















# **History of Carter Millwork**

- Feb. 1995 Founded in Lexington, NC
- Nov. 2008 Acquired "Flex Trim" from HB&G Building Products and transferred all production to our NC facility. Flex Trim was one of the oldest and largest flexible moulding manufacturers in the U.S. and was founded in 1985. We are operating as two different companies (Carter Millwork & Flex Trim) out of our NC facility for now (until computer systems can be integrated) but Carter Millwork is the parent company.
- Jan. 2009 Acquired "Flexible Moulding International" in Provo, UT in order to give us a manufacturing presence in the Western U.S.. Renamed the company "Flex Trim West".
- Apr. 2012 Acquired *"Ultra-Flex Moulding"* in Escondido, CA and moved the production to our Provo, UT facility.
- Mar. 2014 Acquired the flexible moulding operation ("*Flexgrain*") of Woodgrain Distribution / Woodgrain Millwork.
- July 2014 Acquired ZaGO Flexible Moulding (located in Newark, NJ)

Carter Millwork / Flex Trim is now THE largest flexible moulding manufacturer in the world but what sets us apart is that we are family owned.

# Flex Trim Advantages

- Flex Trim is a **MANUFACTURER** of flexible moulding and not just a distributor.
- Two different facilities (Provo, UT and Lexington, NC) conveniently located to support our customers throughout the country.
- Stock Items generally ship same day order is placed (if ordered before 2 p.m).
- Fastest Custom Order Turn Around in the Industry (1 week or less). Urgent custom orders can be shipped within a couple of days – depending on order size. Can be manufactured in far less time than radius wood moulding.
- Unlimited Custom Capabilities (we can replicate ANYTHING) Great for historic restorations
- Polyurethane Non Shrink Product for Compatibility to any Moulding Profile
- Four different material formulations available to accommodate every application
- All of our materials are VOC free.
- Has the beauty of real wood (can be stained or painted) Our molds will pick up the original grain of the wood that was provided by the customer.
- Mold charges for "one shot" items are typically ½ to 1/3 what our competitors charge.
- Very Competitively Priced Costs MUCH less than comparable radius wood millwork (up to 1/3<sup>rd</sup> the cost of curved wood moulding)
- Will not rot, swell, or deteriorate over time (Lifetime Warranty) Can be used for INTERIOR and EXTERIOR applications
- Material flexibility can help compensate for construction mistakes
- Over 40,000 profiles available (largest selection of profiles of ANY moulding manufacturer in the world)





# **Flex Moulding Basics**

#### Four Different Materials Available

- 1. Regular "Flex Trim" Comparable to our competitors' "high end" product (available in NC and UT)
- 2. Zzzz Flex material Super strong super durable super flexible! (available in NC and UT)
- **3.** Ultra-Flex Super light weight, pre-primed, and easy to stain (available in Utah plant only)
- 4. Machinable S4S (available in Utah plant only)

#### We are in the "copying" business (we do not create our own profiles).

- Our molds will pick up the original grain of the wood that is used to make the mold (oak, knotty alder, etc)
- Standard mold length is 12' Need at least that length of wood to make a mold (if 4' of wood, can make a 4' mold)
- Bending limitation Minimum radius is 3x the width of the profile. If profile is 4" wide, the minimum radius is approx. 12".

#### Material Comparison Chart

	Flex Trim / Ultra-Flex / Carter Millwork				
Characteristic	<u>Flex Trim</u>	Zzz Flex	<u>Ultra-Flex</u>	Machinable S4S	
FLEXIBILITY	$\odot$	000	Х	Х	
PAINTABILITY	Х	Х	Х	Х	
STAINABILITY	$\odot$	00	000		
WEIGHT			0 0	$\odot$	
	s) ()	0			
MACHINABLE			0	0 0	
STRENGTH	$\odot$	0 0	Х	Х	
WARRANTY	Lifetime	Lifetime	1 Year	1 Year	
MOISTURE RESISTANCE	Х	X	X	X	
INSECT RESISTENCE	Х	Х	Х	Х	
INTERIOR	Х	X	Х	Х	
EXTERIOR	Х	Х	Х	Х	
AVAILABILITY	UT / NC	UT/NC	UT ONLY	UT ONLY	
# of PROFILES AVAILABLE	OVER 35,000				
KEY CHARACTERISTIC	Ideal solution for most standard applications	Ideal for "extreme applicatiions" (Very tight radius, more flexible in cold, etc) 20% more expensive than std Flex Trim	Extremely lightweight (40-50% lighter) Pre-primed (stains better) Ideal for larger profiles (due to weight)	Okay for use with Moulders Composition more similar to wood **dimension limitations:	
			Better glue adhesion (back-sanded)	maximum 2" thick, 16" wide, 12' long minimum 1/2" thick, 1-3/4" wide, 8' lo	

## **NOT JUST MOULDING!!**



#### FLEXIBLE MOULDING





ROSETTES



APPLIQUES





FINIALS

PLUS MORE!! We can replicate ANY item – no matter how simple or how complicated!





