

Title

Baseboard for covering a flooring border

5 The invention relates to a baseboard for covering a
flooring border according to the preamble to patent
claim 1.

DE 202 00 446 U1 discloses a baseboard having a
10 visible outer contour and a concealed inner contour.
The two contours are situated one opposite the other,
only the first contour being of relevance. This
baseboard serves to cover a flooring border and has
proved its worth in practice. It forms the basis for
15 the present invention.

DE 10 2005 011 439 A1 discloses an ornamental profiled
element with sealing function, which is configured as a
baseboard. This profiled element is configured such
20 that it is not point-symmetrical in its end regions, so
that holding means acting in the end regions cannot in
different rotation positions grip and hold the profiled
element. Thus only one contour can be used as a cover
shield.

25 From DE 202 06 984 U1, a core baseboard having a solid
material core and a plastics casing is known. The solid
core does not therefore extend as far as the end
region, so that a holding of this core baseboard via
30 holding means acting solely in the end region is not at
all possible. Moreover, this core baseboard deforms in
the end regions - by dint of the elastic configuration
- to the extent that no point-symmetrical structure is
obtained.

35 DE 1 878 576 U discloses a skirting board, which is
likewise configured non-symmetrically in the end
regions. The fixing of these skirting boards is
effected by means of undercut webs, which are formed in

the middle region of the skirting board. A 180°-twisted fitting is therefore not possible.

DE 69 01 915 U discloses a connecting piece for
5 skirting boards, which has supporting ribs. The supporting ribs grip the baseboard to be fitted at three locations distributed over the height thereof, in order thereby to ensure a snug seating of the baseboard. The contour of the baseboard is thus
10 predefined, however, within narrow limits, so that the baseboard cannot be fitted in a 180°-twisted position.

The object of the invention is to provide a baseboard of the type stated in the introduction, which is
15 universally usable.

This object is achieved according to the invention with the features of claim 1.

20 The baseboard according to claim 1 serves to cover a flooring border. In addition, the baseboard can optionally also meet further objects, such as, for example, the realization of a cable duct or the like. The baseboard has a cross section which possesses a
25 first contour and an oppositely situated second contour. In the fitted position, one of the two contours is an outer contour and the other an inner contour. For a more universal applicability of the baseboard, the cross section has a point of symmetry
30 around which the baseboard can be fitted twisted through 180°. In this way, sometimes the first and sometimes the second contour forms the outer side of the baseboard, according to the fitting position. The two contours can be shaped differently, so that two
35 different designs can be realized with a single baseboard. This reduces the tool and stock keeping costs. In order to be able to fit this baseboard in both positions to corresponding connecting pieces, both contours must be configured partially symmetrically. A

middle region of the contours here forms a visual surface of the baseboard and is preferably shaped differently on the two contours. In the middle region, the baseboard preferably has no holding means at all, since these, in the about-turned position, would disturb the visual impression. The baseboard possesses, however, two end regions, which are configured such that they have a limited mutual rotational symmetry. The end regions preferably extend from the respective end of the contour over at least 10% of the total contour length. The first contour in the first end region of the cross section, rotated through 180° about the point of symmetry, here corresponds to the second contour in the second end region. Moreover, the second contour in the first end region of the cross section, rotated through 180° about the point of symmetry, corresponds to the first contour in the second end region. If the entire baseboard is rotated about the point of symmetry, the cross sections, in the rotated and non-rotated position, are congruent in the end regions. The result of this specific symmetry is that the baseboard, despite different shaping in the middle region between the two end regions, can be fitted in normal and rotated position. Preferably, assembly means grip the baseboard only at the two end regions of the baseboard. A secure gripping of the baseboard is thereby obtained both in the unaltered position and in the 180° -twisted position. Through different shaping of the two contours in the middle region, different visual impressions are obtainable with a single baseboard.

In order that the baseboard can correctly bridge the flooring border, it must have a certain extent in the direction of the flooring. In order to nevertheless be able to obtain an approximately vertical visual surface in the middle region of the baseboard, according to claim 2 it is advantageous if the first and second contour in the first end region are curved or angled off to the same side. The baseboard thereby ensures a

flush termination against the flooring, on the one hand, and against the adjoining wall, on the other hand.

5 In addition to a metal optic of the baseboard, an ornamental strip is often used, which preferably consists of the same material as the flooring. In order to be able to introduce an ornamental strip of this type into the baseboard and hold it therein, at least
10 one of the contours of the baseboard according to claim 3 has at least one undercut. The ornamental strip can be easily pressed into this undercut and held on the baseboard.

