

# Installation Expertise *with Tim McAdoo*

## Moldings and Transition Pieces

I am often asked about moldings and transition pieces for Laminate and Hardwood flooring. Below summarizes the moldings and their potential uses along with pictures of the different types of moldings.

**Reducer Strip:** A teardrop-shaped molding used around fireplaces, doorways, as a room divider, or as a transition between wood flooring and adjacent thinner floor coverings.

**Threshold:** A molding undercut for use against sliding door tracks, fireplaces, carpet, ceramic tile, or existing thresholds to allow for expansion space and to provide a smooth transition in height difference. Fasten to subfloor with construction adhesive and/or nails through the heel.

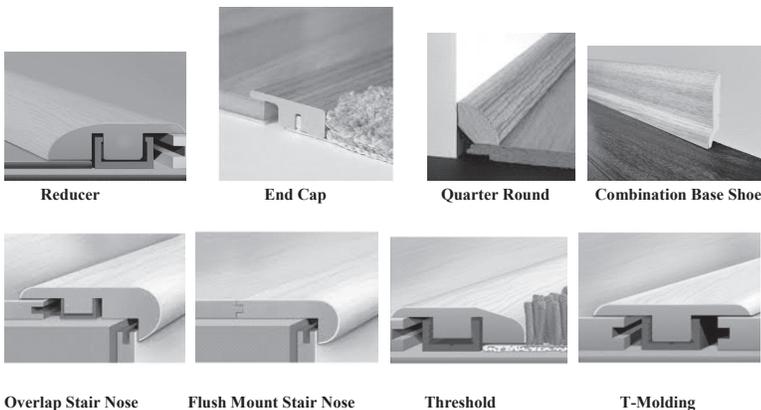
**End Cap:** A molding with a smaller profile than the Threshold and with a squared end for use against sliding door tracks, fireplaces, carpet, ceramic tile, or existing thresholds to allow for expansion space and to provide a smooth transition in height difference. Fasten to subfloor with construction adhesive and/or nails.

**Stair Nosing:** A molding undercut for use as a stair landings trim, elevated floor perimeters, and stair steps. Fasten down firmly with adhesive and nails or screws.

**Quarter Round:** A molding used to cover expansion space next to baseboards, case goods, and stair steps.

**Combination Base and Shoe:** A molding used when a base is desired. Used to cover the expansion space between the flooring and the wall.

**T-Molding:** A molding used as a transition piece from one rigid flooring to another of similar height or to gain expansion spaces. Fasten at the heel in the center of the molding. Additional support may need to be added to the heel of the molding dependent upon the thickness of the goods covered. Do not use this molding as a transition to carpet.



If you are experiencing splitting or dimpling of the molding pieces, it may be helpful to pre-drill and hand nail the moldings rather than use a pneumatic nailer. Please note that on floating floor installations, the moldings must be nailed into the vertical surface (walls/cabinets) and not down into the flooring and creating pinch points. Putty all nails holes after the installation.

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## About Tim McAdoo:

Tim is a certified instructor for Armstrong, Avaire, Konecto and Starloc products and has been a member of the Armstrong Installation Training Team since 1984. Tim has highly developed installation skills and qualifications that have been combined over his 32 years in the floor covering industry. Tim is privy to all the latest innovations and techniques used in the installation of their products.

We are sure you will find your skills improved after attending one of his installation courses.



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