

## GENERAL OVERVIEW

Polymer cove provides a seamless transition from floor to wall. Not only does it look good, it provides cove cleanability and spill containment to any floor or containment system. Cove can be quite decorative, or in the case of chemical containment, serve a critical role in system performance.

Installing acceptable cove, both for aesthetics and function, takes considerable skill, patience, and practice. Before attempting your first installation, or if you are faced with a new situation, set up a practice 'wall' for training. This can be as simple as two pieces of plywood attached together at a 90° angle. Start out at counter level to develop the basic skills and then graduate down to floor level. Build your practice wall with real world obstacles like inside corners, outside corners, door jambs, etc. Simulate conditions of upcoming projects as closely as possible to avoid surprises and 'on-the-job training.' Repairing improperly installed cove on site is much more costly than doing it right the first time.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Wolverine Coatings Corporation (WCC) has developed this bulletin along with other technical information to help all interested parties, from specifiers to applicators to owners, have a better understanding of the considerations, materials, and techniques required for proper installation. Consult all relevant information before using WCC materials.

### WCC Technical Information Bulletins

TIB: Concrete Preparation Guide  
TIB: Mixing Guide

### WCC Technical Detail Drawings

TDD: Radius Cove  
TDD: Cant Cove

### WCC Technical Data Sheets

TDS: CoveEase 1901

### WCC Safety Data Sheets

SDS: CoveEase 1901

## SAFETY

Prior to commencing work, carefully read and follow all SDS (formerly MSDS), Technical Data Sheets, and any Instruction Manuals for products and equipment used during installation. Following the safety regulations of jobsite, local, state, and federal authorities is the responsibility of the installation company, general contractor, and/or facility owner.

Concrete dust is a source of silica particles and other hazardous materials that can cause silicosis and other illnesses. Proper safety equipment and methods are the responsibility of the installation company, general contractor, and/or facility owner.

## DISCLAIMER

This Document does not purport to address all applicability and safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user to determine applicability of the information and to establish appropriate safety practices.

## PROCEDURE

### Note:

Keep your trowels clean and well lubricated with denatured alcohol to keep the cove material from sticking and tearing. Keep a towel saturated with denatured alcohol and a spray bottle of denatured alcohol with you at all times for wiping down the trowel and keeping you and the area clean. Wipe and spray your trowel often, especially when finishing.

### Consult WCC TIB:

"Mixing Guide" for proper mixing technique and mix area setup.

### Consult WCC TDS:

"CoveEase 1901" for specifics on mix ratio, working time, and application.

1. Ensure the substrate is clean and structurally sound before installation. There should be no contamination that could interfere with proper bonding. Further preparation such as cleaning and sanding may be required.
2. Cove is difficult to install on optimal substrates and much more difficult in less than optimal situations. A smooth, even, and sound substrate is desirable for cove installation. Inspect area for wavy floors, gaps, holes, unevenness, obstructions, etc. Formulate a plan for correction and/or communicate the situation to all parties involved.
3. Mark a stick or trowel with the desired cove height and use as a guide to place marks every couple of feet on wall.
4. If WCC CoveStrip is to be installed, remove tape backing and adhere to wall, following your marks. The top of the WCC CoveStrip should align with the marks.
5. Do a final vacuum and wipe down of the area to be coved as well as adjacent areas.
6. Apply appropriate tape above the WCC Cove Strip, or above marks from Step 3 if Cove Strip is not used, to protect wall from wet cove material. Take care to use tape that will not damage wall when removed.
7. Mix desired amount of WCC CoveEase 1901 required for priming.
8. Apply mixed 'primer' with a 3" throw-away paint brush. Applying cove onto wet primer will promote bonding and help cove material hang better on the wall. Re-prime if 'primer' material cures before application of cove.
9. Mix desired amount of WCC CoveEase 1901 and aggregate (per CoveEase 1901's TDS) to create a mortar, ensuring that you can apply within the work time of the material.

