



IMPORTANT INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

READ BEFORE INSTALLING GEMTHANE SIDING

INSTALLATION HIGHLIGHTS

Our goal is to supply the highest quality wood and coating in the industry. In the event that a board is not satisfactory for some reason, do not install. For assistance, call 1(800) 879-3704 and your call will be directed to one of our GemThane Siding System representatives.

Install GemThane Siding in compliance with applicable building codes and good industry practices. Only a few installations are mandatory to maintain warranty protection. These are as follows.

STORAGE

- When storing outdoor always cover the siding after a day's work
- When storing for period longer than one week; store indoor in a ventilated unheated area

SKIRT BOARDS

In preparation for the installation of a skirt board at the bottom of every wall, run a strip of Typar horizontally along the bottom of the wall. The Typar strip must be wide enough to cover the sheathing at least 3 inches above and 1 inch below the skirt board (Typar that projects below skirt board can be trimmed after board is installed). Install skirt board with two nails per stud. Install aluminum flashing above the skirt board. Clearance of board lower edge from ground must be 4" or such greater distance as dictated by local building code. Skirt board may be omitted so long as bottom of siding is at least 12" vertically from structure below or from ground and projects out horizontally from foundation or other structure behind by not less than 1 ½" (4 cm). The above should meet building code in your area but check with municipal inspector.

BUILDING WRAP

Use Typar brand building wrap as it drains more readily than other brands. Typar overlaps must be 6" minimum. Typar must also overlap skirt-board flashing (can be trimmed after siding installed). Around windows and doors, apply Typar as per manufacturer's instructions. Place an extra layer of Typar around all window and door openings at least 12" wide. The top strip must lap the side strips and the side strips must lap the bottom strip. The bottom strip must lap the board below by 1/2".

CREATING A DRAINAGE PLANE

Performance Plus (strapping not required)

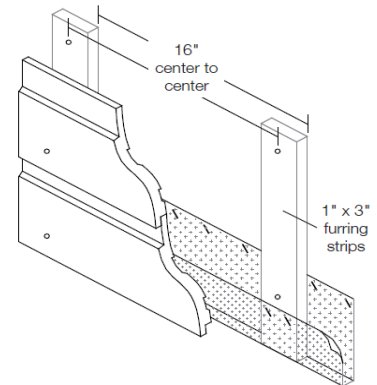
GemThane Performance Plus Siding is completely sealed on the back and does not require an air space between it and the Typar in order to comply with the GemThane warranty. In other words, it is not necessary to strap the building when installing GemThane Siding. However, some Building Codes now require a "drainage plane" in order to dissipate rainwater or meltwater to the exterior. One way of complying is of course to strap the building but this is expensive, time consuming and unnecessary. To meet the Code requirement, we suggest one of the following inexpensive and quick solutions.

Procure rolls of sill plate gasket (this is the waterproof foam used in construction to separate base plate of stud walls from a concrete floor). The recommended brand is FoamSealR from Owens Corning. The narrow rolls (3 1/2") are fine. Apply vertical strips on 16" – 24" centers on the walls to which siding will be applied. It is critical to face the ribbed side outwards. Staple in position.

The competition requires strapping; otherwise their warranty is void! This is not the case with GemThane Performance Plus siding.

Value Plus (strapping required)

The reverse side of Value Plus siding is sealed only at overlap points. Therefore it must be installed over furring strips to ensure airflow, allow for moisture drainage and reduce the risk of premature aging. To keep insects out, staple screening at the base of the wall. Fold back and fasten over the furring strips before installing the first row of siding. (See illustration)



INSTALLING VERTICAL SIDING

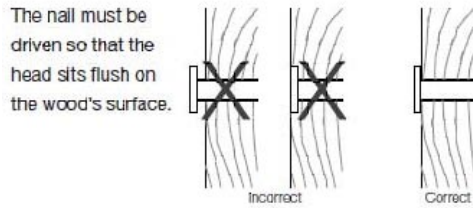
From our perspective, when installing GemThane Performance Plus Wood Siding vertically, neither strapping nor sill gasket are required because the anti cupping groove on the back of the siding will provide the "drainage plane" required under the building code. Some building inspectors may require separation from the house wrap; in that case, horizontal sill gasket can be used while still allowing the anti-cupping grooves to provide the secondary plane required by the code and without trapping water like horizontal wood strapping will.

