

These instructions describe and illustrate the steps involved in installing CertainTeed siding and trim. Their purpose is to provide detailed information and how-to tips that will simplify the installation process. CertainTeed shall not accept any liability or responsibility under its written warranty for failure caused by application that does not meet our minimum requirements for proper installation. These requirements are outlined throughout the *CertainTeed Installation Guide (CTS205)*. Any deviations from these requirements should be approved in writing by CertainTeed Corporation.

Cutting

To cut panels to size, follow these procedures:

Cross cuts

For a precise cut, use a power circular saw equipped with a sharp, fine-tooth plywood blade. For best results, reverse the direction of the blade.

Cut one or two panels at a time, carefully advancing the saw through the vinyl. A rule of thumb: The lower the temperature, the slower the feed rate.

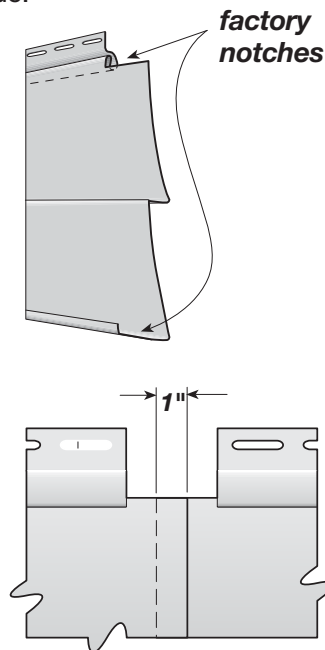
Panels can also be cut with snips. Use a square to mark the cut line. Start the cut at the top lock and continue to the bottom of the panel.

NOTE: Whenever you cross cut a panel to be used in an overlap area, you also have to duplicate the factory notch at the cut end.

Rip cuts

Use a utility knife to score the panel along the cut line. Bend the panel back and forth along the score line until it snaps apart cleanly.

Use a combination of tin snips and utility knife to cut panels to fit around windows and doors.



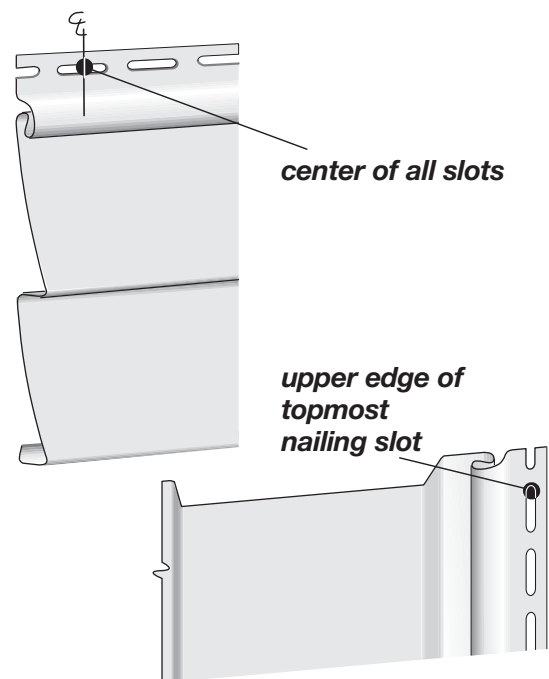
Nailing

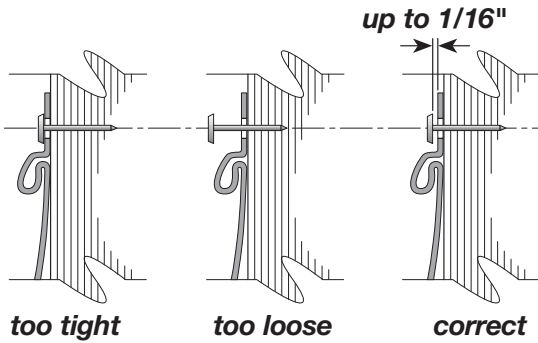
If you want to save yourself lost time and frustration, carefully observe the following guidelines when installing accessories, siding panels, soffit, or porch ceilings.

Lock the panel and begin nailing at the center of the panel, working toward the ends. This helps maintain a level line.

With horizontal accessories and panels, position the nails in the center of the elongated nailing slots to allow for expansion and contraction. Never nail through the panel surface.

With vertical accessories and panels, position the **first nail** at the **upper edge of the topmost nailing slot**. This allows a panel to hang from the nail. Position the remaining nails in the center of the nailing slots. Allow for 1/3 of the total expansion at the top and 2/3 of the total expansion at the bottom.





Do not nail too tightly. To permit expansion and contraction, panels should hang freely from nails. This allows the panels to move as the temperature changes. Drive the nails until there is between 1/8" to 1/16" of space between the nail head and the nailing flange.

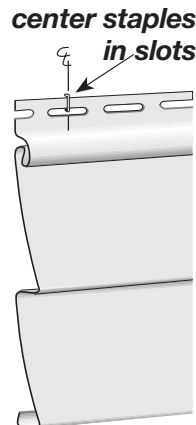
Drive the nails straight in. Do not angle nails.

Per the ASTM specification for vinyl siding installation (D4756), proper nail penetration is at least 3/4". In most cases, that requires anchoring to the studs.

If code permits, nails can be spaced a maximum of 16" apart. (In new construction, nail to studs on 16" centers. Do not skip studs.) Elongate factory nail slots if necessary to hit a stud. **Check with your local building code official for special requirements.**

Other fastening techniques:

Manual nailing is the most common way of fastening vinyl siding to a wall. You also can use power screwdrivers or pneumatic staplers/nailers to attach vinyl siding to a wall. If you choose to use one of these alternate techniques, follow the earlier recommendations for nail positioning and spacing and the recommendations for substrate preparation. In addition, be sure to observe the following guidelines:



Power screwdrivers

Use noncorrosive, self-tapping truss head screws. Screws must have at least 5/16" diameter head and 1/8" diameter shaft. Screws must be at least 1-1/8" long. If underlayment is less than 3/4" thick and is not considered a nailable surface (for example, foam or exterior grade gypsum), be sure screws are long enough to penetrate at least 3/4" into wood studs or substrate, 1/8" through steel studs. Be sure screws are centered in the nail slot. Leave 1/16"-1/8" space between the screw head and the panel nailing flange.

Pneumatic staplers/nailers

Use corrosion-resistant fasteners only. Fasteners must be centered in the nail slot, no more than 16" on center.

Fasteners must penetrate a nailable surface at least 3/4". Be sure to leave up to 1/16" between the fastener and the panel nailing flange. If you're using a power stapler, drive the staple perpendicular to the nailing slot with one leg of the staple centered in the slot and the other leg above the panel.

If you have any questions about these installation instructions, please call us at 1-800-233-8990.