**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

- These instructions to be used for single family installations only. **For Commercial / Multi-Family installation requirements go to www.JamesHardieCommercial.com**

**HardiePanel® vertical siding can be installed over braced wood or steel studs, 20 gauge (33 mils) minimum to 16 gauge (54 mils) maximum, spaced a maximum of 24 in o.c. or directly to minimum 7/16 in thick OSB sheathing. See General Fastening Requirements. Irregularities in framing and sheathing can mirror through the finished application. Correct irregularities before installing siding.**

- Information on installing James Hardie products over non-nailable substrates (ex: gypsum, foam, etc.) can be located at www.jameshardie.com.

**A water-resistive barrier is required in accordance with local building code requirements. The water-resistive barrier must be appropriately installed with penetration and junction flashing in accordance with local building code requirements. James Hardie will assume no responsibility for water infiltration. James Hardie does manufacture HardieWrap® Weather Barrier, a non-woven non-perforned housewrap¹, which complies with building code requirements.**

- Adjacent finished grade must slope away from the building in accordance with local building codes - typically a minimum of 6 in. in the first 10 ft.

- **Do not use HardiePanel lap siding in Fascia or Trim applications.**

**STORE & HANDLING:**

- Store flat and keep dry and covered prior to installation. Installing siding wet or saturated may result in shrinkage at butt joints. Carry planks on edge. Protect edges and corners from breakage. James Hardie is not responsible for damage caused by improper storage and handling of the product.

**OUTDOORS:**

1. Position cutting station so that airflow blows dust away from the user and others near the cutting area.

2. Cut using one of the following methods:
   a. **Best:** Circular saw equipped with a HardieBlade® saw blade and attached vacuum dust collection system. Shears (manual, pneumatic or electric) may also be used, not recommended for products thicker than 7/16 in.
   b. **Better:** Circular saw equipped with a dust collection feature (e.g. Roan® saw) and a HardieBlade saw blade.
   c. **Good:** Circular saw equipped with a HardieBlade saw blade.

**INDOORS:**

- **DO NOT grind or cut with a power saw indoors. Cut using shears (manual, pneumatic or electric) or the score and snap method, not recommended for products thicker than 7/16 in.**

- **DO NOT dry sweep dust: use wet dust suppression or vacuum to collect dust.**

- Always follow the equipment manufacturer’s instructions for proper operation.

**INSTALLATION:**

- **Fastener**

  Position fasteners 3/8 in from panel edges and no closer than 2 in away from corners. Do not nail into corners.

  - HardiePanel vertical siding must be joined on stud.
  - Double stud may be required to maintain minimum edge nailing distances.
  - When screws are used to attach panels to steel studs/turining, the screws shall have wing tips. If screws do not have wing tips, then pre-drilling is required. (Not applicable when using pins) Follow chart below for pre-drilling.

- **Joint Treatment**

  - **Vertical Joints - Install panels in moderate contact (fig. 1), alternatively joints may also be covered with battens, PVC or metal jointers or caulked (Not applicable to ColorPlus® Finish) (fig. 2).**
  - **Horizontal Joints - Provide Z-flashing at all horizontal joints (fig. 3).**

**Values can be found in the Technical Bulletin “Expansion Characteristics of James Hardie® Siding Products” at www.jameshardie.com.**

**Cutting Instructions:**

- **For best performance when cutting with a circular saw, James Hardie recommends**

  - For maximum dust reduction, James Hardie recommends using the “Best” cutting practices. Always follow the equipment manufacturer’s instructions for proper operation.
  - For best performance when cutting with a circular saw, James Hardie recommends using HardieBlade® saw blades.
  - Go to jameshardiepros.com for additional cutting and dust control recommendations.

**Important:** The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulates workplace exposure to silica dust. For construction sites, OSHA has deemed that cutting fiber cement with a circular saw having a blade diameter less than 8 inches and connected to a commercially available dust collection system per manufacturer’s instructions results in exposures below the OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) for respirable crystalline silica, without the need for additional respiratory protection.

If you are unsure about how to comply with OSHA silica dust regulations, consult a qualified industrial hygienist or safety professional, or contact your James Hardie technical sales representative for assistance. James Hardie makes no representation or warranty that adopting a particular cutting practice will assure your compliance with OSHA rules or other applicable laws and safety requirements.

---

**TABLE:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCREW</th>
<th>PRE-DRILL</th>
<th>HEAD DIAMETER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 8</td>
<td>7/32 in</td>
<td>Min 0.323 in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 10</td>
<td>1/4 in</td>
<td>Min 0.323 in</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Diagram:**

- **Figure 1:** Vertical Siding
  - Sheathing
  - HardiePanel vertical siding
  - Moderate contact

- **Figure 2:** Batten Joint
  - Water-resistive barrier
  - 2 x 4 stud

- **Figure 3:** Z-flashing
  - Upper panel
  - Lower panel

**Recommendation:** When installing Sierra 8, provide a double stud at panel joints to avoid nailing through grooves.

---

**Notes:**

- *Apply caulk in accordance with caulk manufacturer’s written application instructions.
- *James Hardie recommends installing a rain screen (air gap) between the HardiePanel siding and the water-resistive barrier as a best practice. James Hardie recommends that you consult your design professional if you have questions regarding the use of rain screen on your single family project.
- *For additional information on HardieBlade®, Weather Barrier, consult James Hardie at 1-866-4Hardie or www.hardiewrap.com.

---

Visit jameshardiepros.com for the most recent version.
CLEARANCE AND FLASHING REQUIREMENTS

GENERAL FASTENING REQUIREMENTS

Refer to the applicable ESR report online to determine which fastener meets your wind load design criteria.