15 For the fitting of the baseboard, a connecting piece according to claim 4 has proved of value. This connecting piece can be, for example, an end piece which is attached to the end of the baseboard and terminates the baseboard. Such end pieces are required,
20 for example, in respect of doors. The connecting piece has on at least one side a connecting region, where the baseboard can be connected to the connecting piece. This connecting region has a projection overlapping the baseboard, so that the end of the baseboard is thereby
25 covered by the connecting piece. This is important, since the baseboard must normally be adapted in length to the spatial conditions by sawing off. The cut surface is in this case uneven and partly frayed. Such irregularities are covered by the overlapping
30 projection, so that the baseboard with the connecting piece leaves a perfect visual impression. For the holding of the baseboard on the connecting piece, holding pins are situated opposite the projection, the baseboard being able to be held in clamping engagement
35 between the projection and the holding pins. If a baseboard according to claims 1 to 3 is used, then, for example, the first contour of the baseboard grips the projection and the second contour grips the holding pins, or vice versa. Preferably, the holding pins are

provided solely in the end regions of the connecting regions, so that only the symmetrical end regions of the baseboard are gripped. A 180°-twisted insertion of the baseboard into the connecting piece is thus easily
5 possible.

In order to be able to slightly rotate the baseboard, it is advantageous according to claim 5 if the holding pins are disposed one above the other. In this way, a
10 fully symmetrical structure of the holding pins is obtained, which simplifies the design.

In order to obtain a snug contact of the baseboard against the connecting piece, it is favorable according
15 to claim 6 if at least one stop is provided between the projection and the holding pins.

In order to improve the visual impression of the baseboard together with the connecting piece, it is
20 favorable according to claim 7 if the projection can fully overlap the baseboard. A cut surface of the baseboard is hereby fully covered.

According to claim 8, it is advantageous if the
25 connecting piece has two connecting regions, which are oriented in mutual alignment or at right angles to each other. If the two connecting regions are oriented in line, an extension piece is obtained, by which a plurality of baseboards, on the front side, can be
30 lined up such that they butt one against the other. This is important, in particular, for laying in large rooms, when the length of a standard baseboard is not adequate to cover the flooring border. Alternatively, the connecting regions are oriented at right angles to
35 each other, allowing both outer corner joints and inner corner joints to be realized. In this way, the baseboards can be adapted to all the conditions in the room, without cut surfaces being visible. In this way,

in particular, no miter cut of any kind, which is very difficult to accomplish, has to be provided.

Alternatively or additionally, the connecting piece for the baseboard can be configured in the form of a clip rail. This clip rail can be fixed to a wall, the baseboard having on its end regions undercuts, which are configured to fit the connecting regions of the clip rail. The baseboard can thus be clipped directly into the mounted clip rail. Moreover, the undercuts, rotated through 180° about a point of symmetry, mutually correspond, so that the baseboard can be clipped in place also in twisted form.

The subject of the invention is explained by way of example with reference to the drawing, without thereby limiting the scope of protection.

Figure 1 shows a three-dimensional representation of a baseboard,

figure 2 shows a view of the front face of the baseboard according to Figure 1 in unaltered and twisted position,

figure 3 shows a connecting piece for the one-sided connection of a baseboard,

figure 4 shows a connecting piece as an extension element,

figure 5 shows an outer corner piece,

figure 6 shows an inner corner piece, and

figure 7 shows a baseboard having a clip rail.

Figure 1 shows a three-dimensional representation of a baseboard 1. This baseboard 1 has a first end region 2 and a second end region 3 opposite thereto. The

baseboard 1 possesses a first contour 4 and a second contour 5, which are situated opposite each other. The second contour 5 here has two undercuts 6, which serve to receive an ornamental strip 7. This ornamental strip 7 can be configured basically in any chosen manner. Preferably, a piece is taken of that flooring which is intended to be covered at the border with the baseboard 1. The appearance of the baseboard 1 is thereby adapted to the flooring.

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The following comments are made with reference to the representations according to figure 2. The cross section of the baseboard 1 has a point of symmetry 8, around which the baseboard 1 can be twisted through 180°. For this purpose, the first contour 4 of the baseboard 1 in the first end region 2 corresponds to the second contour 5 in the second end region 3 in the 180°-twisted position. Moreover, the second contour 5 in the first end region 2 corresponds to the first contour 4 in the second end region 3 in the 180°-twisted position. The point of symmetry 8 here always serves as the pivot point. The effect of this measure is that, irrespective of the above-described rotation, the baseboard 1 is congruent in its two end regions 2, 3, as is indicated by dashed lines. In these end regions 2, 3, the baseboard 1 can consequently be held without difficulty in both rotation positions. Accordingly, one and the same baseboard 1 can point outward sometimes with the first contour 4 and sometimes with the second contour 5, without separate baseboards 1 having to be provided for this purpose.

Figure 3 shows a three-dimensional representation of a connecting piece 10 for the baseboard according to figure 1. This connecting piece 10 has a projection 11, the inner contour 12 of which corresponds to the first contour 4 of the baseboard 1. This projection 11 fully overlaps the baseboard 1, so that the end face thereof,

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which is generally a sawn surface, is no longer visible.

5 In order to hold the baseboard 1 in the connecting part 10, the connecting part 10 has two holding pins 13. The baseboard 1 is here held clamped between the two holding pins 13 and the projection 11. The distance of the holding pins 13 from the projection 11 is here dimensioned such that the baseboard 1 is gripped with
10 clamping effect between these parts 11, 13.

