position wall base on wall surface and roll with hand roller. **Always roll back to starting point to prevent stretching the wall base.**
5. Clean-up: Remove wet adhesive with a water dampened cloth. If adhesive has dried, use a cloth dampened with mineral spirits.

## Corner Installation

---

### Factory Made Corners

1. **Install factory made corners before installing wall base.**
2. Trowel adhesive to ribbed back of wall base corner.
3. Position corner in place and roll to ensure proper adhesive bond.
4. Attention should be given to a tight and even fit to the corner.

**Note:** Contact adhesive may be used to ensure a faster setup at the corner.

### Field-Made Inside Corners

1. Install wall base and terminate into the corner.
2. Position another piece of wall base on opposing wall, without adhesive, approximately 1" from the installed piece.
3. Utilize dividers; place the hooked end at the top of the installed piece and the pointer end on the top of the uninstalled piece. Carefully, move the dividers downward in a straight vertical motion, allowing the hooked end of the dividers to follow the profile of the installed piece. At the same time, place adequate pressure on the pointer end to transfer and/or scribe the profile onto the surface of the uninstalled piece.
4. Use a utility knife to cut the pattern on the uninstalled wall base, apply adhesive, and position the trimmed section into place.

## Field-Made Outside Corners

1. Stop application of adhesive to wall base approximately 18" (45cm) from the outside corner of the wall.
2. Position the wall base at the corner and pencil line the back of the wall base where the bend is desired.
3. Lay the wall base on the floor with the back up. Utilizing a top-set or pull-type gouge tool, make a shallow notch along the pencil line.

**Note:** The notch depth should not exceed one-quarter the total thickness of the wall base.

4. Reposition the wall base corner on the wall. The corner of the wall should fit snugly into the notched recess on the back of the wall base.
5. Apply adhesive and roll firmly into place.

**Note:** Contact adhesive may be used to ensure a faster setup at the corner.

## Maintenance

---

Johnsonite Rubber and Vinyl Wall Base is maintained with regular wiping with a soft, wet cloth. A mild soap may be added to the water. Coarse scrubbing media or harsh cleaning chemicals may damage the surface of the wall base.

# Johnsonite®

Technical Services Department  
16910 Munn Road, Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44023  
(800) 899-8916 ext 297 Fax (440) 543-8920

www.Johnsonite.com  
E-mail: info @ Johnsonite.com

© 2006 Johnsonite, Inc. A Tarkett Company.