#### Key Selling Points (Why Use Flexible Moulding)

#### - Cost and Availability

- Costs much less than comparable radius wood millwork
- Can be manufactured in far less time than radius wood moulding (standard production lead-time is 1 week or less)

#### - Performance

- Will not rot, swell, or deteriorate over time (lifetime warranty) Perfect for bathrooms and exterior
- Can be used for INTERIOR and EXTERIOR applications

#### - Versatility

- Has the beauty of real wood (can be stained or painted)
- Material flexibility can help compensate for construction mistakes
- We can replicate ANY profile if customer can provide original moulding (historic restorations)





## Perfect for so many applications...

- Round Windows
- Decorative Doors
- Archways
- Radius Crown
- Curved Baseboards
- Curved Chair Rail
- Garage Door Trim

- Bathrooms
- Curved Wall Moulding
- Cabinet Trim
- Column Wraps
- Curved Stair Trim
- Roof Trim
- Jamb

Many Others (Interior & Exterior)...

## **EXTERIOR APPLICATIONS**









## **CURVED STAIRS**

### **FLOORING** (Transition Pieces)























#### **Xtrulinear (Extended Length Pieces)**

- Flex Trim is the only brand with "Xtrulinear" (no longer limited to 12' maximum length) – Spooled product available
- Perfect for every trim application
- Dent resistant
- Eliminates "joints" between the pieces
- No real limitations (other than weight)
- Ideal for warehouse and job-site dispense
  - No waste
  - Cut to length like a rope (ideal for shoe mould, quarter round, etc.)



\*\* Standard mold length is 12' and it is harder to make extended length pieces. Don't order a 20' piece if you are going to cut it in to two 10' pcs.





# FLEXIBLE MOULDING ORDERING TIPS





## **Most Common Customer Issues**

- 1) Ordering straight pieces for everything (especially crown and casing).
- 2) Confusing RADIUS versus DIAMETER
  - For example, requesting a 24" **radius** half round (which equals 48" diameter) when they really mean they want a 24" **diameter**.
- 3) Ordering a lot of similar parts and not specifying what room/location they go in (parts get installed in the wrong place and then they tell us we shipped the wrong items).
- 4) Not sending us a drawing of how/where parts are being installed for unique applications (*a picture is worth a thousand words*).
- 5) Builder or carpenter installs a crown upside down compared to how it is shown in the customer's catalog.
- 6) The larger a profile, the less flexible it is (and vice versa). For large crowns and casings, we need to know the ACTUAL radius ("horseshoes and hand grenades" approach will NOT work for those items).
- 7) Please provide ALL the details of an installation, especially if you are wrapping columns or turning a "tight" corner with base or chair rail (requires special prep on our end).
- 8) Use MORE glue and FEWER nails and everyone will like the finished product.

## Most Common Customer Issues (con't)

- 9) There are NO "standard" profiles Every manufacturer adds their own variation to the profile and tracings of ACTUAL profiles are key to helping us match EXACTLY what you need (i.e. DW does not match Southwest Moulding who does not match Woodgrain who does not match Moulding & Millwork, etc., etc.)
- 10) Forcing a part into position If the flex piece has to be "forced" into its final position, something is wrong...STOP!
- 11) Curved lines that are parallel do not have the same radius



If the radius of the inside line is 80" and there is 36" between the 2 lines, then the outside Line has a radius of 116"

\*\* If there is a quality problem (i.e. a part does not work), we are going to ask a LOT of questions so we can figure out what the REAL problem is (we DO make mistakes but the flex is not always the issue).





Flexible moulding sometimes gets a bad reputation because the product is ordered incorrectly.

#### <u>KEY POINTS:</u>

## Biggest Mistake: A STRAIGHT PIECE OF FLEXIBLE MOULDING WILL NOT WORK FOR ALL APPLICATIONS.

□ Everyone's wood moulding profile is not the same (for example, we have over **60+** versions of RB3 casing). We need to know which manufacturer's wood profile is being used so that our profile will match the wood exactly.

□ The more information that can be provided about the application, the better! Simply put, if there is anything unique about how the product is being used, drawing a picture of the application will solve a LOT of potential problems.

□ If you have to work hard to install a piece of flexible moulding, then either it has been ordered incorrectly or we made a mistake when making the piece.





