

Reflective Narrative

Crown Molding

- Task: To create a crown molding profile using two or more insert tooling profiles; calculate the required linear feet required to install the crown molding on your given “ceiling”; setup the shaper to run the molding; install the molding with two coped joints.
- Why: To learn the necessary steps / pitfalls in designing, running, calculating the required linear feet and installing crown molding.
- Learning Outcome: Designing a crown molding is a lot harder than I had originally thought. However, after many hours I designed a wonderful profile. When calculating my required linear feet I ran out of molding. More care will be taken the next time I have to run moldings. A good coped joint is harder than it looks, but rewarding when completed.
- Use of Knowledge in Career: Designing a pleasing crown molding or any molding takes time. You need to be patient when doing this; haste will only impede your progress. Anyone can install crown molding, however learning to install it correctly can change a room from “looks great” to “wow”
- Problems Encountered: My design took me quite a long time to get. I experienced great difficulty with this phase of the project; setting up the shaper at first was a bit of a problem, as I had not spent a lot of time on it. I ran out of molding. This was due to an error in calculating the required linear feet..
- Mistakes Made: I did not calculate the correct amount of linear feet required. This caused a chain reaction of problems. I ran out of time to do another run of molding, however I ended up having to scarf some off cuts together and I was still short. In the end I had to use wood filler to fill a 1/16th gap between two pieces. I had some problems with coping my joints as well. Next time I plan to run more molding and practice my coping before I install any of the molding.
- Difficult Part: Designing my molding profile and cutting my coped joints. Even though I had some problems setting up the shaper initially, I now feel really confident using it and I can setup it up very efficiently with ease.
- Easiest Part: I struggled with this project from day one for some reason. The easiest part was to be running the molding through the shaper. Once I got the shaper setup it was very easy to use.