



BASIC GUIDE TO INSTALLATION

Procedures and general practical tips for
insulated vinyl weatherboards



Contents

Page 3

- Insulated vinyl weatherboards
- General information
- Tools and equipment

Page 4

- Preparation of surface
- Basic rules to follow
- Nailing

Page 5

- Caulking / weather sealing
- Vinyl weatherboard installation

Page 6

- Joining weatherboards

Page 7 & 8

- Accessories or trims

Page 9

- The best advice

Refer also to Australian Standard AS/NZS 1562.3.1996. Type B weatherboards. Page 4 used for AS/NZ 4256 Suite of Standards. 4256-4 page 5, section 6. Type B cladding can only be used when fully and continually supported over structural framing or over existing cladding. Please note: This information is supplied only as a general guide and does not override any manufacturers stipulations on a particular material or usages. If you are unsure about any material contained herein, do not hesitate to call us.

Insulated vinyl weatherboards

Vinyl is tough and durable. It has been especially formulated to withstand the harsh extremes of the Australian climate.

General information

Vinyl weatherboards are easy to install provided that you:
'Plan your work, then work to plan.'

These instructions and tips will assist you. We recommend that you take special notice of the DO NOT section below.

The first of these is the most important of all as it allows for linear expansion which can be as much as 1mm per Linear Metre of length of material; vertical expansion is negligible and is not compensated for in the connection joint.

- DO NOT confine the natural expansion and contraction of material.
- Always use corrosion resistant nails, screws or fasteners.

Tools and equipment

Hammer, chalk line, tin snips, tape measure, spirit level, water level, pencil, screw drivers, fine tooth saw or hack saw.

Masonry or diamond blade in a circular saw, radial saw or hand grinder.
If a conventional tooth saw, blade works better to run the blade backwards.

Preparation of the sub-surface

Remove downpipes, over molds and other obstructions.

Nail down any loose boards and flashings that may exert pressure on the cladding from behind (as these may bulge in time), remove or repair damaged weatherboards or stud work.

It is a common misconception that new cladding will conceal any irregularities that exist, this is not true. To achieve a flat level surface you must start off with a level surface. Battening and/or packing may be required on uneven surfaces for best results.

Cladding must be secured to a continuous fixed membrane according to standards.

Basic rules to follow

DO NOT

Nail through the material (unless stated elsewhere, ie trims)

- Always nail towards the centre of the nailing slot.
- Always allow at least 3mm gap between the nail and the slot.

DO NOT

Nail tight onto the weatherboards.

- The boards must be able to move under the nail head to allow for expansion and contraction.

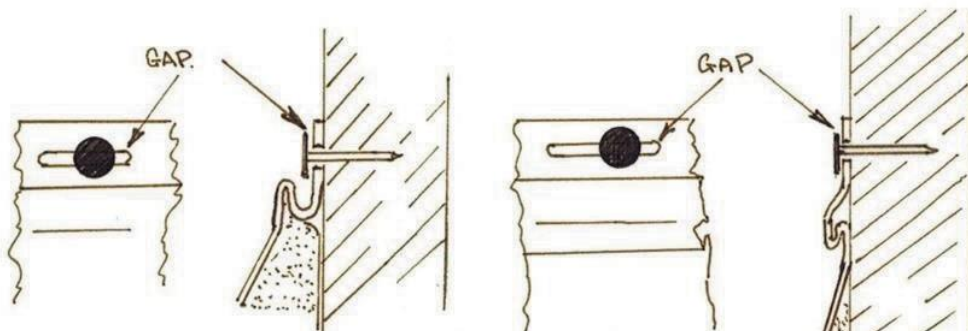
DO NOT

Fit weatherboards tightly into trims.

- Always allow 3-5mm clearance over the length when fitting into trims.

Nailing

Nails must be corrosion resistant (Galvanised is recommended) with a flat head size of 10mm, shank thickness a minimum of 2.5mm and must be long enough to penetrate 25mm into hardwood frame or 35mm into softwood framing. Nail at every frame stud, max 450mm centres.



Caulking

Caulking or sealing with a recommended non-hardening silicon type filler in areas where water can penetrate is essential; an example would be around pipes etc. Fillers are not to be used for ill-fitting components.

Vinyl weatherboard installation

It is important that all the weatherboards meet at the corners at the same level. To achieve this a level datum point is needed around the building. The whole building walls can then be checked to the level to determine exactly where each wall is located in comparison to each other.

The most efficient way to do this is to use a water level, marking each wall, and then join these points with a chalked string line. Measure down from the level to determine the lowest point on the lowest wall.

A determination would need to be made next as to which level is best to use.

