



BOARD & BATTEN INSTALLATION MANUAL

V01-10-2026

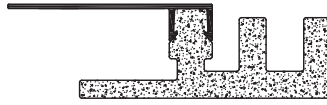
ELITE PREMIUM BOARD & BATTEN



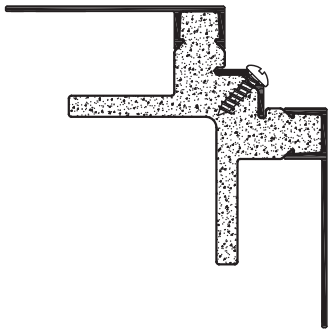
PRODUCT AND ACCESSORIES



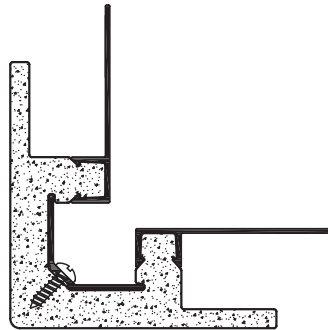
BOARD AND BATTEN



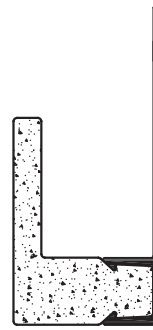
CASING TRIM



INSIDE CORNER



OUTSIDE CORNER



J-TRIM



H-TRIM



NAIL FIN

TOOLS REQUIRED

CUTTING TOOLS

- Circular saw and/or table saw with fine-tooth carbide blade (80-100 tooth for smooth cuts)
- Miter saw (chop saw) with fine-tooth carbide blade, preferred for angled cuts
- Jigsaw with fine-tooth blade for cutouts (windows, outlets)
- Utility knife and straightedge (for scoring thin profiles)
- Fine-tooth hand saw (backup)

FASTENING TOOLS

- Pneumatic siding nailer (recommended), must be used with a proper nail gun adapter to maintain the required 1/32" gap between fastener head and nailing hem
- Nail gun adapter, required accessory for pneumatic nailers; prevents overdriving and ensures proper thermal expansion gap
- Corded or cordless drill/driver for screw fastening
- Nail set (for hand-nailing, not recommended as primary method)

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TOOLS REQUIRED

LAYOUT & MEASUREMENT

- Chalk line (blue chalk, avoid red/orange permanent chalk)
- 6ft (2m) level or laser level
- Tape measure
- Speed square and carpenter's square
- Story pole (recommended, pre-mark course layouts)

OTHER TOOLS & SUPPLIES

- Caulking gun
- Scaffolding or ladders rated appropriately for height
- PPE as listed in Safety Section

CONNECTORS & FASTENERS

LAYOUT & MEASUREMENT

- Panel to Panel Connector: AuraLok™ Panel Connector
- Panel to Wall: Roofing Nails (1 1/4" - 1 1/2" x 3/8" Head Ring Shank or Spiral Shank | Hot Dipped Galvanized (HDG)), Stainless Steel (304 or 316), or 1 1/4" - 1 1/2" x 3/8" electro-galvanized nails.

OTHER TOOLS & SUPPLIES

- Caulking gun
- Scaffolding or ladders rated appropriately for height
- PPE as listed in Safety Section

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- Hard Hat
- Safety Glasses
- Respiratory Protection
- Hearing Protection
- Safety Shoes



STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

- Store indoors whenever possible to protect materials from moisture, direct sunlight, and temperature extremes.
- If outdoor storage is unavoidable, elevate boxes off the ground using pallets or dunnage to prevent water absorption.
- Cover with a breathable tarp, leaving ends open for ventilation. Avoid fully wrapping with plastic, which can trap moisture.
- Keep products in a dry, level, well-ventilated area away from standing water, snow, or excessive humidity.
- Do not stack boxes more than recommended (typically 3–4 high depending on weight) to prevent crushing or warping.
- Avoid storing near heat sources or in areas exceeding manufacturer-recommended temperature ranges.

HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

- Always carry boxes on edge or with two people to prevent bending or flexing of the boards.
- Do not drag boxes across rough surfaces; this can damage edges or protective packaging.
- Use clean gloves to avoid transferring dirt, oils, or moisture to the product surface.
- When opening boxes, use a safety knife carefully to avoid scoring or scratching the boards inside.
- Lift individual boards from the center with support, not from one end, to prevent cracking or bowing.
- Avoid storing near heat sources or in areas exceeding manufacturer-recommended temperature ranges.

JOB-SITE SAFETY CHECKLIST FOR SIDING INSTALLERS

1. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- CSA-approved safety boots worn at all times
- Hard hat when working under scaffolds or active overhead work
- Safety glasses for cutting, nailing, or using power tools
- Cut-resistant gloves for handling siding boards
- Hearing protection when using saws, nail guns, or compressors
- Respiratory protection when cutting fibre-cement or generating dust

2. TOOLS & EQUIPMENT SAFETY

- Inspect nail guns, compressors, hoses, and cords before use
- Confirm proper air pressure for pneumatic tools
- Ensure blades and bits are sharp and appropriate for the material
- Use dust-reducing cutting methods (shears preferred; saws with vacuum extraction if needed)
- Keep tools organized to avoid tripping hazards

3. WORKING AT HEIGHTS

- Fall protection in place when working above provincial thresholds (often 3 m)
- Scaffolding fully planked, level, and equipped with guardrails
- Ladders set at proper angle (4:1 rule) and secured



JOB-SITE SAFETY CHECKLIST FOR SIDING INSTALLERS

- Maintain three-point contact when climbing
- Keep ground area clear of falling-object hazards

4. SITE CONDITIONS & HOUSE PREP

- Confirm stable, level ground around the work area
- Ensure weather-resistant barrier (WRB) is properly installed and secured
- Verify stud spacing before fastening
- Maintain required clearances (e.g., 6 in. above grade, 1 in. above horizontal surfaces)
- Ensure proper ventilation and drainage paths are not obstructed

5. FASTENING & INSTALLATION SAFETY

- Use approved nails (no staples)
- Confirm nail penetration meets manufacturer requirements
- Avoid over-driving or under-driving fasteners
- Keep hands clear of nail gun line-of-fire
- Do not install damaged or swollen boards

6. ENVIRONMENTAL & HEALTH HAZARDS

- No silica dust hazard, cellular PVC does not contain silica and does not produce respirable crystalline silica when cut
- Use dust control for PVC shavings, keep the area clean to prevent slipping hazards
- Avoid high-heat cutting methods that can melt or burn PVC and release fumes
- Ensure proper ventilation when cutting indoors or in enclosed spaces
- Manage static buildup, PVC can attract lightweight debris; keep the work area tidy
- Contain and properly dispose of PVC offcuts to prevent tripping hazards and environmental litter

7. END-OF-DAY SAFETY

- Secure all materials and tools
- Cover exposed materials to protect from moisture
- Remove debris and offcuts from walkways
- Shut off compressors and disconnect hoses
- Inspect site for hazards before leaving



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INSTALLATION QUALITY CHECKLIST

Use this checklist before, during, and after installation to confirm all critical steps have been completed correctly.

PRE-INSTALLATION

Specification	Value
Item	Verified (✓ / N/A)
Wall substrate inspected — no rot, damage, or moisture issues	
Substrate flatness confirmed < 1/4" over 4 ft	
WRB installed and inspected — proper laps, taped seams	
All window/door flashings installed — sill, jambs, head	
Level reference chalk line established at base of wall	
Stud locations marked on WRB	
Material on-site and acclimated 24+ hours	
Correct fasteners confirmed (HDG or stainless)	
All accessories on-site: AuraLok™ connectors, starter strip, corner trim, J-Trim, casing trim	
Nail gun adapter confirmed on-site and fitted to pneumatic nailer	

