Important

Before you begin, take the time to read this entire guide to clearly understand the requirements and steps to follow for proper installation.

NOTE: Handle shingles carefully to avoid scuffing due to mishandling.

Cedar Impressions® Individual Shingle products are not designed for roof application. They are designed solely for installation on vertical surfaces. The shingles must be installed over a solid flat substrate with nail holding strength such as plywood or OSB (minimum 7/16" thick). The wall itself must be flat as the shingles will follow the undulations in the wall.

Building codes and regulations vary throughout the country. Be sure to check with your local code official or governing body for building requirements in your area.

Preparing Wall Surfaces

The key to successful siding application is proper preparation of the wall and nailing surface. It is essential that you work over a smooth/flat nailing surface. The more level and even the wall surface, the better the finished installation will look. Shingles must be installed over a solid substrate such as plywood or OSB.

Make sure sheathing is fastened securely to studs. If you’re planning to use a conventional house wrap or building felt, apply according to the manufacturer’s recommendations. In all cases, however, install the products so they are secured firmly to the substrate so that they provide a smooth, even surface for the final siding installation.

Individual Shingles are exterior cladding; they are not a complete weather resistant barrier. Before applying siding, make certain the substrate is watertight. In order to be protected from precipitation, the substrate may need to be properly flashed around areas such as windows, doors, other openings and corners so as to shed water to the exterior. Refer to CertainTeed Installation Guide for proper flashing around windows. The siding alone is not meant to be a watertight barrier.

Tool and Fastener Requirements

**Tools required**
- Hammer
- Tape measure
- Square
- Chalk line
- Level
- Utility knife

**Fasteners**

CertainTeed requires the use of stainless steel or other equally corrosion-resistant fasteners. Failure to do so may lead to early corrosion and leaching or staining on the shingle surface which is not covered in the warranty.

**Staples:**
- Stainless steel staples with 7/16" crown, minimum 16 gauge, minimum 1-1/2" long

**Nails:**
- Stainless steel or hot dipped galvanized roofing nails minimum 1-1/2" long, with minimum head diameter of 5/16"

**Screws:**
- Use stainless steel #6 (bugle or truss) head 1-1/2" long screws. (for use with mitered outside corner)

NOTE: Check with your local code official or governing body for the building requirements for fasteners in your area.
Features of Cedar Impressions
Individual Shingle Siding

There are seven different shingle widths that vary from 4” to 8” (widths are engraved within the staple zone). Shingles are 12” long and required exposure is 5”. Installation is made simpler with these easily identifiable features marked on the front the shingles.

Pre-formed Holes
For hand nailing application

Exposure and Keyway Spacing

Use a 5” exposure. Hash marks provided on the front of the shingle are aligned to the top of the prior course to aide in maintaining the proper exposure.

Recommended keyway spacing is 1/4” between shingles (1/8” minimum). The edges should not touch. The keyway joints allow for expansion and prevent buckling. The keyway spacings on consecutive rows must be offset a minimum 1-1/2” to ensure fasteners of under course are not visible.

Cutting Shingles

Shingles can be easily cut with a utility knife or chop saw. When filling a space with a partial shingle, avoid using shingle widths less than 2”. Partial width shingles need to have at least two back support ribs.

Utility knife: Using a straight edge press firmly down with utility knife to cut through shingle. Avoid cut scoring and folding the shingle as this will cause a stress-whitened edge, instead continue to cut directly through the shingle.

Saw cuts: For a precise cut, use a saw equipped with a sharp, 40-tooth carbide blade mounted in the standard (not backwards) position.
Fastening Shingles

Fasten within the fastener target zone using two staples per shingle. An alternative is to use a siding or roofing nail through the pre-formed holes within the fastener target zone.

When using a pneumatic stapler, drive the staple horizontally in the fastener target zone. Fasteners should be driven flush with the surface of the shingle. Underdriving or overdriving fasteners will affect the integrity of the installation. Depending on the manufacturer, stapler adjustments may be required to meet the driving requirements. **We recommend the use of a test piece to adjust staple depth.**

For partial shingles where the staple zone is removed (i.e. – finishing the top course), pre-drill holes and fasten with appropriate length nails.

**Note:** For installations below 40 degrees you must fasten the shingles using nails in the pre-formed holes in the stapling zones. Shingles pneumatically stapled in these temperatures may crack due to cold temperature and such cracking is NOT covered by the product limited warranty.

Mixing Variegated Color Shades

**Avoiding Patterns**

**NOTE:** Color shades are boxed separately. When using multiple color shades, you must mix color shades and shingle widths to achieve a natural appearance.

To ensure your installation has a natural appearance you must be sure to mix shingle widths and color shades randomly on the wall. It is suggested to place an equal amount of shingles from each shade of color into a separate working bin. Pull shingles from the bin so that color and widths of shingles are distributed across the wall and no repeating patterns are created.

