

INSTALLING POLYMERIC CLADDING AND SOFFIT IN COASTAL AREAS

Current codes regulate coastal areas and place stringent performance requirements on cladding installed in these areas. Polymeric claddings are a great choice. Polymeric claddings offer beauty and stand up to more extreme coastal conditions. Use these quick tips for installing polymeric cladding and soffit in these regions.

UNDERSTANDING THE USE OF POLYMERIC CLADDING AND SOFFIT IN HIGH-WIND REGIONS

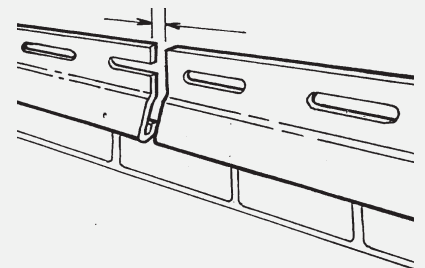
THESE UPDATES WILL HELP YOU STAY COMPLIANT AND ACHIEVE THE HIGHEST PERFORMANCE IN COASTAL REGIONS:

- The design pressure rating reflects the highest wind application for which the cladding is suitable and allows building code officials in high-wind regions to determine the appropriate cladding and soffit to install.
- Vinyl siding, insulated vinyl siding and polypropylene siding products have a wind design pressure rating published as part of the product certification program.
- Vinyl soffit in high wind regions needs to exhibit a proper design pressure rating.
- Vinyl siding and insulated vinyl siding products designed for use in high-wind regions typically have reinforced nail hems (i.e., double or rolled-over nail hems versus single-nail hems).
- Polypropylene siding in high-wind regions typically needs to be installed 8" to 10" on center based on manufacturer's installation instructions.

VINYL SIDING INSTALLATION TIPS

INSTALLING THE STARTER STRIP

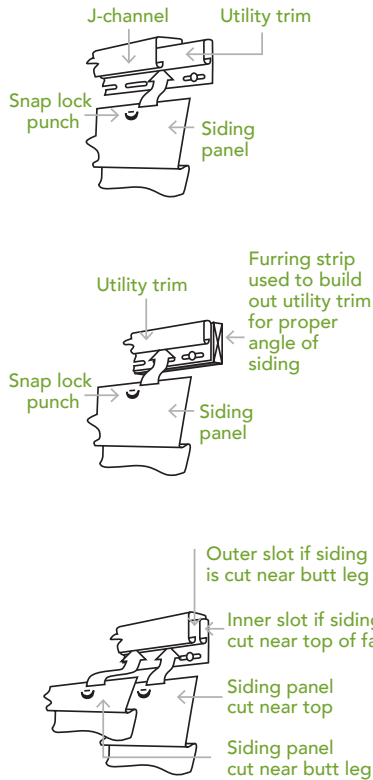
- In normal wall applications, starter strips are required.
- Vinyl siding, insulated vinyl siding and polypropylene siding starter strips are unique and may not be used interchangeably so follow manufacturer specifications for each product category.
- A starter strip not matched to the lock design of the cladding could cause the bottom course to blow off, which can lead to product failure.
- Do not use J-channel or other types of trim in place of a starter strip except when installing vertical siding.



The polymeric cladding industry makes it easy to specify the right products for high wind regions.

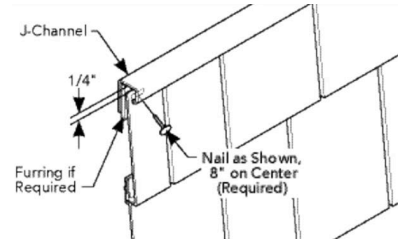
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FINISHING

