



Installation Guide

Professional installation reference for EverBlack PVC™
solid-black cellular PVC trim boards and PVC sheets

About EverBlack PVC™

EverBlack PVC™ is a premium exterior trim product engineered to deliver a rich, bold black finish with the durability and low-maintenance benefits of cellular PVC. Designed to enhance both traditional and modern architectural styles, EverBlack PVC™ provides a distinctive, long-lasting appearance without the need for painting.

Proper handling and installation are essential to achieving optimal performance and appearance. All installers must follow the architect-approved construction drawings, all applicable building codes and regulations, and the installation guidelines outlined in this document. Adherence to these requirements will help ensure professional results, optimal product performance, and lasting satisfaction.

Read Before Installing

This guide focuses on EverBlack PVC™ trim boards and PVC sheets. Review the complete installation instructions, project-specific approved documents, and applicable codes before beginning work.

IMPORTANT — PROTECTIVE FILM

Remove factory-applied protective film before exposure to direct sunlight or excessive heat. The film can melt and permanently damage the finished surface.

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Pre-Installation Checklist

EverBlack PVC™ shares many of the same characteristics and installation practices as traditional white cellular PVC trim. However, its distinctive black finish requires additional care during handling, storage, and installation. Special attention must be given to preventing scratches, scuffs, and other surface damage. Additionally, the factory-applied protective film must be removed before exposing the product to direct sunlight or excessive heat, as the film can melt and permanently damage the finished surface. Installers should carefully review and follow the pre-installation checklist below to ensure proper handling, preparation, and installation of EverBlack PVC™ to ensure long-term performance.

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- ☐ **CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS:** Review all architect-approved construction drawings, project specifications, applicable building codes, and EverBlack PVC™ installation guidelines.
 - ☐ **PRODUCT VERIFICATION:** Confirm that the delivered materials match the specified dimensions, profiles, thicknesses, and quantities required for the project.
 - ☐ **MATERIAL INSPECTION:** Inspect all materials for visible damage, defects, or irregularities before cutting or installation. Do not install damaged or questionable material.
 - ☐ **STORAGE AND HANDLING:** Store EverBlack PVC™ on a flat, level, fully supported surface, off the ground and protected from dirt, debris, direct sunlight, and excessive heat. Handle carefully to prevent scratching or damage to the finished surface.
 - ☐ **PROTECTIVE FILM REMOVAL:** EverBlack PVC™ is supplied with protective plastic sheeting to protect its finished surface during handling and transportation. The protective sheeting **MUST** be removed before the product is exposed to direct sunlight or excessive heat. Until the sheeting is removed, all materials must be stored in a shaded, protected environment.
 - ☐ **JOBSITE CONDITIONS:** Evaluate ambient temperatures, material temperatures, and weather conditions before beginning installation. Ensure conditions are suitable for cutting, fastening, and adhesive application.
 - ☐ **SUBSTRATE PREPARATION:** Verify that all framing and supporting surfaces are structurally sound, flat, level, and properly aligned. EverBlack PVC™ is a non-structural material and must be adequately supported.
 - ☐ **MOISTURE MANAGEMENT:** Confirm that required flashing, weather-resistive barriers, and drainage provisions have been properly installed in accordance with approved construction details.
 - ☐ **LAYOUT AND MEASUREMENTS:** Verify all measurements, joint locations, clearances, and installation details before cutting materials.
 - ☐ **EXPANSION AND CONTRACTION:** Account for thermal expansion and contraction when planning installation, particularly in areas exposed to direct sunlight or significant temperature changes.
 - ☐ **FASTENERS AND ADHESIVES:** Confirm that appropriate corrosion-resistant fasteners, PVC-compatible adhesives, and sealants are available and meet the requirements outlined in this installation guide.
 - ☐ **TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT:** Ensure all cutting tools, saw blades, drills, and fastening equipment are appropriate for cellular PVC and are in proper working condition.
 - ☐ **SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:** Follow all applicable jobsite safety procedures and use appropriate personal protective equipment, including eye protection and respiratory protection where necessary.

Protective Film & Temperature

IMPORTANT — PROTECTIVE FILM & SUN EXPOSURE

DO NOT expose EverBlack PVC™ to direct sunlight while the factory-applied protective plastic sheeting remains attached.