10. Place mixed mortar evenly along the wall/floor corner to be coved. Leave enough material to form the entire cross-section of the cove.
11. Using a flat trowel, firmly press material onto and up the wall until covered evenly, with no dips, humps, or thin/thick areas. This step is critical for smooth, even, sound cove installation. It is very easy to put up too much material in this step, making even cove installation very difficult, if not impossible. Do not be afraid to scrape material off the wall and try again if questionable. It is very difficult to 'fix' cove that was not put up properly in this step.
12. Using a trowel of the proper shape (radius or cant), firmly make a screed pass to form material into the proper shape. Add or subtract material as needed for smooth, even cove.
13. Using your trowel, clean away any excess material from floor and from above the cove.
14. Using your shaped trowel, make a smooth finish pass on the cove. Cove should appear smooth and even with no open or rough areas.
15. Outside corners can be made sharp by using two trowels. After completing the 'screed' pass on both sides of the corner with your shaped trowel, press another trowel against one side of the cove and use it as a 'guide' for finishing the other side with your other trowel. Repeat with the other side of the wall. Keep trowels very clean and well lubricated while finishing outside corners.
16. Inside corners and installing around obstructions can be accomplished using various small concrete finishing tools including pointing trowels, margin trowels, brick jointers, etc. Spraying denatured alcohol on a gloved finger or spoon may also be used to shape cove around obstacles.
17. Very carefully remove the tape on the wall after each mix. Slowly pulling tape at an upward angle normally leaves the cove intact.
18. Inspect the cove and adjacent areas after each mix and clean up any residue.
19. Touching up is easily done when the cove resin has gelled (less sticky), and will hold its shape when moved. To touch up, come back periodically and gently touch the cove. If it is very soft and sticky, wait a while longer. When it has started to gain a little structure, smooth out imperfections with a small, well-lubricated trowel, soft paint brush, or gloved finger.
20. After cove has set up, go over it with a concrete smoothing stone and sandpaper to remove loose aggregate and smooth imperfections.
21. Sweep cove clean and wipe with a clean, white towel dampened with denatured alcohol.
22. The cove is now ready for further coating if desired. WCC highly recommends sealing the cove with a thin coat of WCC CoveEase 1901 (without aggregate). This will aid in cleanability and will make subsequent coating much easier.
23. Apply tape above the cove to protect wall from seal coat material. Take care to use tape that will not damage wall when removed.
24. Mix the desired amount of WCC CoveEase 1901 required for sealing.
25. Apply the mixed sealer liberally with a 3" throw-away paint brush.
26. Using a rigid, flat, rubber squeegee, press against the floor and pull smoothly up the cove, removing excess sealer. Then wipe excess material back into the sealer bucket. Take care to pull smoothly and evenly to avoid squeegee marks.
27. Carefully remove the tape and clean up with a towel wetted with denatured alcohol.

## **TIB: Cove Installation Guide - Rev 191219**

### **SAFETY**

For your safety, all required personal protection equipment should be used when operating machinery or handling chemicals. Concrete dust is a source of silica particles and other hazardous materials that can cause silicosis and other illnesses. Proper safety equipment and methods are the responsibility of the installation company, general contractor, and/or facility owner.

### **WARRANTY**

Wolverine Coatings Corporation warrants its products to be free from defects in material and workmanship. Wolverine Coatings Corporation's sole obligation and Buyer's exclusive remedy in connection with the products shall be limited, at Wolverine Coatings option, to either replacement of products not conforming to this Warranty or credit to the Buyer's account in the invoiced amount of the nonconforming products. Any claim under this warranty must be made by the Buyer to Wolverine Coatings in writing within five (5) days of Buyer's discovery of the claimed defect, but in no event later than the expiration of the applicable shelf life, or one year from the ship date, whichever is earlier. Buyer's failure to notify Wolverine Coatings of such nonconformance as required herein shall bar Buyer from recovery under this warranty.

Wolverine Coatings makes no other warranties about the product. No other warranties, whether expressed, implied, or statutory, such as warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, shall apply.

Any recommendation or suggestion relating to the use of the products made by Wolverine Coatings, whether in its technical literature, or in response to specific inquiry or otherwise, is based on data believed to be reliable; however, the products and information are intended for use by Buyers having requisite skill and know-how in the industry, and therefore it is for the Buyer to satisfy itself of the suitability of the products for its own particular use and it shall be deemed that Buyer has done so, at its sole discretion and risk. Variation in environment, changes in procedure of use, or extrapolation of data may cause unsatisfactory results.

### **LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

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### **LITERATURE REVISION**

Published literature is subject to change without notice. Wolverine Coatings Corporation is constantly formulating innovative products, new technologies, and practices. Please check [www.wolverinecoatings.com](http://www.wolverinecoatings.com) for the latest product data sheets.



**Wolverine Coatings Corporation**  
5969 Highway 221 | Roebuck, SC 29376  
Tel: (864) 587-3144 | Fax: (864) 587-3147  
e-mail: [sales@WolverineCoatings.com](mailto:sales@WolverineCoatings.com)  
website: [www.WolverineCoatings.com](http://www.WolverineCoatings.com)