Consideration would be:

- i. Height from the starting point to underneath the eave soffit. This would determine where the top board would finish, should a small strip result then the waste material would be high
- ii. If the eave soffit and windows are out of level but are in line with each other (most likely because the house has settled) it may be better to run the cladding out of level so that it will look straight with the bottom and top of the windows or under the eave soffit as this may in the end be more pleasing to the eye.
- iii. If starting low will cause too much waste, by having to cut the bottom off the board all the way around the house, it would be best to lift the bottom boards and step down where necessary ie stepping over patio landings, paths, etc.

Fitting Siding Around Fixtures

For handling protrusions around the wall, manufacturer's accessories specifically designed to fit around protrusions can be installed or you can cut siding panels to match the shape and contour of the obstruction.

Always begin a new course of siding at the fixture to avoid excess lap joints. Cut a slot 6mm larger than the fixture.

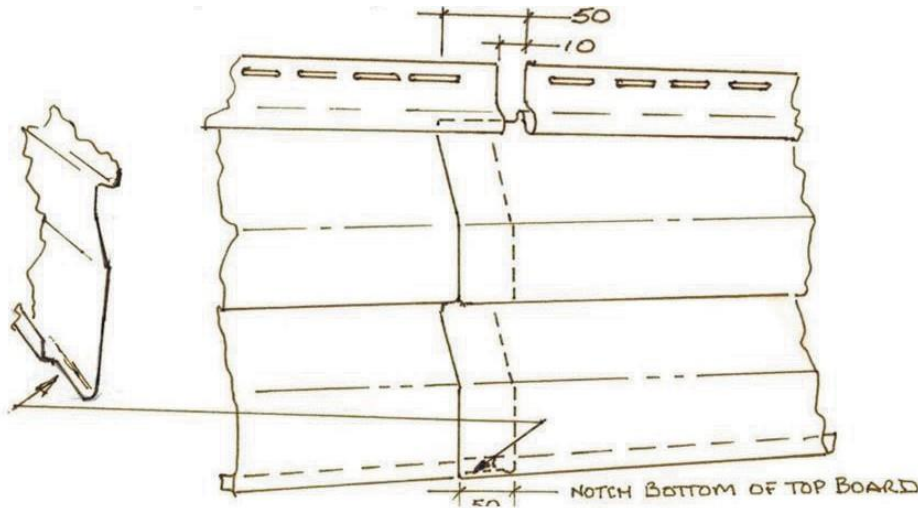
Joining weatherboards

With the long board lengths currently available, not many joins will be required. If you have to have joins the laps should always face the same direction, preferably faced away from pedestrian entrances and they will be less noticeable.

Where possible conceal the joins behind gateposts, down pipes, vent pipes, etc. Joins should always be staggered for strength reasons. Do not put two or more joins together in a vertical line. Always avoid staggering the joins at random, the brick pattern is the most popular joint configuration, this is where every second vertical joint aligns with the board two below it; a stronger, neater job results.

Do not join pieces of cladding shorter than 700mm, always span two complete frame studs to ensure maximum strength and adequate nailing.

Joins can be made by cutting the top clip back 50mm, always lap 30 to 40mm to ensure a strong joint and allow for expansion of the vinyl material (see below).



Accessories or trim



STARTER TRIM

Nail at 200mm intervals. Always nail towards the centre of the slot. Starter trims do not need to be overlapped as they cannot, or should not, be seen.

Using previously determined starting point, align the starter strip and nail every 450mm. Where there are patios, entrances or other variations of level that cause the bottom part of the board containing the attachment portion to be removed, a 'J' trim has to be used to hold and cover the cut edge of the weatherboard.

OUTSIDE CORNER POSTS

Nail at 300mm intervals, care should be taken to position the corner trim accurately and square to the corner. It is possible to pull the corner out of shape if care is not taken resulting in unevenness. Nail the top of the slot half way up, this will ensure the post will not slip down, then nail at 300mm intervals.

Fit the corner post onto the walls to be clad at this time. It is advisable to cut the posts longer than the length required, the bottom can then be trimmed once the weatherboards are installed, this way the correct length is ensured.

Note: if you are installing eave soffit lining, depending on how you intend to fit them, the corner length may have to be adjusted accordingly.



INTERNAL CORNERS

Internal corners should be finished with two 'J' trims. Caulk/silicon seal to prevent water entry. Alternatively, one 'J' trim can be used with an effective flashing behind.