Shingle widths: 4”, 4-1/4”, 4-1/2”, 5”, 5-3/4”, 6-3/4”, 8”

Installing the Starter Course

Strike a level line around the house to establish a straight reference line to guide the positioning of the starter course of siding. The starter course must extend at least 1” past the sheathing to allow for proper drainage.

The starter course has two layers of shingles. Use full shingle lengths (12”) for the first layer. The starter offset line at the top of the panel will aide in aligning the second layer so it extends 1/2” below the first layer.

Start at one end of the wall varying shingle widths and color shades (if using more than one color shade) as you progress across the wall.

**Note:** The butt line of the lowest course must allow a minimum spacing of 1” from decks, patios, rooflines and other hard surfaces. Consult local building codes for minimum spacing of cladding from grade.

Installing Remaining Courses

Install remaining courses in a single layer on the rest of the wall according to the 5” exposure by aligning the course hash marks on the shingle you are installing with the TOP of the previous course. Snapping additional chalk lines will help keep your courses straight and level.

Shingles come in various widths, so make sure that the keyways are not aligned over subsequent courses. Keyway spacing is a minimum 1-1/2” from the shingles in the previous course.

**Note:** Finished appearance is improved when you avoid using cut partial shingles in the wall infill. It is best to butt the cut edges into window, door and corner trim boards.
Accessories and Trim
We recommend the use of Restoration Millwork cellular PVC trim. If pocketed accessories are desired, a 1" minimum pocket height is required to cover the built-up shingle projection. Shingles must maintain a 1/16" minimum clearance from any trim edge.

Finishing the Top Course
To finish the top course of the siding, apply a trim board over the shingles to conceal the fasteners. First determine the shingle length required to fill the remaining space. Be sure to plan for trim width, fastening and shims if used. Two fasteners are required to secure the shingle to the wall. Partial shingles with no staple zone will require pre-drilling and hand nailing.

Under a window or opening
As above, apply a trim board to conceal the fasteners. Partial shingles with no staple zone will require pre-drilling and hand nailing.

Over a window or opening
Shingles installed above window and door headers must be spaced 1/4" to 1/2" above the flashing to ensure proper drainage.

Gables and at the Rake
Similar to the top course under a soffit or window, cut shingles to appropriate angle, pre-drill and fasten using at least two staples or nails. Apply a trim board over the shingles to conceal the fasteners.

Estimating: Refer to CertainTeed Vinyl and Polymer Siding Installation Guide, Section 5.
Transporting & Storage: Refer to CertainTeed Vinyl and Polymer Siding Installation Guide, Section 4.
Features of Cedar Impressions
Individual Shingle Mitered Corner Piece
The mitered corner accessory is used to create an authentic woven shingle corner appearance. Staggered coursing requires the corner shingles to be installed at the same time as the infield shingles. Some trimming of the infield shingles will be necessary to maintain the correct keyway spacing. For the best natural appearance, be sure to mix all three color shades randomly up the corner and on the wall (if mixing shades).

Creating the Offset
The corners are designed with a trimmable face width that allows up to 9 different offset configurations to be created. No measuring is required, the ribs on the backside of the corner are spaced for 3", 4-1/2" and 6" face widths.

Recommended Stagger Configuration

Cut Corners to Width
Cut shingle widths to size using the edge of the rib on the backside of the corner. Cut along the outer edge leaving the rib intact. (see Figure 2A). With a utility knife make several passes along the rib until the blade cuts completely through the part. Another option is to use a guillotine-type shear such as the Bullet Tools Siding Shear. (Figure 2B).

DO NOT score and fold the shingle as this will cause a stress-whitened edge.

Fastening Shingle Corners
Fasten within the fastener target zone using one fastener minimum per side to secure the corner to the wall. Screws are the preferred fastener for corners as it is easier to adjust a corner if it moves during fastening. Use stainless steel #6 (bugle or truss) head 1-1/2" long screws. Use holes formed in the staple zone to position screws prior to installation (Figure 3A). Staples or nails may also be used, but adjustments to misaligned corners will be difficult (Figure 3B).
Installing the Starter Course
Run the first layer of the starter course all the way to the outside corner (see gray shingles in Figure 4). Align the top of the first corner piece to the starter 1/2" offset line and secure to wall (Figure 5).

Installing Remaining Courses
Work the corner weave up both sides at the same time as the adjacent shingle pieces are coursed. Continue to work toward the opposite corner of the wall (Figure 6). A partial shingle may be necessary to complete the course (see Figures 7). Maintain correct width, exposure and keyway spacing when fitting partial shingles into the infill (Figure 8).

ProTips™: Not all walls are perfectly square. Screws can provide temporary assistance. Screws can be used as an alternative to staples or nails. Screws offer flexibility in making adjustments to the corner position to get the best appearance prior to permanently fastening with nails or staples. Use stainless steel #6 (bugle or truss) head 1-1/2" long screws.

©06/17 CertainTeed Corporation, Printed in USA Code No. CTS473