Heat generated by direct sunlight can cause the protective sheeting to melt and damage the finished surface of the product. This damage may be permanent.

Remove all protective plastic sheeting before exposing EverBlack PVC™ to direct sunlight. Until removal, the material must remain protected from sunlight and excessive heat.

Any discrepancies, damaged materials, unsuitable conditions, or installation concerns must be addressed before proceeding with installation.

Installation Temperature & Material Conditioning

For best results, EverBlack PVC™ should be installed during moderate temperature conditions. Like all cellular PVC products, EverBlack PVC™ expands when heated and contracts when cooled. Installing material during extreme heat or cold can result in excessive expansion or contraction as temperatures change after installation.

Avoid installation during extreme temperatures, such as very hot summer days or extremely cold winter conditions. Prior to installation, store materials in a shaded, protected environment away from excessive heat or cold, and allow boards to reach a stable, moderate temperature before cutting and fastening.

IMPORTANT: For optimal performance, avoid installing EverBlack PVC™ when the material is excessively hot or cold. Proper temperature management before and during installation will help minimize thermal movement and maintain consistent joints and a professional finished appearance.

Fastening Requirements

Proper fastening is essential to maintaining the appearance, stability, and long-term performance of EverBlack PVC™. All materials must be securely attached to solid framing or approved structural substrates using corrosion-resistant screws specifically designed for exterior applications.

Recommended Fastening System

- The EverBlack PVC™ Concealed Fastening System is the recommended method for installing EverBlack PVC™. This system provides secure attachment while concealing screw heads with color-matched plugs for a clean, professional appearance.
- Use EverBlack PVC™ Concealed Fastening System screws and matching black plugs whenever possible.
- Follow the fastening system's installation instructions, including proper screw depth and plug placement (see more on the next page).
- Install plugs flush with the finished surface. Avoid excessive force that could damage the material.
- When the EverBlack PVC™ Concealed Fastening System is not used, stainless steel or corrosion-resistant coated screws specifically rated for exterior trim applications are required.
- Pneumatic fastening is not recommended unless the finished look is not important.
- Staples, brads, wire nails, and interior-grade screws are not permitted.

Fastener Schedule

Install screws at each supporting framing member according to the following schedule.

Nominal Board Width	Minimum Screws per Framing Member	Maximum Spacing Along Board
4 inches	2	16" O.C.
6 inches	2	16" O.C.
8 inches	2	16" O.C.
10 inches	2	16" O.C.
12 inches	3	16" O.C.
16 inches	3	16" O.C.

Fastening Requirements

Additional Requirements

- For boards 12 inches wide or greater, space fasteners no more than 8 inches on center across the width of the board.
- For PVC sheets, provide additional fastening with screws spaced no more than 8 inches on center across the sheet at each supporting framing member.
- All fasteners must penetrate solid wood framing or approved solid structural backing by a minimum of 1½ inches.
- Install fasteners within 2 inches of each board end.
- Install a minimum of two fasteners on each side of all board joints, including scarf and miter joints.
- All fasteners must engage solid framing or approved structural backing. Fastening into hollow or unsupported areas is prohibited.
- Use additional framing or blocking where necessary to achieve the required fastening schedule.

