



Homeowner Questions About Installing Siding

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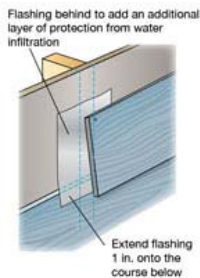
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The installers got mud on the board during the installation? Will mud or dirt clean off of the board?

Depending on site conditions, dirt or mud may get onto the surface of the siding during installation. All James Hardie Siding Products with ColorPlus Technology come with a protective laminate cover, intended to protect the products during shipping, storage and installation. The installers should make every effort to keep the laminate sheet on the product during installation. Dirt or mud can be cleaned off the products using water and soft bristled brush if needed.

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What should the installers do where the boards meet in the middle of the wall?

The installer will create a butt-joint using "factory-to-factory" finished ends. Behind the joint will be a flashing detail to keep water from getting behind the siding. Caulk or other sealants should not be used in butt-joints. If a cut end is used, it should be painted using a James Hardie touch-up kit.

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The installers left gaps between the siding and the roof, deck and porch. Why did they do this?

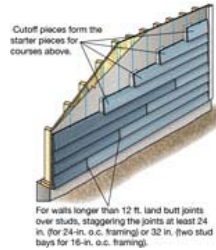
The gaps are left to ensure proper drainage of water and protect your siding.

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Should the installers stagger butt-joints in a particular pattern?

A pattern is not required. Butt-joints should be placed in a manner that is pleasing to the eye. Patterns that draw your eye to the joints should be avoided. The butt-joints should be off-set by a minimum of 24”.



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**Should the installers have gallons of touch-up paint?**

ColorPlus touch-up paint is available in “kit” form only. The kit includes a dabber and paint pen. The touch-up kits use specially formulated paint designed to offer the same level of performance as our factory applied paint. “Store bought” paint does not fade or weather at the same rate and may look different over time.

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What type of caulk should the installer be using? How closely should the color match the siding?

The installer should use a high quality color matched caulk that meets or exceeds ASTM C834 or ASTM C920. The ASTM numbers can be found on the tube of caulk. Caulks that do not meet one of these standards should not be used.

The caulk should be labeled with the corresponding ColorPlus color (e.g. Khaki Brown). Because caulk is a different consistency than paint, caulk will not match the siding color exactly. For this reason, caulk should not be used on the face of the siding.

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Do you need special tools to install James Hardie siding?

Tools used to install wood siding or other wood-based siding products can be used to install James Hardie Siding Products. The only special tool suggested is a fiber cement saw blade made by Freud, available at most local hardware stores. This will make cutting easier and reduce the dust produced during cutting.

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Can I install James Hardie siding products myself?

Yes, however we recommend you use a professional, qualified James Hardie contractor.

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Does James Hardie provide installation services?

James Hardie can provide you with a list of remodel contractors in your area. You can contact them [directly](#) to discuss your installation needs.

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Where is the best place to buy James Hardie products?

James Hardie Siding Products cannot be purchased directly by homeowners from James Hardie. Products are available through traditional building material dealers.

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Still need help? Our team of pros is available to answer [all of your installation](#)

[questions.](#)



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