DURING INSTALLATION - BOARD AND BATTEN

Specification	Value
Item	Verified (✓ / N/A)
Horizontal blocking/nailers confirmed at correct locations (max 24" o.c.)	
Panel layout planned — symmetric or as designed	
Plumb reference confirmed — panels plumb on every check	
Bottom J-Trim level and open for drainage	

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DURING INSTALLATION - BOARD AND BATTEN

Specification	Value
Single fastener per panel per nailer location (center of slot)	
Top J-Trim with 1/4" clearance for vertical expansion	
All window/door penetrations with clearance and flashing by others	

POST - INSTALLATION

Specification	Value
Item	Verified (✓ / N/A)
All required caulk joints completed — matching caulk color	
Drainage points confirmed OPEN (starter strip base, J-Trim at base of panels)	
No caulk applied at butt joints, panel end gaps, or bottom of starter	
All trim/accessories secure — no loose ends	
Panels free to move — no binding at trim or corners	
Final visual inspection — uniform course heights, plumb corners, flush panels	
Site cleaned — all PVC offcuts disposed of per local regulations	
Installation records completed for warranty documentation	
Customer walk-through completed and care instructions provided	

TROUBLESHOOTING

Specification	Value
Issue	Likely Cause / Solution
Panels buckling / bowing outward	Insufficient expansion gaps at panel ends or butt joints; fasteners overdriven or nail gun adapter not used. Remove affected panels, reinstall with correct gaps, nail gun adapter, and nailing technique.



TROUBLESHOOTING

Specification	Value
Panels rattling in wind	Panels not properly engaged in starter strip or course above. Re-engage affected courses. If a cut course is involved, check engagement into undersill trim (by others) or J-Trim.
Water appearing inside wall / wet sheathing	WRB not correctly lapped; flashing incomplete at window or door opening; drainage points caulked shut. Investigate and repair source before re-cladding.
Visible nail pops / bumps under panels	Nail gun adapter not used or set incorrectly — fasteners overdriven flush with nailing hem or countersunk. Remove and refasten with nail gun adapter maintaining 1/32" gap.
Mold growth on panel surface	Normal in high-humidity, shaded areas. Clean with diluted bleach/vinegar solution (see Section 7.2). Improve drainage and airflow behind panels if persistent.
Staining from fasteners (rust streaks)	Non-corrosion-resistant fasteners used. Replace with hot-dipped galvanized or stainless. Remove stains with oxalic acid cleaner.
Courses not running level	Reference chalk lines not used consistently; panel ends not checked at each course. Snap fresh chalk lines and adjust from next course — minor corrections over 3–4 courses are preferable to abrupt resets.
Panel end color at cuts	Veyros™ color-through technology means cut edges match the panel face - no treatment needed. For highly visible cuts, contact Elite Cladding™ for guidance.

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GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Review local building codes before starting the installation.
- Read all instructions thoroughly for both Elite Cladding™ siding and compatible pocketed trim options.
- Elite Cladding™ Board & Batten is designed exclusively for vertical installation—never install it horizontally.
- Avoid installing in conditions colder than 0° F.
- Inspect all siding for any cracks, contaminants, surface flaws, inconsistent coloring, or product errors before installation. Do not use any materials that appear defective.

STORING MATERIALS ON-SITE

- Never stack siding bundles higher than three skids.
- Do not store bundles standing upright - always lay them flat.

STORAGE & HANDLING GUIDE

- Store siding indoors when possible.
- Avoid exposure to direct sunlight prior to installation. Use tarps or the provided cover to protect materials. Keep siding away from high heat.
- When storing outside, raise bundles off the ground with wood or similar supports and keep them covered.
- Handle Elite Cladding™ gently, similar to premium-grade lumber.
- Always lift panels from the center—not the ends.
- Never drag items across the finished surface.
- Open packaging carefully to avoid scratching the material.