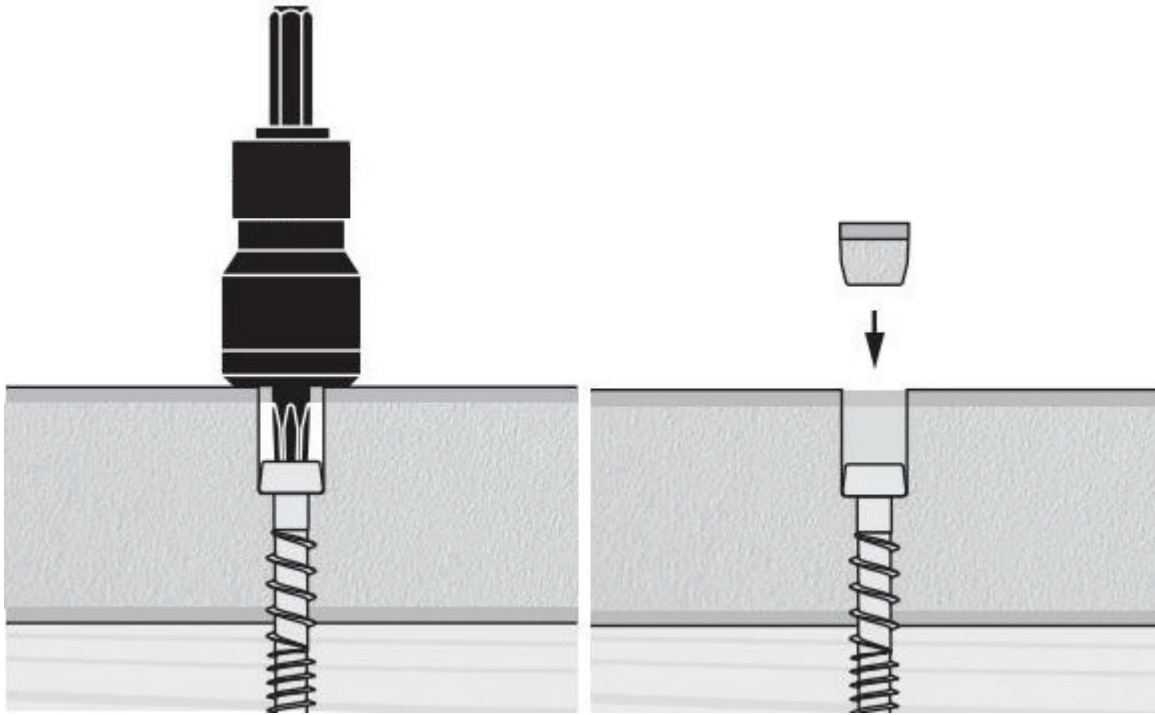
Fastener Installation

- Drive all screws perpendicular to the board surface.
- Ensure the fastener head is seated at the proper depth without damaging or deforming the finished surface.
- When using the EverBlack PVC™ Concealed Fastening System, install screws to the depth specified by the system's setting tool.
- Predrilling is generally not required but may be necessary near board edges, when using larger fasteners, or during installation in low temperatures.
- Take additional care to prevent scratches, tool marks, and surface damage during fastening.
- Do not overdrive screws or overtighten fasteners.

IMPORTANT: *Proper screw selection, spacing, and penetration are essential to securing EverBlack PVC™ and controlling movement caused by temperature changes. All installations must comply with architect-approved construction drawings, applicable building codes, and the requirements outlined in this installation guide.*

Concealed Fastening System

Concealed Fastening System — Reference Graphic



The EverBlack PVC™ Concealed Fastening System is the recommended method for installing EverBlack PVC™ trim. The system utilizes specially designed screws, color-matched PVC plugs, and an Auto-Stop depth-setting tool to provide secure fastening with a clean, virtually invisible finished appearance.

Step 1 — Prepare the Fastening System

- Confirm that the EverBlack PVC™ boards are properly positioned and supported.
- Verify fastener locations according to the fastening schedule.
- Use the supplied PVC/Composite setting tool equipped with the driver bit marked TRIM.
- Use a standard drill/driver set to medium-high speed. Do not use an impact driver with the Auto-Stop setting tool.
- Ensure screws are long enough to penetrate a minimum of 1½ inches into solid wood framing or approved solid wood backing.

Step 2 — Drive the Screws

- Position the trim screw perpendicular to the EverBlack PVC™ surface.
- Drive the screw using the PVC/Composite setting tool, maintaining consistent speed and pressure.
- Do not hesitate or slow down while driving the screw.
- The Auto-Stop mechanism will produce an audible “pop” when the screw reaches the proper depth.

Concealed Fastening System

Step 2 — Drive the Screws (continued)

- The setting tool automatically creates the necessary recessed opening to accommodate the matching EverBlack PVC™ plug.
- Do not continue driving or attempt to manually deepen the screw recess after the Auto-Stop mechanism activates.

Step 3 — Install the Plugs

- Install plugs shortly after fastening the boards.
- Ensure each recessed opening is clean, dry, and free of sawdust or debris.
- Insert the matching EverBlack PVC™ plug into the prepared opening.
- Gently tap the plug into place with a clean, smooth-faced hammer until it is flush with the finished board surface.
- Avoid excessive force or contact that could scratch or damage the surrounding black finish.

