

ASK TOM

By Tom Mrakas

Wasn't that a great Home Show in Newmarket this past weekend?

I hope you all got a chance to take in the Newmarket Home Show and, even if you didn't, do not to forget that the Aurora Home Show is this weekend at the Aurora Community Centre. Tickets are just \$2 and I am sure it will be a great show too!

I have a lot of clients that wish to have crown molding installed in their living rooms and dining rooms ? even their laundry rooms. It adds a beautiful finishing touch and dresses up a room almost immediately.

For the DIY'r, though, crown molding installation can be a bit daunting ? as the cutting is often quite difficult. And there's nothing worse than big gaps between pieces in the corners.

So, this week I thought I'd give a little tip for a great product that helps you cut that dreaded crown molding properly, effectively and ? hopefully ? quickly.

The reason why the installation is difficult is due to the fact that most people have difficulties cutting inside and outside corners. The angles are difficult to achieve with most common cutting tools, but there is a product that is quite simple to use and will make it a little easier to do. That product is the Ogee Cut by Fuller Tools. This particular tool allows for the crown molding to sit in its installed position against the fence of your miter saw with ease.

It also lets you know which way you need to cut for inside or outside and left or right side and top or bottom. (Because we all know that this is usually what we get messed up, and have to cut a second time).

This will help you, but it won't do it for you!

Crown molding, regardless of the tool you use, is still somewhat tricky to install because no room has perfect angles. Anyone who has tried to install it can tell you that no corner is a true 90 degree angle. To install the molding properly, you have to carefully measure every corner to know the exact angle at which you need to make the cut.

Make sure you use a 360-degree adjustable protractor and find your angle out of that inside corner or outside corner and then grab your new Ogee Cut and the magic happens! Okay, maybe ?magic? is a bit of an exaggeration, but it certainly will be easier to make the cuts. Soon you will become a crown molding expert and your house will look all the lovelier for it.

You can easily find this tool at Rona or Lowe's. If you want more information on this product you can visit Fuller Tool's website at <http://www.fullertool.com/ogee/ogee.php>.

Anyway, I hope that tip is helpful, and I hope I see you all at the Home Show this week! Enjoy the warm weather that's coming (soon, let's hope) and remember a good job, is a job well done!

If you have any questions you can always reach me at www.facebook.com/anastasisdesign or on twitter, @ADesign_build and, of course, email at Anastasis@anastasisdesign.ca.