To ensure that the nails have a strong hold on vertical installations, we recommend using 5/8" or thicker plywood or less expensive OSB sheathing.

NAILS

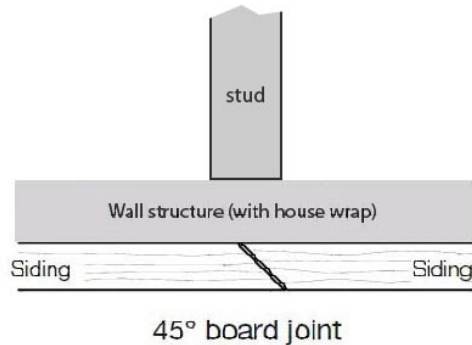
Approved nails (supplied by GemThane) must be used. Two nails per board are recommended to prevent warping. Some installers prefer to use only 1 nail per board. While this does not void the warranty it is not a recommended practice. Warping and cracking are not covered by warranty. Refer to Nail Choice Memorandum, available from GemThane factory or at www.gemthanesiding.com.

GemThane allows the use of approved air nails. Any nails that penetrate the surface of the wood MUST be retouched with GemThane Cottage Coat in order to reseal the surface and maintain the warranty. For touchup, use artist brush or Q-Tips. Wipe off excess with a rag dampened with GemThane VR-2 Reducer.



END JOINTS

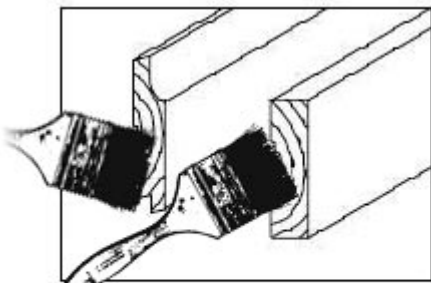
End joint - board to board: Join the boards, using a 45° angle bevel cut. Seal ends with touch-up (see on-site touch-up below).



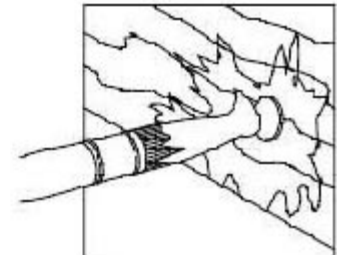
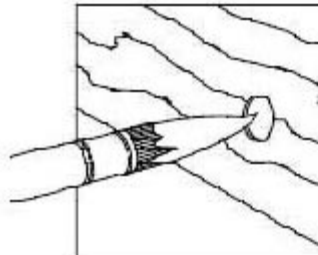
ON-SITE TOUCH-UP

All ends of boards must be coated on site, whether they have been cut on site or not, with approved Touch-Up Kit.

All damage to coating must be touched up with approved Touch-Up Kit. Including exposed wood where nail head is recessed into the wood surface. (TIP: touch up points of penetration with a Q-tip or artistic brush dipped in recommended touch-up material).



Wipe excess off front of board to prevent "blotchiness"



Do not spill over; wipe excess off with rag dampened with VR-2 reducer to prevent "blotchiness". If shininess or blotchiness occur, or if the coating is too thick, add 10-20% VR-2 reducer.

Do not use caulking to seal/touch up board to board joints or ends of boards.

CAULKING

All joints (e.g. around windows and doors and at corners) must be continuously caulked. Warranty does not cover where water has penetrated at joints

Note: do not caulk 45 degree board –to- board end joint; the touch-up kit is used to seal the end board and the board- to- board joints