

# JOINTS

This document is intended to provide general recommendations only. Trespa provides these guidelines and all testing, code and design data for informational purposes only and strongly advises that the customer, project owner and architect seek independent advice from a certified construction professional and/or engineer regarding application and installation as well as compliance with design requirements, applicable codes, laws and regulations, and test standards. Please check your local codes and applicable design requirements for proper use.

The horizontal and vertical panel connections may either be open or closed and for each of these combinations special joint solutions exist. However, for all countries Trespa strongly advises that the customer, project owner and architect seek independent advice from a construction professional regarding the accordance to national and/or local building regulations of joints solutions. In all cases, tolerances with respect to the panel, assembly and building itself play an important role in the joint details. Therefore the following guidelines apply:

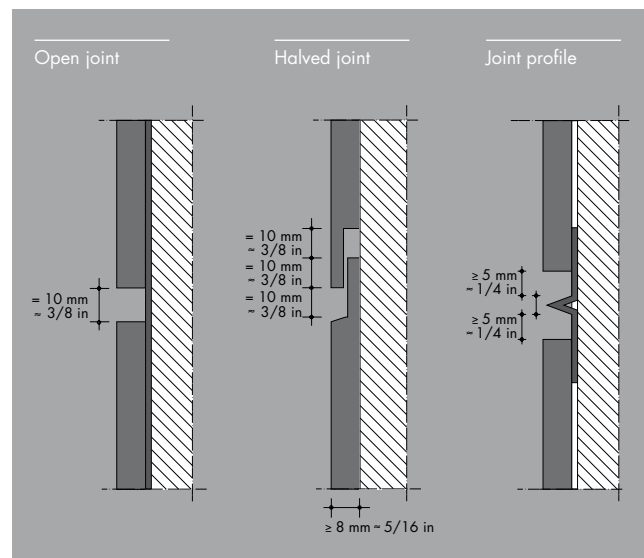
- Allow for free panel movement of 2.5 mm per meter ( $\approx 3/100$  in per foot) in the length and in the width.
- Allow for at least 5 mm ( $\approx 1/4$  in) space around every single panel.
- Ensure a minimum joint width of 10 mm ( $\approx 3/8$  in) between two panels.
- Fit joints larger than 10 mm ( $\approx 3/8$  in) with grilles, insect mesh, etc. in accordance with applicable building standards, regulations and certificates to prevent insects and vermin getting in behind the facade cladding.
- Ensure joints allow for sufficient ventilation and drainage to prevent damage by retained moisture.

If an open joint system is used for vertical and/or horizontal joints, specific attention should be paid to possible rain or moisture penetration. To prevent the decrease in insulation performance, a vapor open foil can be used as an additional weather barrier. Consult the insulation manufacturer to determine the impact of moisture on the insulating material. Check with local building and fire codes to determine the impact of any additional weather barrier.

## Horizontal joints

Three different horizontal joint solutions exist:

- open joint;
- halved joint;
- joint profile.



*Based on applicable building standards, regulations or certificates, wider joints may be permissible.*

## Vertical joints

Two different vertical joint solutions exist:

- open joint;
- tongue-and-groove joint.

### Tongue-and-grooved and halved joints:

Panels with a minimum thickness of 8 mm ( $\approx 5/16$  in) can have tongue-and-grooved joints on vertical edges and halved joints on the horizontal edges (e.g. TS550, for more details please visit

[www.trespa.info/meteon/fixingsystems](http://www.trespa.info/meteon/fixingsystems))

- groove: 2.2 x 15 mm ( $\approx 1/12$  x  $5/8$  in) for aluminum tongues (panel thickness  $\geq 8$  mm ( $\approx 5/16$  in))
- tongue: 2 x 30 mm ( $\approx 1/13$  x  $1\ 2/11$  in)
- height of halved joint: 20 mm ( $\approx 3/4$  in)

### Joint profiles

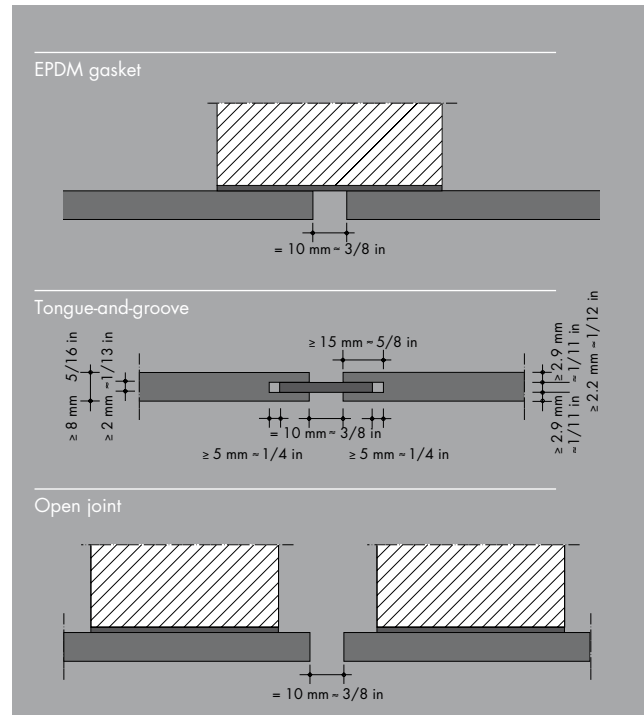
Joints may be closed by fixing metal profiles which are available through third parties. The profiles should not impede the movement of the panels and should be fixed free of tension.

### Joint gaskets

The use of a flat EPDM gasket to the full width of vertical battens is recommended with applicable fixing systems in accordance with applicable building standards, regulations and certificates. For more details please visit [www.trespa.info/meteon/fixingsystems](http://www.trespa.info/meteon/fixingsystems)

**Note:** Mastic joints impede the movement of the panels and may lead to excessive dirt on the panel edges. This type of joint sealing is therefore specifically not recommended.

## Vertical joints



Based on applicable building standards, regulations or certificates, wider joints may be permissible.

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