

Siding Installation: Guidelines and Best Practices

Pioneer Millworks wood siding, shiplap, and Shou Sugi Ban wood cladding is made in the USA and offers protection from the elements while providing good looks, texture, and color. To achieve the aesthetic and performance our cladding is known for, proper installation is essential.

Pioneer Millworks recommends that all our products be installed by a reputable, qualified, professional installer. With any construction project, there are many nuanced skills needed to yield the best results and long-term product performance. These instructions are just a guide, and are superseded by the building codes in your area. For Accoya® products please refer to their installation guide at accoya.com.

OVERVIEW

Recommended Materials List:

- Furring strips: typically 1-1/2" to 3" wide by 1/2" to 3/4" thick strips of solid wood cut to appropriate lengths for your install
- Furring Screws: No. 8 flat-head wood screw, 1-1/2" long, 316 Stainless Steel, auger point
- Siding Nails: 5/16" head, ring shank, 6D Penny Size, 2" Long, 316 Stainless Steel, diamond tip
- Cor-a-vent SV-3 or equivalent siding vent
- Touch up finish
- Vertical Installations:
 - Cor-a-vent Sturdi-Batten or equivalent
 - Or enough furring at 1-1/2" to 3" wide by 3/4" thick for a lattice installation (see Fig. B)
- Optional: Trim for windows, doors, and other openings

Installation Best Practices

Starting with a sheathed surface (typically covered with a weathertight vapor barrier), installation has five major steps.

Step 1: Acclimation – Prior to installation.

- Acclimation is key to minimizing or preventing wood movement. Siding **must** be un-bundled and acclimated in the environment where it will be installed for 10-14 days prior to installation.
- Siding must be protected from moisture with good air circulation. A canopy, carport, or an open garage will work. Or a setup like the (Fig. 1). Skipping this step or cutting the acclimation time short can cause gaps, cupping, warping, or buckling and can also cause damage to the boards as they move against the fasteners.

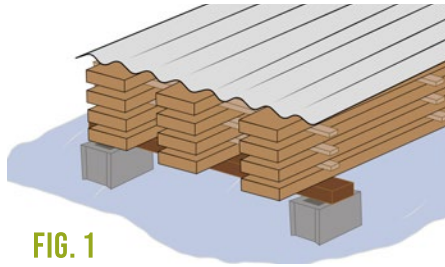


FIG. 1

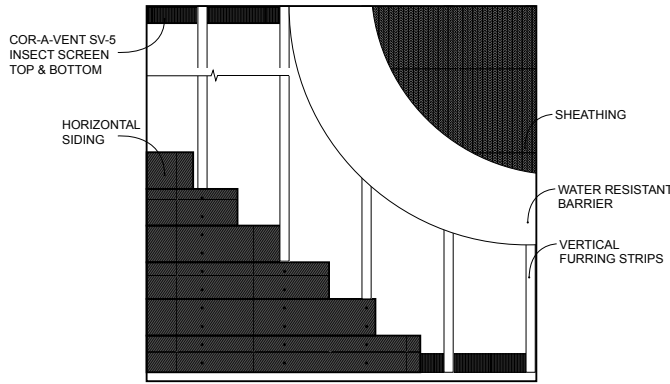
Step 2: Preparation – Prior to installation.

- Organize your siding by length (and by width if applicable).
- Maintaining a clean and organized workspace will help reduce the possibility of damage to the siding.
- Wear appropriate work clothes, gloves, masks, and eye and ear protection. Cutting wood will create sawdust and our Shou Sugi Ban products will shed some soot from cut ends and edges.
- Siding can be cut with conventional woodworking tools like circular saws, and miter saws. Make sure your cutting tools have sharp blades, and back the wood where necessary to prevent blow out.

Step 3: Install Furring Strips

- The furring strips, also referred to as battens or strapping, prevent direct contact of the wood siding with the weathertight vapor barrier, allowing it to ‘breathe’, preventing rot and product failure.
- We recommend using 3" wide by 1/2" thick solid wood strips for this purpose. Strips should be at least 3/8" thick for the minimum allowable air space.
- Use 3/4" thick furring strips if installing over ridged insulation.
- To allow moisture to run down to the bottom and out, furring strips should be arranged such that they do not collect water behind the siding.
- With any layout the main goal is to ensure that there is an open space for venting and drainage behind the siding and at the top and bottom where siding will be installed.

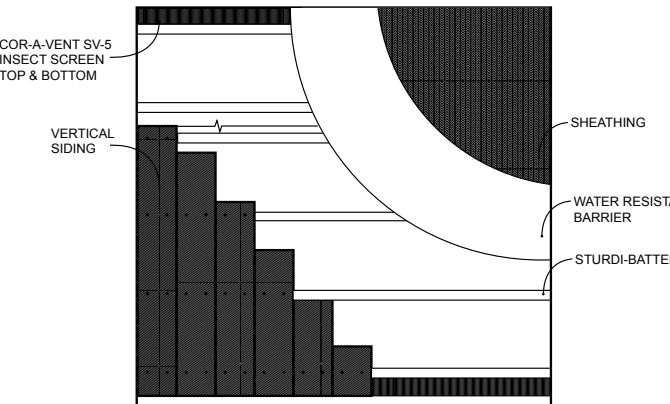
FIG. A



A. Installing Horizontal Siding

We recommend laying out the strips vertically with 12" of space between them.

FIG. B



B. Installing Vertical Siding

When installing your siding vertically, we recommend **two options**:

- Cor-a-vent Sturdi-Batten, or similar pre-made furring strips which allow water to drain through the strips. Install the strips horizontally, again with 12" of space in between them. **OR**
- Use the wood furring strips and install the furring vertically first. Then install another set of furring strips horizontally on top of the first set. This is called a lattice installation. Spacing should be the same for each of the vertical and horizontal furring strips at 12" of space in between them. With lattice installation, we recommend that the furring strips are 3/4" thick to provide additional stability.