The two holding pins 13 are here located one above the other and at such locations so that they grip only the first and second end region 2, 3 respectively of the
15 baseboard 1. The different contours of the baseboard 1 in a middle region between the two end regions 2, 3 are hence immaterial to the holding function of the baseboard 1 on the connecting piece 10. The connecting piece 10 is thus able to grip the baseboard 1 also in
20 the 180°-twisted position.

The connecting piece additionally has a stop face 14, against which the baseboard 1 can rest snugly. This stop face 14 limits the sliding motion with which the
25 connecting piece 10 is can be slipped onto the baseboard 1.

The projection 11 forms together with the holding pins 13 and the stop face 14 a connecting region 15 for the
30 connection to the baseboard 1.

Figure 4 shows an alternative embodiment of the connecting piece 10, wherein the same reference symbols denote the same parts. Below, only the differences
35 relative to the embodiment according to figure 3 are discussed.

This connecting piece 10 has two substantially identically constructed and mutually aligned connecting

regions 15. Thus a baseboard 1 can respectively be plugged into this connecting piece 10 on both sides, which baseboards are then oriented in mutual alignment. This connecting piece 10 serves to extend baseboards 1.

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Figure 5 shows an alternative embodiment of the connecting piece 10 according to figure 4, wherein the same reference symbols denote the same parts. Below, only the differences relative to the embodiment according to figure 4 are discussed.

In the embodiment according to figure 5, the two connecting regions 15 are mutually rotated through 90° , so that an outer corner joint is thereby formed. The baseboards 1 connectable to these connecting regions 15 - viewed from the room outward - then form an angle of 270° .

Figure 6 shows a further alternative embodiment of the connecting piece 10 according to figure 5, wherein the same reference symbols again denote the same parts.

In this embodiment too, the connecting regions 15 are arranged twisted through 90° to one another, which arrangement is a mirror image of the embodiment according to figure 5. This connecting piece 10 thus forms an inner corner joint, so that the baseboards 1 connectable to the connecting piece 10, viewed from the room outward, form an angle of 90° .

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Finally, figure 7 shows a baseboard 1, which, supplementary to the embodiment according to figure 1, has on both end regions 2, 3 additional undercuts 16. These undercuts 16 correspond with corresponding undercuts of a clip rail 17 which can be fastened to a wall (not represented). Preferably, the clip rail 17 can be glued and/or screwed to the wall. The clip rail 17 has spring points 18, by which the clip rail 17 becomes elastic. This facilitates the fitting of the

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baseboard 1 by simple clipping in place. The undercuts
16 of the baseboard 1 are shaped such that they are
rotationally symmetrical through 180° about the point
of symmetry to allow the baseboard 1 to be fitted in
5 twisted form.

Reference symbol list

	1	baseboard
	2	first end region
5	3	second end region
	4	first contour
	5	second contour
	6	undercut
	7	ornamental strip
10	8	point of symmetry
	10	connecting piece
	11	projection
	12	inner contour
	13	holding pin
15	14	stop face
	15	connecting region
	16	undercut
	17	clip rail
	18	spring point

Patent claims

1. A baseboard for covering a flooring border, the baseboard (1) having a cross section which possesses a first contour (4) and an oppositely situated second contour (5), **wherein** the first contour (4) in a first end region (2) of the cross section, rotated through 180° about a point of symmetry (8), corresponds to the second contour (5) in a second end region (3), and the second contour (5) in the first end region (2) of the cross section, rotated through 180° about the point of symmetry (8), corresponds to the first contour (4) in the second end region (3).

2. The baseboard as claimed in claim 1, **wherein** the first (4) and second contour (5) in the first end region (2) are curved and/or angled off to the same side.

3. The baseboard as claimed in claim 1 or 2, **wherein** at least one of the contours (4, 5) has at least one undercut (6) for receiving an ornamental strip (7).

4. A connecting piece for a baseboard, in particular according to at least one of claims 1 to 3, the connecting piece (10) having on at least one side, for connection to the baseboard (1), a connecting region (15) having a projection (11) overlapping the baseboard (1), **wherein** holding pins (13) are situated opposite the projection (11), the baseboard (1) being able to be held, solely in its end regions (2, 3), clamped between the projection (11) and the holding pins (13).

5. The connecting piece as claimed in claim 4, **wherein** the holding pins (13) are disposed one above the other.

6. The connecting piece as claimed in claim 4 or 5, **wherein** at least one stop face (14) is provided between the projection (11) and the holding pins (13).

5 7. The connecting piece as claimed in at least one of claims 4 to 6, **wherein** the projection (11) can fully overlap the baseboard (1).

8. The connecting piece as claimed in at least one
10 of claims 4 to 7, **wherein** the connecting piece (10) has two stop regions (15), which are preferably oriented in mutual alignment or at right angles to each other.

9. The connecting piece as claimed in the preamble
15 to claim 4, **wherein** the connecting piece is configured in the form of a clip rail (17) which can be fixed to a wall, the baseboard (1) having on its end regions (2, 3) undercuts (16) configured to fit connecting regions of the clip rail (17), which, rotated through 180°
20 about a point of symmetry (8), corresponds to the other connecting region.