



# BOARD & BATTEN INSTALLATION MANUAL

# ELITE PREMIUM BOARD & BATTEN



## 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)

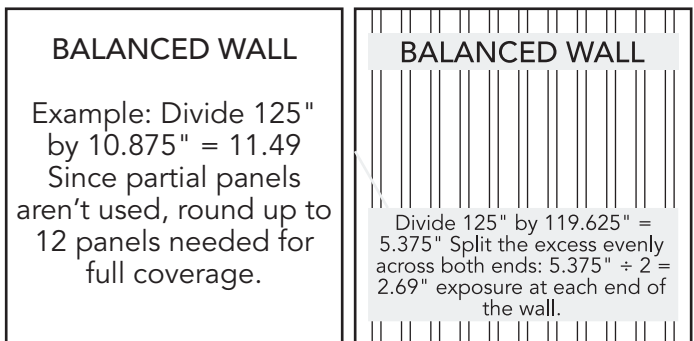
To evenly balance panel layout:

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

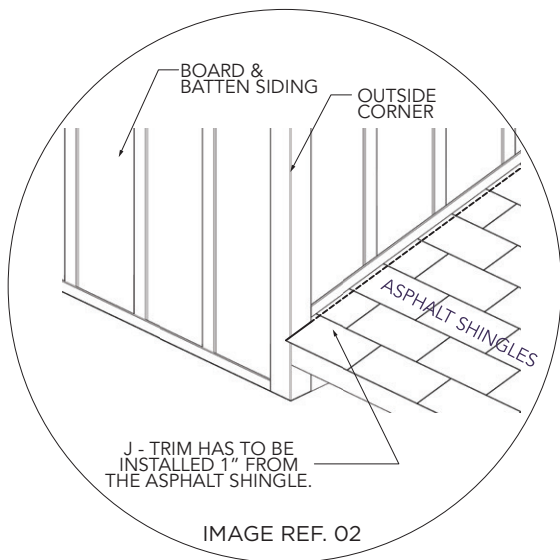
- A compound miter saw fitted with a trim blade is ideal for precise and clean cuts.

## FASTENING MATERIALS

- Use corrosion-resistant screws or nails made from aluminum, stainless steel, or galvanized metal.
- Nail head diameter should be 3/8" to 7/16"; shank diameter up to .160".
- For metal framing, use self-tapping screws.
- In high-wind zones, use screws or ring-shank nails for extra security.

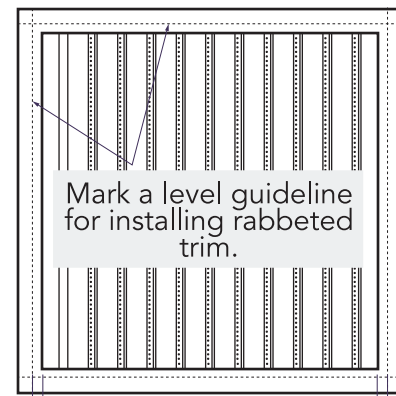
## INSTALLING NEAR THE ROOFLINE

- 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



1/8" MIN.

1/8" MIN.

## 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.



## Elite Cladding™



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## 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.