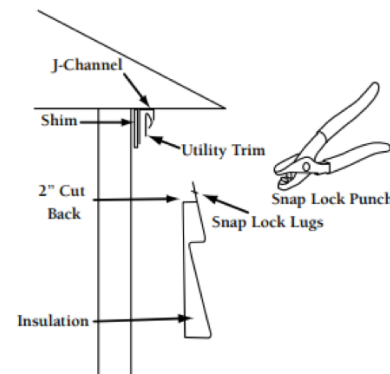


*Snap lock punches should be about 6" on center

POLYPROPYLENE SIDING



INSULATED VINYL SIDING



INSTALLATION TIPS

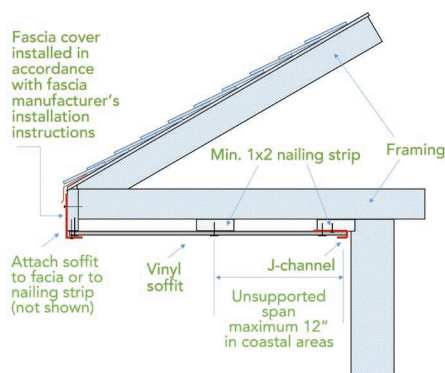
CLADDING UNDER WINDOWS AT THE TOP OF WALL

- Failure to use proper connection can create a weak point for the system.
- Use of utility trim and punch-locked vinyl siding or insulated vinyl siding is critical under windows and at the top of the walls.
- Using a snap lock punch (or other nail hole-creating tools), punch every 6" along the cut edge of vinyl siding and insulated vinyl siding and every 8" along the cut edge of polypropylene siding.
- Any time the top lock has been removed from cladding, utility trim should be used as a receiver to secure the punched-tab cladding panel.
- Furring may be required.

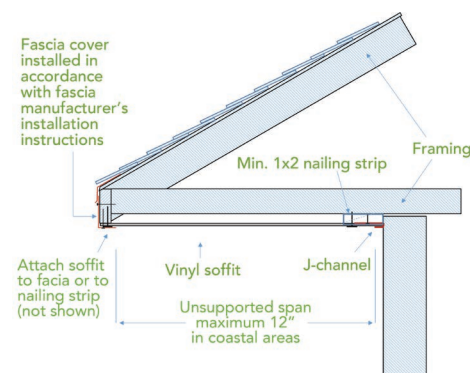
SOFFIT INSTALLATION TIPS

- Vinyl soffit must be fastened at both the fascia and wall.
- In high wind regions, where the unsupported span of soffit panels is greater than 12", intermediate nailing strips shall be provided.
- Once vinyl soffit is installed, fascia covers can be installed into utility trim or behind the existing drip edge.
- Always pre-drill holes into fascia and do not nail tight.

MULTI SPAN SOFFIT INSTALLATION



SINGLE SPAN SOFFIT INSTALLATION



For additional information, please consult relevant building codes, manufacturer instructions and the VSI Vinyl Siding Installation Manual at vinylsiding.org/installation.

ENSURING PROPER CLADDING INSTALLATION



POLYMERIC CLADDING JOBSITE INSPECTION CHECKLIST



CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Products certified through the VSI program go through tests and checks to ensure compliance.

- Look for the VSI Certification Program mark above to verify that the product is certified to the relevant ASTM standards

- Cladding panels should move freely

- Panels should be fully engaged and locked with each other

- Confirm that corrosion resistant fasteners were used

- Fasteners should be in the center of the nail slot and penetrate at least 1 1/4" inch into a nailable substrate

- Fasteners must have a space of 1/32" (about the thickness of a dime) between the fastener head and cladding panel

- There is no caulk used in the installation process except in very specific instances when using certain types of flashing applications

- Confirm that vinyl soffit is fastened at both fascia and wall ends

- Where the unsupported span of soffit panels is greater than 12" in coastal areas and 16" in non-coastal areas intermediate nailing strips should be provided

MEETING BUILDING INSPECTOR AND OFFICIAL REQUIREMENTS

Rely on certified cladding products to help inspections move quickly. Products certified through the VSI program go through tests and checks to ensure compliance with the ASTM appropriate product standards for:

- Weatherability, wind load and impact resistance
- Expansion and contraction
- Surface distortion
- Length, width and thickness

FIND CERTIFIED PRODUCTS NOW

www.archtest.com/vsi/

COASTAL AREAS

For coastal high wind areas, building inspectors should request design pressure information or consult the manufacturer's code compliance report to ensure the product is verified for use in high wind areas. Design pressure ratings are on product packaging. (Find out more about design pressure ratings on page 15.)