WALL PREPARATION

- Install siding over walls that are both flat and level.
- Fastening into studs is optional. However, panels must be applied to at least 7/16" wood sheathing, with fasteners penetrating a minimum of 3/4".
- For stud-only walls, install 1" x 3" horizontal furring strips spaced 14" apart, or apply OSB/plywood over the studs.
- Elite Cladding™ works as a rain screen—not a weatherproof barrier—so make sure it's backed by a proper weather-resistant layer.
- All wall transitions and openings must be properly flashed.
- For masonry surfaces such as concrete, brick, or block, use horizontal furring strips spaced 14" apart. Add rigid foam or fiber sheathing where insulation is required.

BALANCED WALL (OPTIONAL)

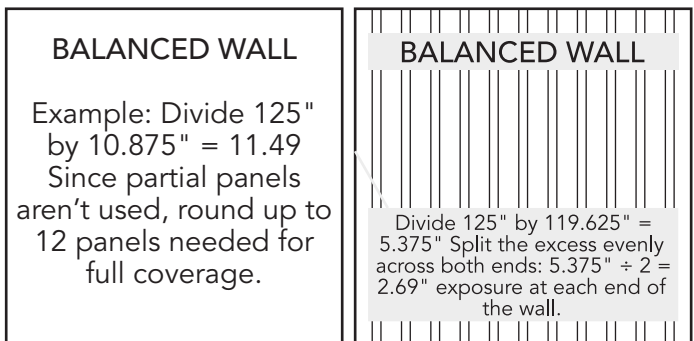
To evenly balance panel layout:

1. Divide the total wall width (in inches) by 10.875 and round down.
2. Multiply that result by 10.875 to get the total panel coverage.
3. Subtract from the wall width and divide the remainder by two for equal side reveals.

Example for 125" wall:

- $125 \div 10.875 = 11$
- $11 \times 10.875 = 119.625$
- $125 - 119.625 = 5.375$
- $5.375 \div 2 = 2.69"$ reveal on each side

Note: Measure the wall after installing trim.



BEST PRACTICE: LEVELING UNEVEN WALLS

- When exterior walls show irregularities or uneven surfaces, it's strongly recommended to apply a high-quality underlayment prior to siding installation. This extra layer helps create a smooth, even base and ensures the siding panels install correctly and maintain their intended appearance.

TRIM AND ACCESSORIES

- Use pocketed trim to properly install Elite Cladding™ Board & Batten.
- Never press siding directly against the trim.
- Two-piece trim by Elite Cladding™ is recommended, though optional.
- Ensure the pocket or rabbeted trim has at least a 3/4" width and 5/8" depth to allow for proper interlocking and panel movement.

SIDING

- For straight cuts, use a circular saw or miter saw equipped with a blade designed for trim or plywood.

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- To navigate around obstacles or make detailed cuts, tools like a jigsaw, rotary tool, or router can be helpful.

TRIM

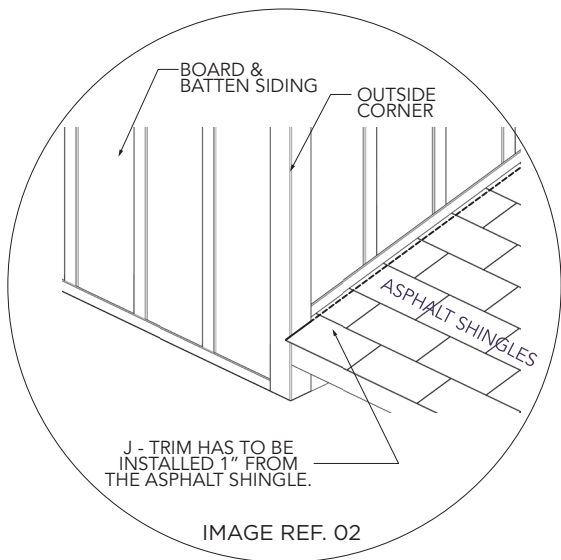
- A compound miter saw fitted with a trim blade is ideal for precise and clean cuts.

