



Vinyl Cladding Quick Installation Guide

IMPORTANT:

Please read these instructions before you commence installation.

Vinyl Cladding is in essence a floating system.

This means **Weatherboards are not fixed tight** against cavity batten/its underlying structure, or itself, as Vinyl expands and contracts slightly as temperatures cool and warm. [This is further mentioned in the instructions below]. Failure to understand this can lead to weatherboard warping or bending when it doesn't have adequate room to expand, or cut ends becoming visible when it contracts.

Keep this in mind when installing, and the finished product should perform flawlessly. Read these instructions in full BEFORE Installation.

In case of any confusion, please review our full install specifications guide, or contact us.

Required Tools:

- Straight Aviation Snips
- Small Grinder With A Thin Slitting Blade
- Tape Measure
- Neutral Cure Silicon (Optional, refer to Step 6)
- 45-Degree Square
- Drop Saw With Fine Tooth Vinyl Cutting Blade, Or Reversed Tungsten Carbide Tipped Blade

0800 648 836

www.vinylcladding.co.nz

info@vinylcladding.co.nz

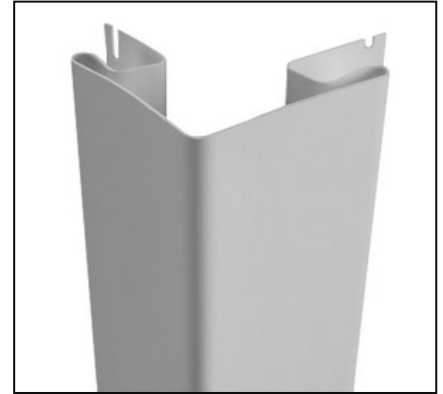
Step 1 - Corner Posts:

Begin by measuring and cutting the Corner Posts to the required length. This is usually 50MM below the finished floor height.

Install the corner posts level and square. Leave a 2MM clearance at the top of the corner posts to allow corner to expand.

Fix every 400MM at the top of the fixing slots to stop the Corner Posts from dropping. all trims to be fixed light and slightly firm to centre slots (do not deform or damage trim with screw head)

To ensure the trim stays in its set position, a single screw can be placed at the top end of a fixing slot, one each side of the corner post, (these are best placed at the top to allow expansion and contract downwards from that set point). This allows expansion and contraction to occur across the length without compromising the set position of the trim on the wall.



Step 2 – J-TRIM Around Windows & Doors:

Install J-TRIM flashings around all windows and doors. J-TRIMS tuck under your joinery flanges and sit (facing up) on top of the head flashings. 45 degree overlapping corners are cut around the bottom corners of windows [see diagram 1]. Fix every 400MM MINIMUM in the center of the fixing slots, making sure trims are level with window/door jambs, all trims to be fixed light and slightly firm to centre slots (do not deform or damage trim with screw head)

To ensure the trim stays in its set position a single screw can be placed at the top end of a fixing slot. This allows expansion and contraction to occur across the length without compromising the set position of the trim on the build.

IMPORTANT NOTE: J-Trims come in different manufactured sizes depending on profile and type of cladding used. If you are using different types of profiles or cladding types for your project, make sure you use the correct size J trim for that profile for the area you are cladding - If in doubt, please call us before fixing any J trims.



Diagram 1, cutting external corners for window sills

Step 3 - J-TRIM Under Eaves/Soffit.

Install J-TRIM flashings under the eaves at the top of wall facing towards the bottom of the wall ("Hanger end" facing down). This will be installed around the complete perimeter of the house, or wherever there is Vinyl Weatherboards below it. These later cap the very last top Weatherboard installed on each wall (for the weatherboard to slot into).



Step 4 – Starter Strip:

Install the Starter Strip along the bottom (or the starting point) of each wall to be clad. This needs to be installed perfectly level around bottom of the walls (this is often gauged off a parallel soffit line). A Chalk Line may help with this. The bottom edge of the Starter Strip will line up with the bottom edge of the previously installed Corner Posts. Fix the Starter Strip at 600MM MAXIMUM (preferably closer) in the center of the fixing slots. Leave a 10MM gap between each length of Starter Strip. Fixing at closer intervals is preferable to keep the first Weatherboard straight.