Fasteners must be corrosion resistant, galvanized, or stainless steel. Electro-galvanized are acceptable but may exhibit premature corrosion. James Hardie recommends the use of quality, hot-dipped galvanized nails. James Hardie is not responsible for the corrosion resistance of fasteners. Stainless steel fasteners are recommended when installing James Hardie® products near the ocean, large bodies of water, or in very humid climates.

Manufacturers of ACQ and CA preservative-treated wood recommend spacer materials or other physical barriers to prevent direct contact of ACQ or CA preservative-treated wood and aluminum products. Fasteners used to attach HardieTrim Tabs to preservative-treated wood shall be of hot-dipped zinc-coated galvanized steel or stainless steel and in accordance to 2009 IRC R317.3 or 2009 IBC 2304.9.5

- Consult applicable product evaluation or listing for correct fasteners type and placement to achieve specified design wind loads.
- NOTE: Published wind loads may not be applicable to all areas where Local Building Codes have specific jurisdiction. Consult James Hardie Technical Services if you are unsure of applicable compliance documentation.
- Drive fasteners perpendicular to siding and framing.
- Fastener heads should fit snug against siding (no air space).
- NOTE: Whenever a structural member is present, HardiePanel® should be fastened with even spacing to the structural member. The tables allowing direct to OSB or plywood should only be used when traditional framing is not available.
**PNEUMATIC FASTENING**

James Hardie products can be hand nailed or fastened with a pneumatic tool. Pneumatic fastening is highly recommended. Set air pressure so that the fastener is driven snug with the surface of the siding. A flush mount attachment on the pneumatic tool is recommended. This will help control the depth the nail is driven. If setting the nail depth proves difficult, choose a setting that under drives the nail. (Drive under driven nails snug with a smooth faced hammer - Does not apply for installation to steel framing).

**CUT EDGE TREATMENT**

Caulk, paint or prime all field cut edges. James Hardie touch-up kits are required to touch-up ColorPlus products.

**CAULKING**

For best results use an Elastomeric Joint Sealant complying with ASTM C920 Grade NS, Class 25 or higher or a Latex Joint Sealant complying with ASTM C834. Caulking/Sealant must be applied in accordance with the caulking/sealant manufacturer’s written instructions. **Note: some caulking manufacturers do not allow “tooling”**.

**PAINTING**

DO NOT use stain, oil/alkyd base paint, or powder coating on James Hardie® products.

James Hardie products must be painted within 180 days for primed product and 90 days for unprimed. 100% acrylic topcoats are recommended. Do not paint when wet.

For application rates refer to paint manufacturers specifications. Back-rolling is recommended if the siding is sprayed.

**PAINTING JAMES HARDIE® SIDING AND TRIM PRODUCTS WITH COLORPLUS® TECHNOLOGY**

When repainting ColorPlus products, James Hardie recommends the following regarding surface preparation and topcoat application:

- Ensure the surface is clean, dry, and free of any dust, dirt, or mildew
- Repriming is normally not necessary
- 100% acrylic topcoats are recommended
- DO NOT use stain, oil/alkyd base paint, or powder coating on James Hardie® Products.
- Apply finish coat in accordance with paint manufacturers written instructions regarding coverage, application methods, and application temperature
- DO NOT caulk nail heads when using ColorPlus products, refer to the ColorPlus touch-up section

**COLORPLUS® TECHNOLOGY CAULKING, TOUCH-UP & LAMINATE**

- Care should be taken when handling and cutting James Hardie ColorPlus® products. During installation use a wet soft cloth or soft brush to gently wipe off any residue or construction dust left on the product, then rinse with a garden hose.
- Touch up nicks, scrapes and nail heads using the ColorPlus® Technology touch-up applicator. Touch-up should be used sparingly. If large areas require touch-up, replace the damaged area with a new piece of siding with ColorPlus® Technology.
- Laminate sheet must be removed immediately after installation of each course.
- Terminate non-factory cut edges into trim where possible, and caulk. Color matched caulks are available from your ColorPlus® product dealer.
- Treat all other non-factory cut edges using the ColorPlus Technology edge coaters, available from your ColorPlus product dealer.

Note: James Hardie does not warrant the usage of third party touch-up or paints used as touch-up on James Hardie ColorPlus products.

Problems with appearance or performance arising from use of third party touch-up paints or paints used as touch-up that are not James Hardie touch-up will not be covered under the James Hardie ColorPlus Limited Finish Warranty.

---

**SILICA WARNING**

**DANGER:** May cause cancer if dust from product is inhaled. Causes damage to lungs and respiratory system through prolonged or repeated inhalation of dust from product. Refer to the current product Safety Data Sheet before use. The hazard associated with fiber cement arises from crystalline silica present in the dust generated by activities such as cutting, machining, drilling, routing, sawing, crushing, or otherwise abrading fiber cement, and when cleaning up, disposing of or moving the dust. When doing any of these activities in a manner that generates dust you must (1) comply with the OSHA standard for silica dust and/or other applicable law, (2) follow James Hardie cutting instructions to reduce or limit the release of dust; (3) warn others in the area to avoid breathing the dust; (4) when using mechanical saw or high speed cutting tools, work outdoors and use dust collection equipment; and (5) if no other dust controls are available, wear a dust mask or respirator that meets NIOSH requirements (e.g. N-95 dust mask). During clean-up, use a well maintained vacuum and filter appropriate for capturing fine (respirable) dust or use wet clean-up methods - never dry sweep.

**WARNING:** This product can expose you to chemicals including respirable crystalline silica, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer. For more information go to P65Warnings.ca.gov.