#### How Flexible is FLEX TRIM?

#### KEY ISSUES:

#### -Moulding Profile size

The smaller the molding the more flexible it will be and vice versa
For larger profiles (like a base or casing), the moulding will bend easily in the direction of the thinner dimension (like base on a curved wall) but will be more difficult to bend in the direction of the wider dimension (like casing over an arched doorway).

#### -Application (Half Round, Arch, Elliptical, etc.)

•Straight pieces can generally only be used for larger true radius arches - the ability to use a straight piece is determined by how large the radius is versus the width of the profile.

•Half rounds, ovals, and ellipticals will generally always need to be "pre-bent" unless it is a very small profile.





#### STRAIGHT PIECES VERSUS "PRE-BENT":

a. Does molding need to be applied bent sideways according to the direction of the molding's wider width dimension (examples: arched casing, radius crown, etc)?

- If yes, the molding generally needs to be ordered **pre-bent** 



b. Does the molding need to be bent the other direction according to the molding's thinner width dimension (examples: base, chair rail, etc. used on a curved wall, jamb material, etc.)?

- If yes, the molding does not need to be pre-formed, and you can use straight, flexible lineal products







### Examples of Applications that may need to be "Pre-Bent" at our factory:







## **Ordering Straight Pieces**



Just measure the length needed and round up to the next even footage.

\*\*For tighter radiuses (12" or less), please let us know that and specify whether the profile is to concave (i.e. INSIDE corner) or convex (i.e. OUTSIDE corner – like wrapping a column).







### STANDARD VERSUS CUSTOM:

a. Is your application a true radius?

If yes, we can bend the parts per the radius and no additional information is required (STANDARD).

b. Is your application an irregular radius?



If yes, we will require a template measured to the exact INSIDE radius that you can mail or UPS to our plant (CUSTOM). We keep many standard templates in stock so if you specify the window/door manufacturer and model number, we can confirm whether we already have the template available.

### **Ordering Half Round (Circle Top) Casing**



- Specify **DIAMETER** (Radius x 2) of Half Round Example shown: (18" x 2 = 36" Half Round)
- Length of material required = Diameter x 2 Example shown: (36" x 2 = 72" or 6' of material)
- 3. The minimum order amount is 4' length.



## **Other Applications**



- 1) Full circles generally supplied in 2 pieces
- 2) Specify diameter of circle

Full Circles: Diameter" x 4 = Material Length

For **Quarter Circles**, specify either:

- 1) Radius and length of material required
- 2) Measure like an arc (provide Width and Rise)



Quarter Circles: Radius" x 2 = Material Length



Dormer applications must be specified upon ordering (looks like ISR application but are generally OSR)

#### **Ordering Arc (Eyebrow) Casing**



- All we really need to know is the <u>CENTER RISE</u> and <u>INSIDE JAMB</u> <u>WIDTH</u>. We can determine the radius and length from these factors. Synonyms for "Rise" are "Height" and "Springline".
- 2) Flex Trim length required = WIDTH + (3 x HEIGHT)
- 3) <u>The minimum order quantity is 4' length</u>.

### **Ordering Ovals and Ellipticals**



1) Ellipses are a shape made by combining circles with two different radii. They are usually found on transoms and oval windows.

2) A template must be mailed to our plant to ensure that moulding is bent correctly.

3) Templates should be drawn from inside jamb dimension only; Flex Trim will be manufactured to incorporate the reveal

4) Material Length = (Rise" x 3) + Width





# Ordering Radius Crown

## You should rarely, if ever, order STRAIGHT flex crown for a radius application.

- Due to the fact that crown has to bed at an angle:
  - Concave (ISR) applications require that the bottom of the crown be longer than the top.
  - Convex (OSR) applications require that the top of the crown be longer than the bottom.

This is why straight crown can "buckle" when installed on some radius applications.

• The size of a crown profile determines its flexibility. This is why a 4-1/4" piece of straight crown will work in some places that a 7" crown will not.

### **Ordering Radius Crown Applications**



Specify the following:

- Radius of wall (If not known, the radius can be calculated if you provide the <u>WIDTH</u> ("A" Dimension) and <u>CENTER RISE</u> ("B" Dimension) – just like ordering an arch).
- 2. Length of material required ("C" Dimension)
- 3. Whether the application is ISR (Inside Radius) or OSR (Outside Radius)
- 4. How crown is being installed (top and bottom of the profile)

# **Special Crown Applications**

• Unfortunately, not all crown applications are cut and dry. This picture is an example of crown that is being installed on a 90 degree outside corner (we normally bend to the TRUE RADIUS).



Please make sure to understand how the product is being installed so that we bend the parts correctly.

