Installing Base Shoe Moldings With A Glue Down/Nail Down Floor

**Base Shoe Molding**

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

**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 (See Fig. D), fasten to the wall or toe plate. Artistic Finishes Base Shoe moldings are eight feet long to ensure minimal splices.

![Base Shoe Molding](image)

**Threshold Molding**

**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 the Threshold molding (Variable Threshold A for floors ranging from 1/4 inch in thickness up to 3/8 inch; and Variable Threshold B for floors from 7/16 inch to 3/4 inch in thickness). Check the label on the bottom side of the molding to be sure you have the right Threshold molding for the job.

**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 1/2 to 3/4 inch, leaving the balance for required expansion or contraction. To attach the molding, apply one or two 1/4 inch beads of construction adhesive to the subfloor and seat 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 (See Fig. F).

![Threshold Molding](image)