



TOPCOAT® exterior cladding Horizontal panelling



TOPCOAT® is a fully pre-painted cladding panel with tongues on all four sides that allows hidden fastening. Hidden fastening enables a completely nail-free façade. Hidden fastening also improves weather resistance, because water and impurities cannot seep through nail heads and damage the wood. TOPCOAT® cladding panels also have tongues on all four sides, which allows flexible joint placement during installation. TOPCOAT® cladding panel does not require any on-site surface treatment after installation. Handle TOPCOAT® cladding panels with care so as not to damage the painted surface.

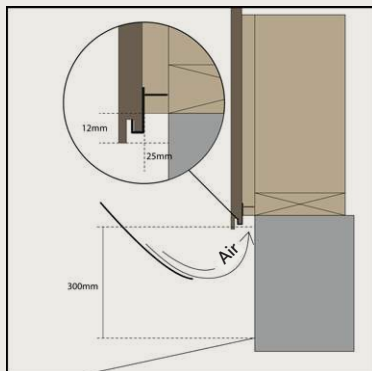
Horizontal cladding panel installation

1. STORAGE

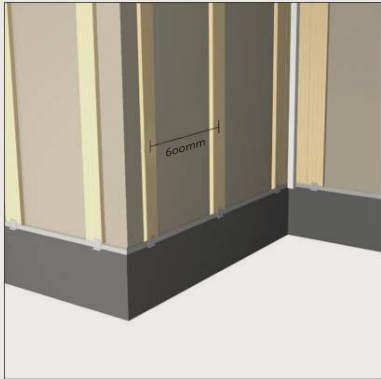
Cladding panels must be stored on an even surface and well protected on every side. The wood panels must be kept away from direct sunlight, burning heat and moisture. The cladding panels must be stored at least 10 cm off the ground to enable free air circulation.

2. INSTALLATION OF FURRING STRIPS

Cladding panels are mounted to furring strips. The purpose of the furring strips is to ensure free circulation of air behind the cladding and to prevent the concentration of moisture behind the panels. Use at least 25 mm thick and 100 mm wide furring strips to secure a ventilation gap of at least 20 mm between the building structure and the panels. The c/c spacing between the furring strips may not exceed 600 mm. If the furring strips are fastened more than 600 mm apart, design the structure again.



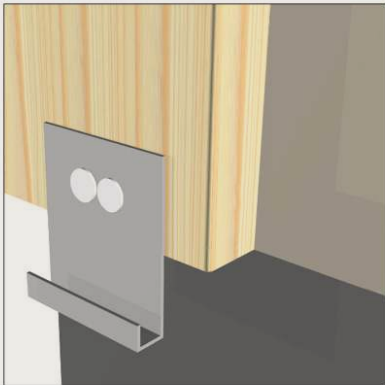
The ventilation gap must allow air to circulate freely. When the cladding panels are installed horizontally, the furring strips must be installed vertically. The c/c spacing between the furring strips may not exceed 600 mm. If the furring strips are fastened more than 600 mm apart, design the structure again.



3. STARTING THE INSTALLATION

Start the cladding panel installation at least 30 cm off the ground surface. The cladding may not touch the ground at any point.

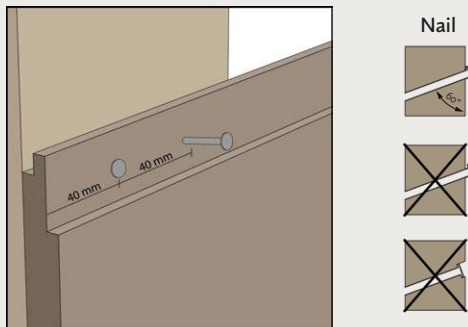
The installation of horizontal cladding is started by fastening the starter hooks. Fasten the starter hooks to the furring strips with screws 600 mm apart. Use a spirit level or laser to check that the starter hooks are aligned straight. Using starter hooks makes it possible to achieve a completely nail-free façade surface. If you want to protect your house with a small animal mesh, install the mesh before installing the hooks.



4. FASTENING THE CLADDING PANELS

A Fastening the cladding panels with nails

Insert the groove of the cladding panel into the fastening hook and fasten it from the tongue into the furring strip with a nail. Panels with a hidden fastening are fastened from the tongue to each furring strip with two nails. The nailing distance from the panel end must be at least 40 mm to prevent cracking of the panel.