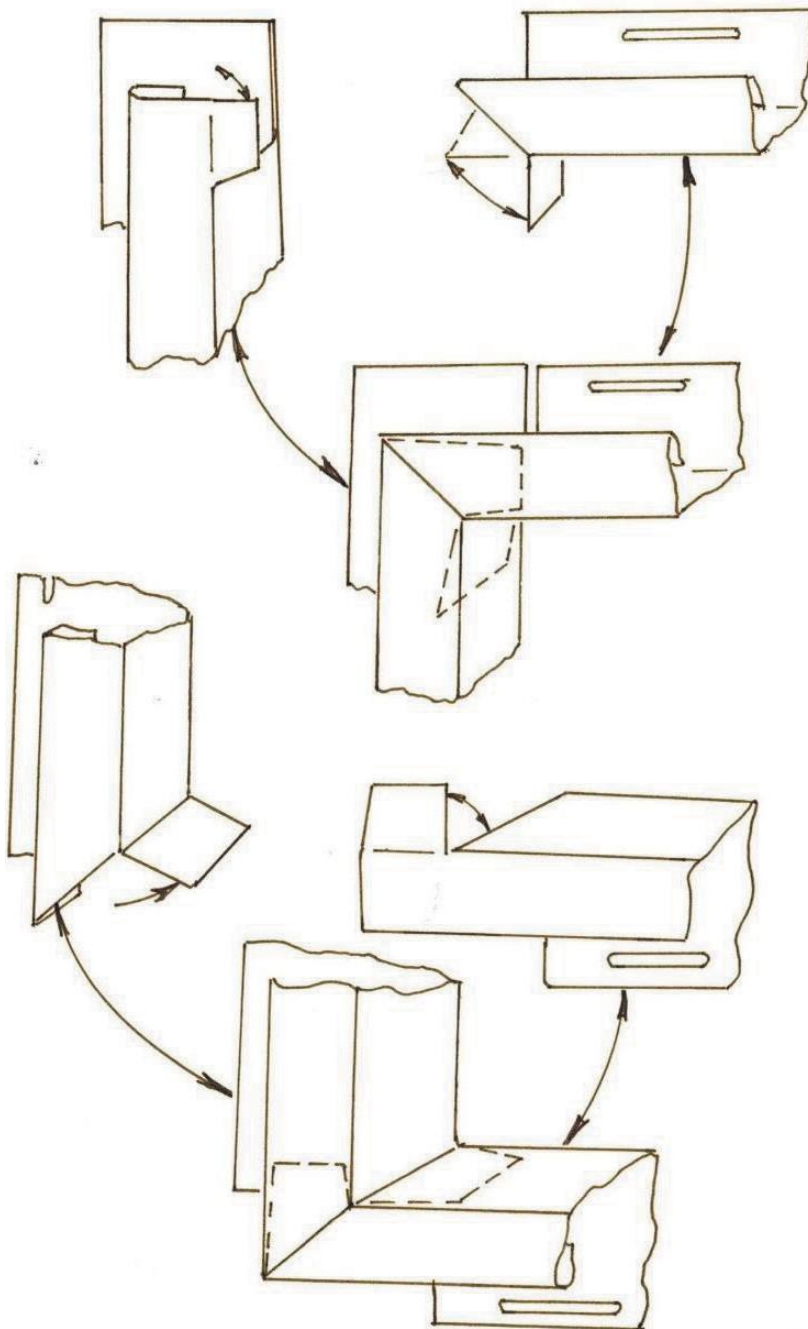


'J' TRIM

Used to seal off cut edges as well as covering the expansion clearance of the weatherboards, in addition it acts as moisture flashing. 'J' trims are cut and folded back into each other in such a way to allow trapped water to flow outside of the building.

Timber windows and doorsill horns are normally cut square to be flush with the outside edges of the architraves.

Top trims – left hand side shown, the right-hand side would be a mirror image:



The best advice:

- PLAN AHEAD
- MEASURE TWICE, CUT ONCE
- SAFETY FIRST!
WEAR EYE PROTECTION,
NOISE PROTECTION,
DUST PROTECTION
- USE ONLY PROPER TOOLS
AND EQUIPMENT WITH
SAFETY GUARDS, ETC.
- SAFE LADDERS AND USE
SCAFFOLDING IF REQUIRED
- 240 VOLT ELECTRICAL TOOLS
MUST BE CONNECTED
THROUGH A CUT OUT SWITCH
- DO NOT HAVE ELECTRIC
LEADS ON THE GROUND
OR WHERE THEY CAN BE
DAMAGED

Good luck and for further information or if there is something that you are not sure of, please don't hesitate to call us.



297 Milperra Road, Revesby NSW 2212
PO Box 742, Revesby NSW 2212

P: (02) 9792 3897
F: (02) 9774 5843

sales@mittenvinyl.com.au
www.mittenvinyl.com.au