INTRODUCTION TO TRUEXTERIOR SIDING & TRIM

TruExterior Siding & Trim is made with an innovative poly-ash material that is highly resistant to moisture and termites, and offers a high level of dimensional stability. It cuts and installs with carbide woodworking tools and meets or exceeds most code requirements. For additional information, visit the resources page on TruExterior.com.

MATERIALS & TOOLS

Materials
- TruExterior Boards: typically 11-1/4" wide
- TruExterior Batten: typically 2-1/2" wide
- Drainable weather-resistant barrier
- Flashing, flashing tape
- 6D or 8D stainless steel or hot-dipped ring shank nails
- High-grade, exterior caulk
- Exterior acrylic paint or solid color stain

Tools
- Carbide woodworking tools
- Tape measure
- Chalk line
- Eye protection
- Respirator
- Gloves

STORAGE AND HANDLING

- Product must be stored flat on a level surface in a clean, dry location (Fig. 1).
- Keep product wrapped and protected from the elements until ready for installation (Fig. 1).
- Installing product wet or saturated may result in gapping at joint locations.

APPLICATIONS

TruExterior Siding and Trim offer exceptional durability in virtually any application. It’s an ideal choice for both hot, freezing, windy and wet climates.

Approved for:
- Ground contact
- Contact with masonry or brick

Fig. 1
**APPROVED WALL PREPARATION**

**Traditional Wood Framed Walls**
- TruExterior Board-and-Batten Siding must be installed on frame-built walls with studs spaced 16 in. O.C. or at most 24 in. O.C. (Fig. 2).
- Wall sheathing must meet local codes and have a minimum thickness of 7/16" for O.S.B. or 15/32" for plywood (Fig. 2).

**MANAGING MOISTURE**
- Always install a drainable weather-resistant barrier according to local building code requirements (Fig. 3).
- Avoid installing products in standing water or areas that can stop water from draining away.

**Installing Flashing**
- Prepare your step flashing along roof and wall lines using your weather barrier, flashing tape or z-flashing as counter flashing (Fig. 3).
- Allow 1/2" clearance between the siding and the roof line to help prevent debris from building up (Fig. 3).
- Install window and door flashing in the same manner when installing trim.
- Your boards may be installed right up against the trim and sealed with a high-grade, exterior acrylic caulk.
CUTTING TRUEXTERIOR BOARD-AND-BATTEN

Safety Note: When cutting or shaping, avoid breathing dust. Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area. In case of inadequate ventilation, use respiratory protection. Always wear eye protection.

- There is no need to prime or paint end-cuts or field-cut edges
- TruExterior products can be cut, drilled and routed using carbide saw blades and woodworking tools to achieve custom shapes

INSTALLING TRUEXTERIOR BOARD-AND-BATTEN SIDING

Nailing TruExterior Board-and-Batten Siding

- Use 6D or 8D stainless steel or hot-dipped ring shank nails to meet wind load requirements stated in the ES report PER – 13069. Check your local code requirements.
- Make sure your nail gun is set to drive the nail head even with the surface of the siding.
- If installing over sheets of foam insulation, make sure the length of your nail is adjusted to ensure it penetrates the sheathing or studs at least 1-1/4” deep

Fastener Placement

- When installing boards, use 2 fasteners every 16” to 24”, spaced no less than 3/4” from the edge (Fig. 4).
- When installing battens, use 1 fastener every 16” placed in the center (Fig. 4).
CHOOSING A LAYOUT

Decide if you want the center of your wall to be the center of a board or a batten.

Center On Board
- Measure the width of the board and find the exact middle.
- Mark the center point of the board at the top and bottom (Fig. 5a).
- Using the plumb line on the wall, line up the middle of the board with the middle of the wall and secure it with fasteners (Fig. 5a).
- Use a 3/4" wide spacer between boards as you continue across the wall, checking for plumb along the way (Fig. 5a).
- There should be a max 9-1/2" reveal between each batten.

Center On Batten
- Install the edge of the first board 3/8" from the plumb line center of the wall.
- Once the first board is installed, space boards 3/4" (Fig. 5a).

Batten Installation
- Measure the board and chalk a line 7/8" from either edge to indicate the position of the battens (Fig. 5a).
- Install the first board so that it is 7/8" off the center line in either direction right or left.
- Use a 3/4" wide spacer between boards as you continue across the wall, checking for plumb along the way (Fig. 5a).
- There should be a max 9-1/2" reveal between each batten.

Sealing Battens
There are two options for sealing battens.
- You can apply a bead of high-grade exterior acrylic caulk to both inside corners of the batten (Fig. 5b).
- You can alternatively apply a bead of high-grade exterior acrylic caulk to each board just prior to fastening the batten (Fig. 5b).
INSTALLING TRUEXTERIOR TRIM

- When installing TruExterior Trim, choose a thickness that is equal or greater than the thickness of the battens to avoid resting water on the tops of the battens (Fig. 6).

SEAMING TALL WALLS

There are two methods of seaming board-and-batten siding on tall walls. Both are effective in mitigating water away from the home.

Belly Band Trim

- Use a piece of Z flashing tucked under the drainable weather-resistant barrier that extends to the front face of your horizontal trim (Fig. 7a).
- This method allows you to give a home a stylish trim accent and extra detail.

Flashed Butt Joint

- Use a piece of Z flashing tucked under the drainable weather-resistant barrier that extends to the front of your battens (Fig. 7b).
- This method allows a more seamless look but will be slightly visible when viewed closely.

![Fig. 6](image_url)

![Fig. 7a](image_url)

![Fig. 7b](image_url)
INSTALLING INSIDE CORNERS

- When creating inside corners, install 2”x2” trim into the corner with an approved fastener (Fig. 8).
- Use 1 nail every 16” along the length on alternating sides of the trim, ensuring penetration into the framing.
- Butt the board up to the corner trim and secure in place (Fig. 8).
- Seal the joint between the corner trim and the siding with high-grade, exterior acrylic caulk (Fig. 8).

INSTALLING OUTSIDE CORNERS

- Typical outside corners are created using 1”x5” and 1”x6” trim, installed using approved fasteners (Fig. 9).
- Secure each trim piece on top of the boards with 2 nails every 16” along the length of each piece of trim (Fig 9).
- Stagger the nail pattern to prevent opposing nails from contacting each other
- Ensure that the nails penetrate the framing and the nails of the longer trim piece penetrate the shorter trim piece at the corner.
- Seal the joint between the outside corner trim and the siding with high-grade, exterior acrylic caulk (Fig. 9).

SEALING GAPS

While TruExterior Siding & Trim products do not require priming or sealing of end cuts, a variety of caulks and sealants may be used in conjunction with the product to help prevent water intrusion to the structure.

PAINT OR STAIN TRUEXTERIOR PRODUCTS

**TruExterior siding requires paint or stain within 150 days of installation or the warranty will be void.**

- TruExterior products are dimensionally stable which promotes long-lasting paint and stain adhesion, even with dark colors.
- Nail holes, screw holes and minor dents and dings may be repaired with a high-grade exterior caulk or exterior wood filler.
- Use a high-grade exterior acrylic paint or solid color stain and follow the manufacturer’s application instructions.
- Ensure all surfaces are free of dirt or other contaminants and completely dry before painting.
- Ensure that all exposed TruExterior Siding and Trim surfaces are adequately covered with paint or stain per the manufacturer’s guidelines.
- When using a sprayer to apply paint or stain, it is best to back roll or back brush to avoid runs, drips or bubbles on the siding surface.

*Note: For additional painting and staining information, please visit the resources page on TruExterior.com.*