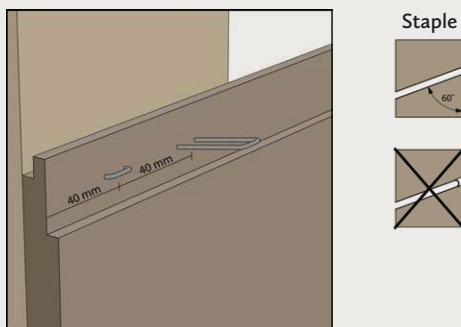


Drive the nails 40 mm apart. Make sure that the nails are not driven too deep so as to damage the panel surface. The nails may not protrude from the surface either. Use 2.1 mm / 2.3 mm x 50 mm hot-dip zinc-coated nails for fastening the cladding panels. You will need 3.5 nails/running metre (c/c 600).

B Fastening the cladding panels with staples

Cladding panels can also be fastened with staples. Staples are easier to drive into the tongue of the panel, and the risk of cracking the tongue is smaller than with nails. Use 50 mm x 11 mm x 1.6 mm stainless steel staples for fastening the cladding panels. Use two staples at each fastening point. You will need 3.5 staples/running metre (c/c 600). Drive the staples into the fastening groove in tongue of the panels. The staples should be 40 mm apart. Use staples that are intended for outdoor use. The fastening distance from the end of the panel must be at least 40 mm to prevent cracking of the panel.

A stapler, staple aligner and staples suitable for fastening can be obtained from Siparila.

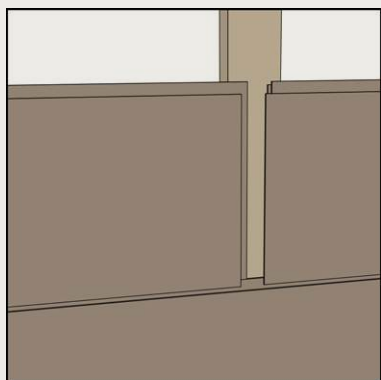


ALWAYS FASTEN THE CLADDING PANELS AT THE CENTRE OF THE TONGUE. THE TONGUE OF THE PANEL MAY CRACK IF THE PANELS ARE FASTENED FROM ABOVE AT THE TOP PART OF THE TONGUE. FASTENING FROM THE BOTTOM PART OF THE TONGUE WILL LEAVE THE FASTENING MARKS VISIBLE.

MAKE SURE THAT EACH CLADDING PANEL IS FASTENED TO EACH FURRING STRIP WITH TWO STAPLES OR NAILS.

5. ALIGNING THE TONGUED END PANEL

In horizontal cladding, cladding panels with tongues on all four sides allows flexible joint placement and the joint need not be aligned to the furring strip. Make sure that the tongues have been pushed in all the way before fastening the cladding panel.



6. PAINTING OF CUT SURFACES/LEAD-THROUGHS

When the TOPCOAT® cladding panel needs to be cut during installation, be sure to paint the cut surfaces with plenty of paint IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORKING. Also paint any lead-throughs with plenty of paint immediately after working. Lead-throughs mean the penetrations needed for electrical and HEPAC installations that break the façade surface. If the cut surfaces are left unpainted, this may give rise to cracks on the panel surface when the wood moves when the temperature and moisture levels change.

ALWAYS FASTEN THE CLADDING PANELS AT THE CENTRE OF THE TONGUE. THE TONGUE OF THE PANEL MAY CRACK IF THE PANELS ARE FASTENED FROM ABOVE AT THE TOP PART OF THE TONGUE. FASTENING FROM THE BOTTOM PART OF THE TONGUE WILL LEAVE THE FASTENING MARKS VISIBLE.

MAKE SURE THAT EACH CLADDING PANEL IS FASTENED TO EACH FURRING STRIP WITH TWO STAPLES OR NAILS.

WHENEVER THE FACTORY-PAINTED SURFACE IS BROKEN, BE SURE TO IMMEDIATELY APPLY TOUCH-UP PAINTING ON IT. IF YOU NOTICE ANY DENTS IN THE TOPCOAT® PANELS DURING INSTALLATION, TOUCH-UP PAINT THEM WITH THE PAINT SUPPLIED WITH THE DELIVERY