

Porch Ceilings

The procedures to install a porch ceiling are in many ways similar to those used to install soffit. These procedures vary slightly, depending on whether the installation is a new construction or a residing project.

INSTALLATION TIP: In hot climates or in attics with limited ventilation, it is advisable to install solid sheathing to the underside of the porch ceiling joists. This will protect vinyl soffit panels from excessive heat.

New Construction

Step 1

Begin by installing receiving F- or J-Channels on all four sides of the porch (Fig. 1). If F-Channels are being used, nail them to the existing walls or porch beams. If J-Channels are being used, a nailing base will have to be installed.

Step 2

When planning to use light blocks to attach external light fixtures, install them to adequate backing.

Step 3

Plan the layout of the ceiling panels to achieve an even balance or to align with adjacent work. If the ceiling joists run parallel to the direction of the soffit panels, additional 1" x 3" wood furring nailing strips will have to be installed. Install these nailing strips perpendicular to the ceiling joists, placing a strip every 12" to 16".

Step 4

Invert the J-Channels and nail them to the underside of the wood strips along the perimeter of the ceiling area.

Step 5

Install an undersill trim shimmed down by a furring strip into the J-Channel or F-Channel on the starting end (Fig. 2). Cut the hook side (opposite the nailing hem) off the panel and install snap locks every 6" to 10". Install the soffit panel locking

the cut edge into the undersill trim and nailing the other side through the nailing slots. **DO NOT NAIL TIGHTLY.** Install remaining panels.

Step 6

For large areas where more than one panel length is needed, use a double channel lineal H mold or back-to-back J-Channel to separate the sections.

NOTE: On large ceiling areas with 2 or more panel lengths, run all sections at once to maintain the alignment of the soffit panels. Do not run one section completely before beginning of next section.

Step 7

To install last soffit panel, use same technique as outlined in step 5 and Figure 2, except that the nailing hem sidewall be trimmed and snap lock punched every 6" to 10". Install the final panel by locking the hook side of the panel on the previous panel and inserting the cut edge into the undersill trim for a secure fit.

Residing

Step 1

Check to be sure the existing ceiling can serve as a solid nailing base.

Step 2

If the existing ceiling is solid, remove all existing moldings and fixtures from the ceiling and begin by nailing inverted J-Channels along the perimeter of the ceiling area. Then follow Steps 2 through 7 in the instructions under "New Construction". With a solid ceiling, however, additional nailing strips are not necessary. Use the existing ceiling as the nailing base for the panels.

If the existing ceiling is not solid, install nailing strips to provide a secure nailing base, then install the J-Channels. Additional nailing strips should be installed if the ceiling panels are to run parallel to the ceiling joists. Follow the instructions in Steps 2 through 7 for "New Construction".

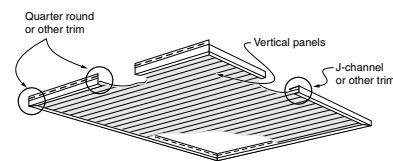


Fig. 1

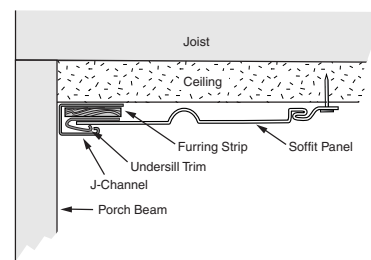


Fig. 2