

Plank Wall & Box Beam Guide

Cut lists and lumber-aisle shopping steps for your custom farmhouse living room.

Transform your space on a budget with this printable reference sheet. Shop the lumber aisle with confidence and build custom walls and beams this weekend.

● Key Farmhouse Dimensions

1/8-inch

Plastic tile spacers for nickel-gap

1 full day

Undisturbed sit time for stain

2x

Rule of two for wood tones

2x window width

Linen fullness for luxurious panels

2700K

LED bulb temp for warm glow

Three 1x6 boards

Pine boards per hollow beam

3-inch

Wood screws for ceiling cleats

10 inches

Rod extension past window casing



Pre-paint your drywall black
Painting the drywall black before installation ensures the gaps look deep and intentional, completely hiding the bright white surface behind your new plywood boards.

● Vinegar Stain Mixing Steps

- 1 **Dissolve steel wool** Place heavily oxidized steel wool pads in white vinegar and let sit undisturbed for a full day.
- 2 **Test on scrap wood** Always apply the solution to a scrap piece of pine before treating your final ceiling beams.
- 3 **Pre-drill and assemble** Pre-drill three 1x6 pine boards, apply wood glue, and join with brad nails using mitered joints.

● Spacer & Paint Visual Guide

Find your row: **Spacer & Drywall Color**

Spacer & Drywall Color	Your pick	Why
1/16-inch on white	Looks like a mistake	Gaps appear accidental
1/8-inch on black	Deep architectural shadow	Professional millwork appearance
1/4-inch on black	Too rustic and wide	Gaps are too large

● Checks Before You Cut

- Scan ceiling with a magnetic stud finder to locate joist screws.
- Snap a chalk line across the ceiling to mark installation path.
- Measure window frame width to calculate the 2x curtain fullness.
- Ensure lumber desk rips 4x8 sheets down the middle for transport.
- Determine custom horizontal strip widths to rip from 4x8 plywood sheets.

● Lumber Aisle Shopping List

- ☐ 4x8 sanded birch or maple plywood sheets
- ☐ 1x6 clear pine boards for hollow beams
- ☐ Fine-grade steel wool and white vinegar
- ☐ 1/8-inch plastic tile spacers
- ☐ Wood glue and brad nails
- ☐ 3-inch wood screws for ceiling cleats
- ☐ Medium-grit sanding sponge
- ☐ Lightweight spackling compound

● Project Notes & Measurements

Enjoy building your beautiful, custom farmhouse living room this weekend!