SEAL IT RIGHT

THE ULTIMATE SEAL APPLICATION GUIDE

WESCO®
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

SEAL APPLICATION FLOWCHART

STEP 1

IS THE **DOCK HEIGHT 48”**?
IF **YES**, GO TO **STEP 2**!

NO

STEP 2

APPROACH GRADE
LEVEL OR WITHIN **+/- 12”**
OVER A **50’** DISTANCE?
IF **YES**, GO TO **STEP 3**!

NO

IF ANYTHING **DOES NOT** APPLY CONTACT **(215-699-7031)**

STEP 3

IS THE **DOOR WIDTH 8’**?
IF **YES**, GO TO **STEP 4**!

NO

NO

NO

IF LESS THAN 8’ OR MORE THAN 10’

STEP 4

IS THE **BUMPER PROJECTION + SETBACK** BETWEEN **(OPTION 1** OR **2)?**
IF **YES**, GO TO **STEP 5**!

STEP 5

CHOOSE THE **SEAL OPTION** BELOW BASED ON THE **DOOR HEIGHT** & GO TO **STEP 6**!

STEP 6

ADD **WEAR PLEATS** TO YOUR SEAL?

OPTION 1
BETWEEN 4” & 6”
Seal projection = 10 inches

OR

OPTION 2
BETWEEN 14” & 16”
Seal projection = 20 inches

OPTION 1
HEIGHT BETWEEN 8’ & 9’
= Head Pad Style Seal

OR

OPTION 2
BETWEEN 9’1” & 10’
= Curtain Style Seal

YES

NO

CONDITIONS FOR DOCK SEAL SELECTION

STEP 1: DOCK HEIGHT

Dock Height refers to the vertical measurement from the ground level to the top edge of the loading dock platform. It is a critical measurement in determining the proper fit for dock seals, as the height of the dock must align with the height of the trailer to ensure a tight, secure seal during loading and unloading operations.

How to Measure Dock Height

1. **Identify the Dock Platform:**
   This is the surface on which the trailer backs up to during loading/unloading.
2. **Measure from the Ground:**
   Measure vertically from the ground (or the floor of the loading bay) to the top edge of the dock platform.
3. **Required Height:**
   For Wesco dock seals to fit correctly, the **(DOCK HEIGHT MUST BE 48 INCHES)**.

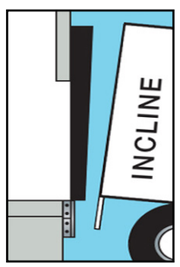
***If the dock height is not 48 inches, stop & do not proceed with installation.**

STEP 2: APPROACH GRADE

Approach Grade refers to the angle or slope of the ground or surface leading up to the loading dock. It is the incline or decline of the driveway, parking lot, or area where the trailer backs up to the dock. The approach grade affects how well a dock seal fits and functions.

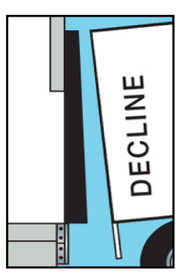
Key Points About Approach Grade:

- **Incline or Decline:** A noticeable slope (upward or downward) leading to the dock can affect trailer alignment and the effectiveness of the dock seal.
- **Wesco Seal Requirement:** For optimal performance, the **(APPROACH GRADE MUST BE LEVEL OR WITHIN +/- 12 INCHES OVER A 50-FOOT DISTANCE)** from the dock. If the slope exceeds this tolerance, the dock seal may not fit properly, reducing its efficiency and preventing a secure seal.