FASTENING MATERIALS

- Panel to Wall: Roofing Nails (1 1/4" - 1 1/2" x 3/8" Head Ring Shank or Spiral Shank | Hot Dipped Galvanized (HDG)), Stainless Steel (304 or 316), or 1 1/4" - 1 1/2" x 3/8" electro-galvanized nails.

INSTALLING NEAR THE ROOFLINE

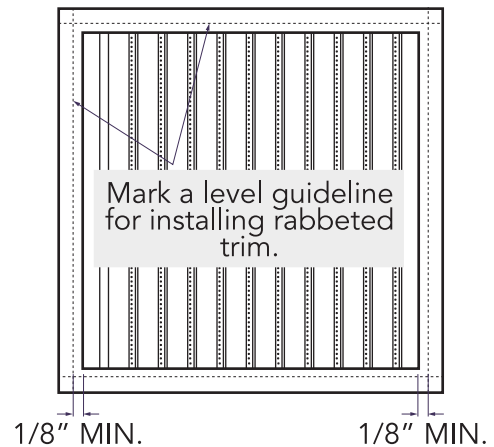
- Maintain at least a 1" gap between the roof and the top of the first panel.
- In areas with extreme climates or metal roofing, leave up to 3" for safety. Refer to image 02.



INSTALLATION KICKOFF

- Install pocketed trim at corners, around openings, and at the top edge.
- Bottom trim may be installed flush with the wall.
- Trim should extend at least 3/4" from the surface to accommodate battens.
- When using Elite Cladding™ J-Trim, H-Trim, 3.5" & 5.5" Casing Trim install the receiver first, then attach the outer cover.
- For Casing Trim, follow manufacturer instructions and leave adequate space for a proper fit.
- Bottom trim should include 3/16" weep holes spaced every 18" to 24" for moisture drainage.
- Leave a 1/4" gap between the siding panel and

the inner trim wall to allow for panel expansion.



PROPER FASTENING TECHNIQUE

- Elite Cladding™ uses a floating system—never hard-nail.
- The first fastener goes through the top of the lowest nail slot.
- Fasten every third slot, always at the top of the slot.
- Leave about 1/32" space between the fastener head and siding to avoid restricting movement.
- Use shims where needed to maintain a flat appearance.

ALLOWING FOR EXPANSION AND CONTRACTION

- Leave 1/4" movement room at the top of each panel and leave 3/8" gap at the bottom.
- First fastener goes through the top of the bottom-most slot.
- Continue fastening every third slot at the top.

PANEL LAYOUT DIRECTION

- You can install panels from left to right or vice versa.
- Follow the nail hem direction to determine placement.
- Use the guide mark to ensure full interlock engagement.
- The first panel acts as a starter strip - confirm it's level before proceeding.

PANELS AROUND WINDOWS/ DOORS

- Leave a 1/4" clearance around all window and door openings.
- Trim 1/8" off the interlock when working with tight spaces.

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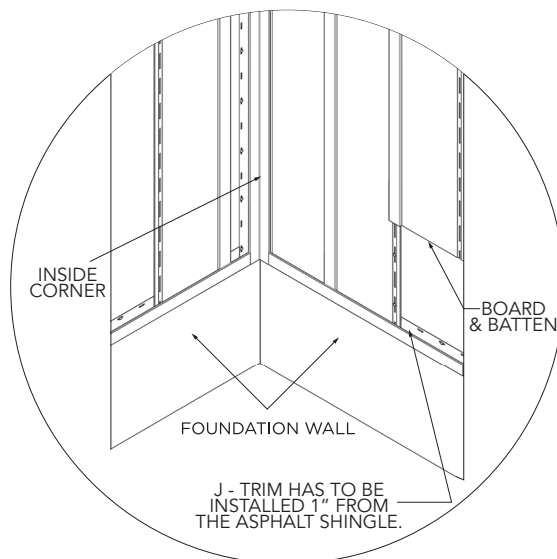
TRANSITIONING BETWEEN COURSES

- Do not stack panels directly—use a transition strip.
- Install Z-flashing above each panel section before adding more.
- Same rule applies when switching from horizontal to vertical (Board & Batten) siding.



