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## Proofing Stationary Gaps with the RodeXit STRAIGHT General-Purpose Proofing Strip June 2020 ed.

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### 1 Introduction

Use the rodent resistant STRAIGHT general-purpose proofing strip for rodent proofing stationary gaps. It can be used for proofing up to 1.4 in (35 mm) wide gaps. How to adapt it to a gap and to secure it to an underlying surface is described in the below section 8 “Basics on the Mounting of the STRAIGHT Proofing Strip”.

The STRAIGHT proofing strip is very flexible and can easily and fast be trimmed by means of ordinary tin snips and a Stanley knife. Therefore, it can be used for a lot of very different stationary proofing purposes. It is not possible to cover all thinkable applications in this short guide. It is therefore limited to some inspirational examples.

### 2 The Tools

You will need these tools:

- A tape measure or another measuring device.
- Tin snips for trimming the proofing strip (preferably straight tin snips with long jaws).
- A Stanley knife for trimming the proofing strip.
- A staple gun if you want to makeshift secure the proofing strip to a wooden structure.
- A cordless screwdriver if you want to secure the proofing strip by means of screws.
- An adhesive gun or a hot glue gun if you want to secure the proofing strip by means of an adhesive.
- Scissors if you want to secure the proofing strip by means of double-sided adhesive tape.

### 3 Example 1 – Adaption to an Uneven Paving

These 2 pictures show how the STRAIGHT proofing strip can be adapted to an uneven paving:



It was easily adapted by means of straight tin snips and a Stanley knife.

### 4 Example 2 – Angled Proofing

These 3 pictures show how the STRAIGHT proofing strip due to its flexibility can be used for proofing gaps, that require an angled e.g. a perpendicular proofing strip:



## 5 Example 3 – Proofed Wooden Fence

This fence was rodent proofed by means of 2 pieces of the STRAIGHT proofing strip:



The screws in every second board (the 3 red circles) were loosened and the horizontal proofing strip was tucked in between the boards. Thereafter the screws were retightened.

The vertical strip was secured by means of panhead screws of stainless-steel (the orange circle).

The vertical strip was easily adapted to the black foundation and the orange wall to the left by means of straight tin snips and a Stanley knife (the green circle).

Because the STRAIGHT proofing strip comes in 27 yd (25 m) long rolls and is bendable, it is possible to proof quite long fences without any weak and time-consuming assemblies. It is even possible to proof corners without having to fit 2 pieces together. You just bend the strip round the corner.

## 6 Example 4 – Double Layer Proofing of Garage Door Jamb

The lowermost part of this garage door jamb was proofed by 2 layers of STRAIGHT proofing strip: <sup>1</sup>



Two layers doubles the effectiveness of the protection against rodents. Two layers are therefore recommended where the rodent pressure is high.

<sup>1</sup> Photo by Dennis Ah Chin / Clark Pest Control.

## 7 Example 5 – Proofed Utility Penetration

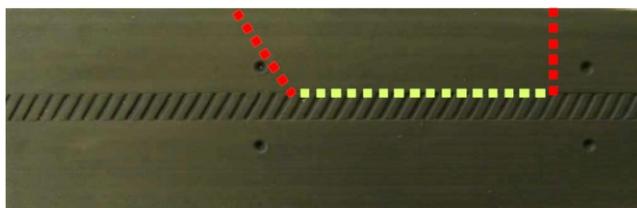
These 2 pictures show how a utility penetration has been proofed by a piece of RodeXit WAVE door sweep, that was secured by means of an adhesive:<sup>2</sup>



## 8 Basics on the Mounting of the STRAIGHT Proofing Strip

**8.1** You can cut off the needed length of the proofing strip with tin snips (preferably straight tin snips with long jaws).

**8.2** The proofing strip can easily be cut to accommodate fixtures and other obstacles. Crosswise cuts (the red dotted lines) can be made by tin snips while lengthwise cuts (the green dotted line) are best made with a Stanley knife:



**8.3** It is usually best to secure the proofing strip with suitable flat-headed screws e.g.  $\frac{3}{4}$  - 1 inch (20 - 25 mm) long No. 10 (4.8 mm) hex head screws or pan head screws with a No. 2 Philips recess. For mounting on sheet metal, the screws should be self-drilling sheet metal screws.

<sup>2</sup> Photos by Dennis Ah Chin / Clark Pest Control.

**8.4** In some cases you can secure the proofing strip by means of an adhesive or double-sided adhesive tape. The adhesive or tape must be capable of binding thermoplastic elastomers.

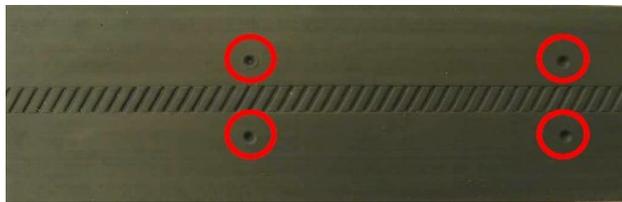
**8.5** When mounting on wood you can as a makeshift measure attach the proofing strip by means of staples:



**8.6** Use one of the following approaches to avoid driving screws through the proofing strip:

- a. Sturdy and very popular: Place a washer between the head of the screw and the door sweep.
- b. Best looking: Use a good-looking mounting strip – e.g. an aluminum carpet trim or transition strip.
- c. Fastest and easiest: Use an adjustable drywall screwdriver, so the engine of the screwdriver and the screw bit automatically stop turning when the desired screw depth has been reached. (Not compatible with hex screws)
- d. Almost as fast an easy: Use an adjustable screw depth setter, so the still turning screw bit stops turning the screw when the desired screw depth has been reached. (Not compatible with hex screws)
- e. Chancy: Take care not to use too much force.

**8.7** It may be advantageous to place screws in the dot-shaped screw hole markings:



**8.8** By applying two layers of the rodent resistant proofing strip you can double the effectiveness of the protection against rodents. Two layers are therefore worth considering where the rodent pressure is high.

**8.9** Remember that the proofing strip must a) at regular intervals be monitored for maintenance needs, b) always be easily accessible for inspection, and c) be fixed or replaced if compromised e.g. due to serious rodent attacks.