Step 5 (A) - Weatherboards:

Expansion of Vinyl Cladding starts at (Celsius) zero degrees and reaches its maximum expansion at around 45 degrees; For every meter of weatherboard the maximum expansion is 2mm. Therefore, a 4 meter long board will expand 8mm from cold (zero degrees Celsius) this can be thought of as linear expansion and contraction as the temperature rises and cools. Using this knowledge datum and depending on the length of the board and the ambient install temperature, you can determine the best cut length for any given board.

For Example: If the day ambient temperature is 20 degrees then you can assume the board has reached near half of its expanded state. Therefore, the minimum expansion allowance for a 4 meter long board would be 4mm tolerance. If the ambient temperature was 45 degrees then you would cut the board to fit near exact.

(1.) Measure and cut the required length of first Weatherboard (starting at the bottom of the wall) between either Corner Posts or Trims. The ends of Weatherboard may not have a slotted fixing section; this is for lapping on longer walls. (When a lap terminates in a trim, this shorter section can get cut off.)

(2.) Begin by bending the length slightly and slide into the trims at each end. It is much easier for two people to handle longer lengths. With one hand hold the front bottom of the Weatherboard and back of the Starter Strip and squeeze together, lifting at same time. You should feel the bottom of the Weatherboard slot into the starter strip. Move along the board making sure it is correctly slotted in, then check the level of board. Once the board is straight and level, screw the Weatherboard in the centre of the fixing slots. **Do not fix tightly; the head of the fixing screw should have a 1MM gap between the screw head and the cladding.** Fix Weatherboard at all appropriate fixing points (600MM Max). **Only Fix in the middle of Fixing Holes. Extend slots if this cannot be done.** Once the Weatherboard is fixed, sight along the top of the Weatherboard and check that the Weatherboard is not wavy. If it is, adjust necessary fixing screws to suit.

NOTE: For Sentry Weatherboard Installation, remove 50MM of foam insulation off the end of the boards where it slots into the corner posts. Also, please note our **Sentry** weatherboard range of darker colours expand and contract more (as darker materials absorb more heat); please allow for this with extra tolerances, call us if you are unsure about this process.

(3.) Cut the next Weatherboard and clip onto the previous Weatherboard following the same fixing techniques.



Check Weatherboards for level and adjust if necessary.
Remember **DO NOT FIX TIGHT**, this will cause boards to distort under expansion. **A GOOD PRACTICE is to grab the top of each board once installed and slide from side to side several times.** This will push foam backing away from fixing screws and prove that the weatherboard can expand/contract by itself in varying temperatures.

Step 5 (B) – Weatherboards around Window/Door Heads

Continue with the rest of the weatherboards until you reach the Window Heads. Window/Door Heads are to be cut as shown below.

The neater the cut around this head flashing the better it will look.

Note, the J Trim (upside down) is 5mm shorter than head flashing to let water out onto the head flashing. A little gap at the end of the head flashing is also necessary to allow expansion in the weatherboards.



Step 5 (C) – Weatherboards below Eave/Soffit J-TRIM:

When reaching the top of wall, rip cut the last weatherboard horizontally (if required) to fill in the remaining gap.

A small amount of neutral cure silicone inside the J-TRIM at the top of wall every 1 Metre will stop the top weatherboard from slipping down once clipped into place, or alternatively, a slot can be cut into the top of the weatherboard every 600mm, and the weatherboard can be fixed with screws by bending up J-TRIM to access these cut slots.

You would have now finished your cladding project. A quick wash down to remove any cutting dust is recommended. Please be a tidy kiwi with any waste material.



Remember:

- Allow for expansion in all components
- All trims - light tight is right.
- Weatherboards - ensure side to side slot movement once fixed.
- Take your time with getting the little things right, this can make the finished product just that little bit more perfect!

For Further Tips And Tricks, Do Not Hesitate To Contact Us On:

0800648836 or info@vinylcladding.co.nz

Happy Cladding!

The Team At Vinyl Cladding NZ