FINISHING THE FINAL COURSE

- Fasten with color-matched nails every 16"–24".
- Alternatively, use silicone adhesive to secure the last panel—this is the only time face-fastening isn't required.



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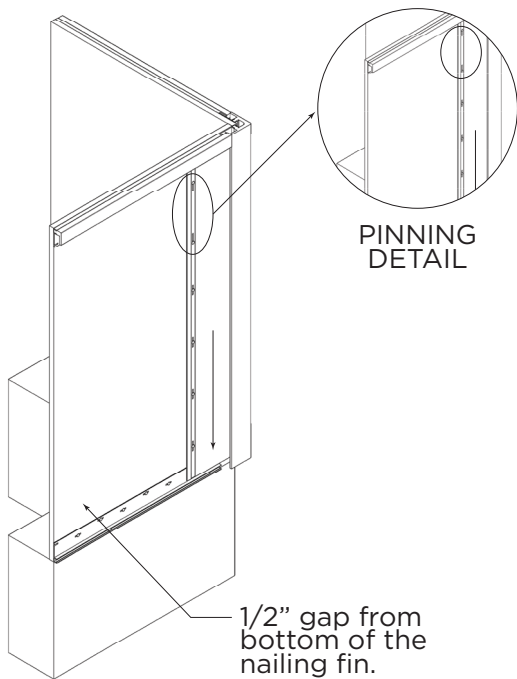
INSTALLING BOARD & BATTEN FROM THE TOP DOWN

Step 1: Install the siding from top to bottom.

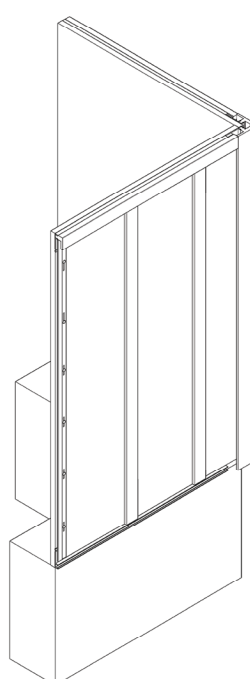
Step 2: Tuck the siding into the J-Trim and fasten as shown, allowing expansion and contraction to be controlled from the top down.

Step 3: Maintain a 1/2" gap from the bottom of the nailing fin. Refer to pinning detail for top of the panel.

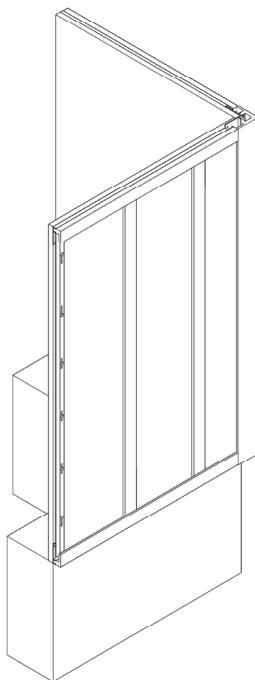
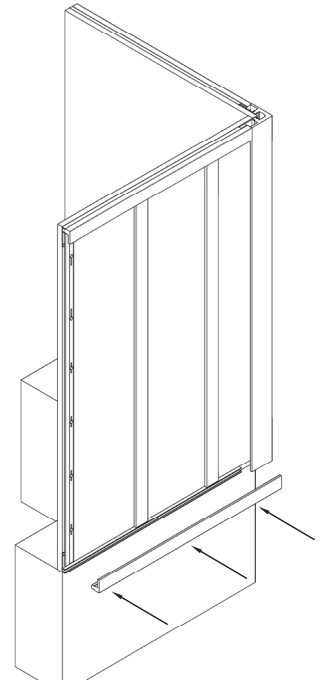
Step 4: Snap in the J-Trim to close the bottom of the wall assembly.



STEP 1, 2 & 3



STEP 2



Elite Cladding™



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