## RAPID WALL SKIRTING INSTALLATION GUIDE











Tin snips

Lead pencil

Heat gun

Plumb bob

Utility knife

Measuring tape

Skill saw with a carbide blade

1/4 hex head drill tip Square

















### **HELPFUL TIPS**

- 1. Use wind load brackets in areas where high wind may be a problem.
- 2. In unstable ground use plumbing straps every 8 feet, from the 2x4 to the bottom or side of the home to stop the panels from falling farther than the top rail.
- 3. Try to keep a 6" to 12" area of gravel around the skirting so you wont damage the skirting with the lawn mower or grass trimmer.
- 4. Do not run your grass trimmer on the vinyl skirting it will damage the skirting.
- 5. For easy access under the skirting use a access door available through your dealer.
- 6. Register your skirting products at www.prairiemobilehomes.com for information on new products and promotions and we will enter you in our monthly prize draw.

# Prairie Mobile Homes Parts Store Winnipeg, MB 1-877-768-5552



#### STEP 1:Attach back rail

- 1. Determine a place for mounting your top rail. Place bottom edge of back rail just below bottom edge of home or under siding. New homes have a space provided, older homes you may have to add a nailing rail to the bottom of the home of at least 3 inches.
- 2. You may have to snap a chalk line around the home for the top back rail to have a straight edge guide for a neat job.
- 3. Your skirting package is supplied with 1/4 hex head screws for mounting the back rail to the home, you will place these screws every 2nd hole keeping them in the center of each hole, adding them where needed on the ends and corners not turning them in to tightly to allow for some expansion.
- 4. In colder temperatures you will need to leave a space between the back rails for they will expand.



#### STEP 2: MOUNT BOTTOM RAIL

- 1. Ground preparation, level ground so that it is smooth and free of any obstacles filling in any holes and take down any ridges. We recommend placing the bottom rail on a treated 2x4.
- 2. Use a level or plumb bob to position the ground rail below allowing for 13/4" for the thickness of your panels (We recommend using treated 2x4 on the ground using 12" spikes for securing to the ground or 2x2 bracing to the blocking under home.) Spike your vinyl ground rail to the ground or screw the ground rail to the 2x4 doing so every 2nd hole, you may have to pick up extra screws for the ground rail.

#### STEP 3: PANEL INSTALLATION

- 1.Starting at the lowest corner of the home measure from the ground rail up to 1.5 inch above the bottom edge of the top back rail (if the ground is frozen and has frost in the ground you will cut the panels higher even with the screw slots.)
- 2. Take a measurement every 4 feet (the with of the panel) cut your panel square first. Use a skill saw carbide blade turned backward or an abrasive cut off wheel. (use ear protection). You may have to make a cut on the bottom of the panel so that it would follow the slope in the ground and to keep the panel square at the top and level up and down. (When cutting your panels do hot kneel on it you could leave dents in the panel, if you have to you could put a board or scrap panel to lean on when cutting.)
  3. Interlock the panels by sliding them from the top down to fit into the ground channel. Install enough panels to do 12 feet then you can install a top front rail to hold everything in place.

#### Step 4: Front rail installation

Interlocking the front rail with the back rail, holding front rail straight and starting from one edge and working your way to the other push the top lip up into the back rail tapping on the front face near the area it is sliding in, (you should see it snapping in as you go along).

TIP: If the rail is hard to push in you can use a tool like a a slotted screw driver to lift the locking lip up into the back rail moving along every 6".



Top back rail

Cut through the back (Left picture) only leaving the front intact so when bent over you have a finished edge (Right picture).

If this top corner will be hidden behind the siding leave the back and cut the top front then bend the back.





Ground rail

Mark your corner where you will bend your ground rail for the corner you will cut out the back part about 2" on both sides of the center cut the bottom up to the face

and you will cut the top tip that folds over on a double 45 when you are finished cutting you will have only the front face showing and when you bend the corner the bottom should fold over each other.



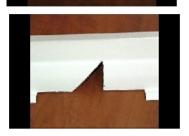


Top front rail

Mark your top front rail where your corner should be You will cut out the top edge and a small part on the bottom where it folds under.

The face will be bent over so that the 45 angle will show on top and you will not have any open corners and have a neat finished corner.





Panel corners

Mark your panel where your corner will go.

You will cut the styrofoam out of the back with a utility knife one cut down the center and one cut on both sides on a 45 angle to the center cut clean out the styrofoam.

Flip your panel over and with a heat gun on low heat carefully heat the edge to be bent over not spending to much time in one area so not to melt the vinyl. If you have any scraps you may want to test this first.

You should not need to much heat.





You may also make a corner by butting 2 panels on a 90 angle cut out the  $2^{\prime\prime}$  of styrofoam interfering with it butting then slide them together

this way may not be the best because you will have to make a lap joint in the panel on each side of the home because the panels rarely







Lap joint

You have to create a lap joint with your last panel you install to finish your skirting.

Measure at least 4" past your panel and cut your panel straight clean off 4" of the styrofoam from the vinyl make sure you clean off as much as possible so when the vinyl sits against the other panel there will be no gaps You can try to keep these lap joints where you would insert a vent or install your access door

Tip you may also put a strip of outdoor 2 face tape to hold the panels tight on the lap joints.





#### Access panels

If you did not purchase an access panel or you need to get under your home in more than one spot

You can make your own access panels were needed by cutting off the locking curls at the edge of the panels so that when you lift up on the outside top front rail, you just pull back on the panel and lift out. we usually make them 16" wide.





Access doors are installed where you are closest to your services under your home. simply remove the door from the frame mark the opening and cut out styrofoam then screw your frame directly to the panel.

Save your cut out so you can place it back in the hole in the winter months.



Venting is installed within 4 feet of the front corners of the skirting to get air flowing through the entire crawl space.

Vents are screwed directly to the panels.

You may save your cut out to cover vents for the winter months.



#### Accent window

Accent windows can dress up your skirting and make your home look like it is on a foundation from the road.

We only use light weight windows so no to put to much strain on the skirting.

The sliding window can also be used as venting that you can open and close when needed.



Example of how the panel should fit behind the top rail giving you room for movement when the ground shifts.