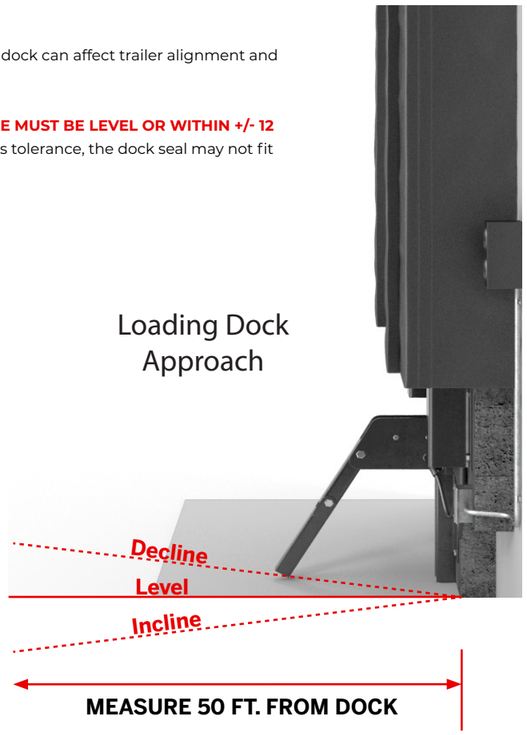
How to Measure Incline
(Downward Slope From Dock)

1. Stand 50 feet away from the dock. Elevate the laser so that it points directly at ground level on the dock.
2. Measure the vertical distance between the laser beam & the ground. The difference should be no more than 12” for the seal to function correctly.



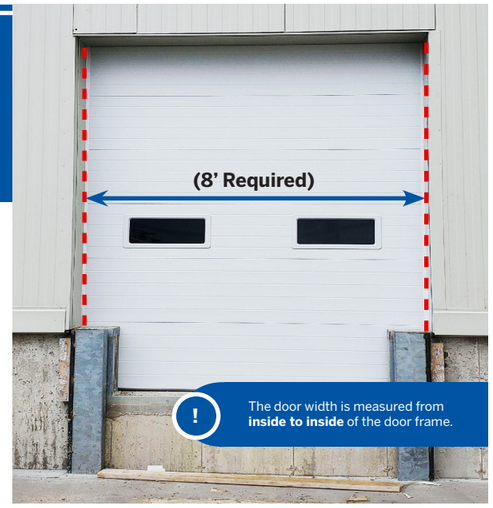
How to Measure Decline
(Upward Slope From Dock)

1. Stand 50 feet away and place the laser level on the ground.
2. Measure the vertical distance between the laser & the ground. The difference should be no more than 12” for the seal to function correctly.



STEP 3: DOOR WIDTH

Door Width refers to the horizontal measurement of the dock door, from one side to the other, across the opening where trailers back up to load and unload.



Requirements

For a proper fit of Wesco dock seals, the door width **(MUST BE 8 FEET) measured from inside to inside**.

This ensures that the seal will effectively cover the entire door opening, providing a tight seal around the trailer and preventing air leaks,

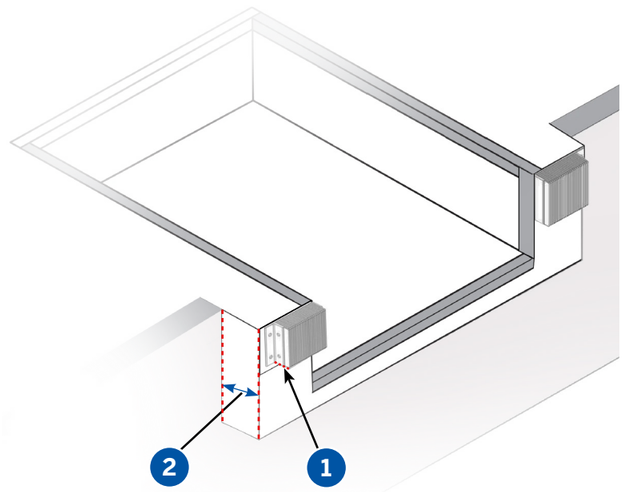
STEP 4: SEAL PROJECTION (BUMPER PROJECTION & WALL SETBACK)

Seal Projection is the distance the dock seal extends from the loading dock to make contact with the trailer, ensuring an effective barrier that seals the gap. Proper projection helps control temperature, prevent drafts, and improve safety by enclosing the loading area.

Key Factors Affecting Seal Projection:

1. **Bumper Projection:**
The distance a dock bumper extends beyond the dock's surface.