Additional Installation Requirements

- Use only compatible screws, plugs, and setting tools approved for the EverBlack PVC™ Concealed Fastening System.
- Replace worn or damaged driver bits as necessary to maintain consistent installation depth.
- The EverBlack PVC™ Concealed Fastening System is designed for PVC trim materials ranging from 5/8 inch to 1 ¼ inches thick.
- For saltwater or highly corrosive environments, use marine-grade 316 stainless steel fasteners.
- Test the fastening system on a scrap piece of EverBlack PVC™ before beginning installation to verify proper screw depth, plug fit, and finished appearance.
- Follow all EverBlack PVC™ fastening schedules, required edge and end distances, and applicable installation requirements.

IMPORTANT: *Failure to use the proper setting tool, screws, or plugs may result in improper fastener depth, damaged surfaces, or improperly seated plugs.*

Expansion, Contraction, & Joint Spacing

Like all cellular PVC products, EverBlack PVC™ expands and contracts with changes in temperature.

EverBlack PVC™ has a Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion (CLTE) of 4.352×10^{-5} in/in/°F. Proper fastening, joint construction, and expansion allowances are essential to maintaining a professional appearance and ensuring long-term performance.

Installation Temperature

For best results, install EverBlack PVC™ during moderate temperature conditions, preferably between 50°F and 70°F when practical. Avoid installing material during extreme heat or cold, as temperature fluctuations can affect board dimensions and joint spacing. Store materials in a protected environment and allow boards to reach a moderate temperature before cutting and fastening.

Expansion & Contraction Allowances

- Allow 3/16 inch of expansion clearance per 18 feet of properly fastened EverBlack PVC™ trim. More allowance may be necessary with extreme temperature variations.
- Provide appropriate expansion clearance where boards terminate against fixed surfaces, including walls, masonry, columns, and other building components.
- Expansion clearance may be distributed between the ends of a continuous run or provided at designated expansion joints.
- When multiple boards are permanently joined, consider the overall continuous length when determining expansion allowances.
- Do not restrict required expansion clearance with rigid adhesives, fasteners, or other materials.
- Where necessary, use an approved flexible exterior-grade sealant that accommodates thermal movement.

Board Joints & Fastening

- Whenever practical, use scarf or shiplap joints rather than square-cut butt joints for a cleaner finished appearance.
- Bond tightly fitted PVC-to-PVC joints using an EverBlack PVC™-approved cellular PVC adhesive.
- Properly fasten both sides of each joint in accordance with the EverBlack fastening schedule.
- Do not glue joints specifically designated to accommodate expansion and contraction.
- On long continuous runs, plan expansion joints at appropriate locations, preferably in less visible areas.
- Proper mechanical fastening is essential to controlling thermal movement. Follow all EverBlack PVC™ fastening requirements.

IMPORTANT: *Failure to provide adequate expansion clearance or properly secure EverBlackPVC™ may result in buckling, bowing, joint separation, or other visible distortion. Always account for temperature conditions and the total length of continuous trim during installation.*

PVC Adhesives & Bonded Joints

Approved PVC Adhesives

Christy's Red Hot Clear Vinyl Adhesive is a recommended adhesive for bonding EverBlack PVC™ to itself. Its clear, UV-stabilized formulation provides a strong, durable bond while maintaining a clean finished appearance.

Original Gorilla Glue is another recommended adhesive for bonding EverBlack PVC™ to itself. Its moisture-activated, expanding polyurethane formula creates an incredibly strong, weather-resistant bond that expands into surfaces for maximum hold.

- Use Christy's Red Hot Clear Vinyl Adhesive, Original Gorilla Glue, or another adhesive specifically approved by EverBlack PVC™.
- All permanent PVC-to-PVC joints, including miters, scarf joints, corners, and shiplap joints, must be properly bonded.
- Ensure all bonding surfaces are clean, dry, and free of dust or debris before applying adhesive.
- Apply adhesive evenly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Secure bonded joints with appropriate mechanical fasteners.
- Carefully remove excess adhesive without damaging the finished black surface.
- Follow the adhesive manufacturer's recommended application temperatures, working times, and curing requirements.
- Do not apply rigid adhesive to joints designated for thermal expansion and contraction.

IMPORTANT: *Adhesives must not replace the mechanical fastening requirements outlined in this installation guide. Always maintain the required expansion clearances.*