## Crown Assembly on a Curved Wall



#### Example of how to measure a unique application (oval on ceiling)

Options:

- 1) Make a template (very difficult)
- 2) Measure each section like an "arch" (width and rise)



Using a straight edge (example 4 ft level will do – as long as we know how long the straight edge is – hold it up to each area as shown above, find the center point and let us know what that is:

Example Point A = 48 in wide x 6 inches in the center (or whatever it measures) Example Point B = 48 in wide x 4 inches in the center Example Point C = 48 in wide x 3 inches in the center

Then measure the total length and width of the oval. We then pull the radii for the ceiling oval and figure how much material you will need and what radius it needs to be bent to.

### \*\*\* CAN USE THE SAME METHOD TO MEASURE A WALL THAT DOES NOT HAVE A CONSISTENT RADIUS



## **Special Crown Applications**

Dormer



### **Dormer Application**

Dormer applications must be specified upon ordering (looks like ISR application but is OSR)



### Tudor Style Roof (ski slope)

Tudor Style applications must be specified upon ordering (looks like OSR application but is ISR)

## Barrel Ceiling (horizontal radius)

Anytime ceiling (looking up from the floor) is curved horizontally, the radius application is OSR.





#### **Ordering Basics:**

- Dormer applications and tudor style (ski slope) roof applications must be specified upon ordering
- Barrel Ceiling applications must be specified upon ordering
- Templates should be drawn from inside jamb dimension only;
   Flex Trim will be manufactured to incorporate the reveal
- If the job is very complicated with a lot of similar pieces, let us know where each part is being used (master bedroom, den, etc) and we can put that information on the box label.
- Order "No Nails" instant adhesive to simplify your installation
- The more information that can be provided about the application, the better! Simply put, if there is anything unique about how the product is being used, drawing a picture of the application will solve a LOT of potential problems.





### **NC GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### Mailing Address

Flex Trim / Carter Millwork, Inc. P.O. Box 189 Linwood, NC 27299

Website Information: www.carterflex.com www.flextrim.com www.ultraflexmoulding.com Physical address for sending packages

Flex Trim / Carter Millwork, Inc. 4264 Old Linwood Road Lexington, NC 27292

<u>Contact Information</u> Phone # - (800)861-0734 or (800)FLEXTRIM Fax # - (800)861-0737

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\*\*General e-mail address for orders is orders@carterflex.com

\*Primary person for handling templates and new wood profiles that are sent to us.





#### **UTAH GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### Address

Flex Trim West / Ultra Flex Moulding 1876 North 2700, West #4 Provo, UT 84601

Website Information: www.flextrim.com www.ultraflexmoulding.com <u>Contact Information</u> Phone # - 877-877-4595 or 800-344-5293 Fax # - 877-865-1660 or 800-545-9865

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## **Cutting/Machining**

- Flex Trim does not have to be warmed to avoid cracking or breakage.
- Flex Trim flexes and installs best when heated to around 70° - 80° (will bend easier).
- Remove from box, bend backwards and heat in sun or heated area.
- Flex Trim may be cut, fitted, and fastened in the same manner as with real wood (use conventional woodworking tools).
- IMPORTANT : SANDING THE FACE OF STAIN GRADE MOULDING WILL REMOVE THE GRAIN TEXTURE.







### Installation/Fastening

- Using adhesive, mastic, or resin epoxy glue alone produces the best fastening results, in addition to nails.
- Best fastening way is to nail through block of wood placed over face and remove nail and block after adhesive cures.
- Defects can occur if nails are placed too close to edges (nails should be no closer than 3/8" from the edge).
- Glue joints and miters, and repair cracks or breaks with our "No Nail" brand glue, or any fast cure resin or epoxy glue – DO NOT USE WOOD GLUE.
- Do not use staples to fasten material and keep nails to a minimum.
- If you have to work really hard to a make the moulding work in the application, it was probably ordered incorrectly. STOP!







#### Finishing

- 1) Always wipe surface clean with paint thinner or mild solvent
- 2) Never paint or stain before installation
- 3) Fill nail holes prior to staining with plastic resin filler



- Painting
  - Sand lightly to improve paint bond
  - Fill imperfections with hard plastic resin filler and sand surface flat
  - All paints work well (oil based works best)
- Staining
  - Fasten product without nails for best results
  - Use GEL stain (or those with heavy pigments) for best stain results
  - Wipe on stain and remove excess with cloth and dry brush
  - Clear coat over stain using spray application only – do not brush and sand between coats.
  - DO NOT SAND FACE this will remove any graining texture from the surface







## FLEX TRIM WEBSITE INFORMATION

#### Web-site search @ www.flextrim.com

- "Buy Molding" Link in main menu
  - Profile Search
    - Search by casing, base, chair rail, etc.
    - Choose from over 8,000 catalogued items
  - Custom Quotes
  - Radius Calculator
  - Dealer Search Referral link





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\*\*Click on individual profile name to see:
•Wood species that are available for that profile
•PDF file for downloading



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