2. **Wall Setback:**
Distance between the building wall and the edge of the dock opening.



Seal Projection Guidelines (Based on Bumper Projection & Wall Setback)

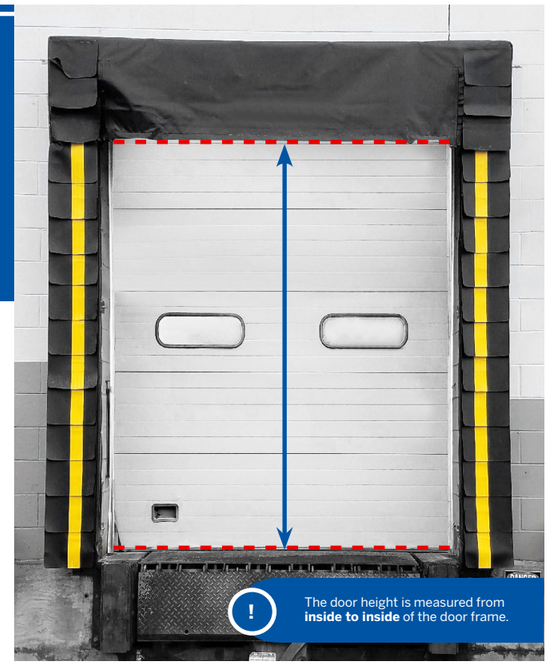
Option 1: If the bumper projection + wall setback is **BETWEEN 4" AND 6"**, the appropriate seal projection is 10 inches.

Option 2: If the bumper projection + wall setback is **BETWEEN 14" AND 16"**, the appropriate seal projection is 20 inches.

If the RED HIGHLIGHTED information in this document is not applicable to your application, you will not be able to order a Wesco seal directly. Please call 215-699-7031 for dealer details.

STEP 5: DOOR HEIGHT & SEAL TYPE

Door Height refers to the vertical measurement from the bottom to the top of the loading dock door opening. It is an important factor in selecting the appropriate dock seal, as it determines whether a Head Pad Seal or Curtain Style Seal is needed to ensure a proper fit and effective sealing of the dock area.



Choose the Appropriate Seal Based on the Height of the Door:

Option 1:
If Door Height is between **8' and 9'**, a Head Pad style seal is **Recommended**.

Option 2:
If Door Height is between **9'1" and 10'**, a Curtain Style seal is **Required**.

Understanding Seal Types:

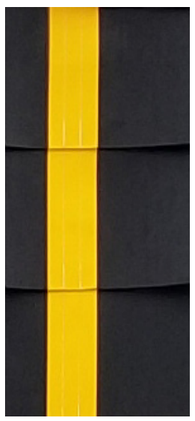
Head Pad Seal:
A head pad seal is used for dock doors that are between 8' and 9' high. The head pad is mounted at the top of the dock opening and provides a tight, compressed seal when the trailer backs into the dock, helping to prevent air leaks, temperature loss and contaminants from entering the loading dock area loading dock area.

Curtain Style Seal:
A curtain style seal is a curtain that does not include foam that is used for dock doors with a height between 9'1" and 10'. The curtain drapes down over the top of the trailer creating a barrier that protects against weather, dirt, and temperature loss.

STEP 6: WEAR PLEATS (YES OR NO?)

Wear pleats are additional overlapping vinyl layers added to seals to improve performance. They adapt to surface irregularities, distribute pressure, and reduce wear. Wesco offers the **8-inch option** or **no wear pleats**.

Maximize Performance. Minimize Downtime.
Say YES to Wesco Wear Pleats!



WHY WEAR PLEATS?

Protect & Preserve: Longer-Lasting Seal

Increase life-span and **reduce wear** and **tear** by adding extra layers of vinyl, providing **enhanced durability** and **long-lasting protection**.

Maximize Efficiency: Minimize Downtime

Save on maintenance by **reducing repairs**, **minimizing downtime**, and **lowering** overall costs. **Improve performance & efficiency** by keeping your equipment running smoothly with **minimal upkeep** & effort.