

# MAINTENANCE & REPAIR GUIDE

## Maintenance Guide

When properly installed and painted, Century products need little IF ANY maintenance to retain appearance. All Century products are shipped with Installation Instructions specific to that product and should be followed carefully by installer with special attention to adhesives and installation methods recommended.

Century products can be repainted at any time to update room décor. Follow paint manufacturer's application instructions. For additional paint information, refer to Century's Paint Guide found on our website or contact Century at the address above.

In instances where paint is chipped and sanding of Century products is recommended by contractor, ONLY USE FINE GRADE SANDPAPER AND SAND PRODUCT LIGHTLY. All building materials can and will chip during rough sanding application. If polyurethane product decoration is chipped or marred, follow Repair Guide below.

## Open Joint Repair – Length Mouldings

Separation of joints or 'open joints' is usually the result of improper installation, structural or foundation movement. In most instances the installer did not use the recommended adhesive or did not apply adhesive to all joints as instructed. In other cases installer may have improperly cut mitered corners or did not cut miters precisely.

### Troubleshooting Open Joints

- 1 First determine if the correct adhesive was used. Ask your installer.
- 2 Next determine if adhesive was applied correctly in accordance with Century Installation Instructions. Note: adhesive should be applied continuously to all butt joints and edges.
- 3 In some cases open joints are the result of the improper storage of the product prior to installation. When product is subjected to wet or humid conditions, the product can swell. It returns to size as a result of normal conditions. Clearly stated in all Century Installation Instructions is the recommended time for product acclimation to installation area. In addition, ensure that installer has properly stored product in a dry well-ventilated, low-humidity area and never store Century products outdoors.
- 4 If inside or outside corners do not meet exactly or are gapped – this usually means that the miters were cut incorrectly. Make sure the miter saw was calibrated. If saw is not calibrated correctly, mitered corners will gap either 'in' or 'out'. All Century mouldings have Perfect Joint™, meaning that each piece will match exactly in height, width and depth when cut properly.

### Repairing Open Joints – Decorative Length Mouldings

#### Tools & Materials You Will Need

Utility knife  
Drill with a 3/16" drill bit [optional]  
Small brush  
Masking tape  
Bondo® type putty

Piece of cardboard [for mixing Bondo]  
Wooden craft or paint sticks - several [for mixing Bondo and application to joint]  
Extra-fine grade sandpaper  
Acrylic latex caulk  
Primer-sealer  
Latex or oil-based paint

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- 1 At the open joint trim back each edge of the joint creating a gap of approximately 3/16". This can be accomplished using a fine cutting tool such as an x-acto or utility knife. You may also use a drill with a 3/16" bit, by drilling holes down each side of the joint. Then carefully trim material away with one of the tools mentioned above. For a smooth gap line for each joint edge, make cuts gradually.
- 2 With a small brush, clean out repair area. Mask off both sides of moulding with masking tape. Be sure to align tape carefully at moulding edges.
- 3 Mix Bondo type filler to manufacturer's instructions on cardboard with wooden craft stick. Blend well.
- 4 With craft stick, fill the entire joint gap. Fill gap generously with mixture by pressing mixture into cavity with craft stick pressed flat against the moulding fascia [face]. Make sure cavity is completely filled.
- 5 Remove excess Bondo mixture with craft stick. Use the rounded end to scrape a u-shaped groove down the length of joint. For decorative product, skillful sculpting may be necessary.
- 6 Allow Bondo to set for 24 hours – preferably above 50° F.
- 7 The next day, remove masking tape carefully from joint and trim excess epoxy material with knife. If needed, *lightly sand* any rough areas with extra fine grade sandpaper.
- 8 It is usually not necessary to further secure moulding or decorative element with nails at this time. However, if needs dictate, refer to the "General Installation" section of specific Century product Installation Instructions for proper installation methods of fasteners, tools and materials needed.
- 9 Following manufacturer's application instructions, apply caulk as needed. Let compound dry for manufacturer's recommended length of time and if needed, *lightly sand* area with extra-fine grade sandpaper.
- 10 Seal joint area with a high-quality primer-sealer designed for your application. Paint area with high quality latex or oil-based base manufactured for intended purpose. Note: exterior installations require exterior quality primer and paint.

### Repairing & Restoring Decorative Details – Polyurethane Products

- 1 When products have been damaged, take the broken piece and use elastomeric adhesive caulk to glue back into place. Use caulk to smooth areas of decorative detail. Lightly sand area with extra-fine grade sandpaper and refinish area.
- 2 When chips or portions of decorative detail are missing use acrylic caulk to build up missing portion of detail. You may have to build area up slowly, giving caulk time to dry between applications. Lightly sand area with extra-fine grade sandpaper and refinish area.

### Repairing & Restoring Decorative Details – Fiberglass Products

- 1 When chips or portions of decorative detail are missing use Bondo® type filler to compensate for missing portion of detail. You may have to build area up slowly, giving the Bondo filler time to dry between applications. Lightly sand area with extra-fine grade sandpaper and refinish area. Photo at right shows a missing section from a fiberglass ceiling dome.

