Cladding Installation Guide

THERMAL PRO

This guide provides general installation recommendations for face-fastened and hidden-screw installation of ThermalPro Wood cladding.

ThermalPro Wood is also compatible with specialty mounting systems, including GRAD, Z-Girt and hidden siding fasteners. These systems may require specific cladding profiles to ensure proper attachment and performance. Please consult your ThermalPro Wood sales representative before ordering to confirm profile compatibility and project requirements.

Please read completely and follow these recommended installation guidelines to ensure proper protection of homes and buildings from trapped moisture and heat which can cause mold and decay.

Storage & Handling

- Product may get damaged if stacked improperly or exposed to the elements. For proper storage and handling:
- Skidded material: Store off the ground covered with its original, or similar, element-resistant barrier.
- Lay flat on an even and drainable service away from standing water. Ground clearance should 12 inches.
- Product should not be exposed to sun or excess heat during storage.

Fasteners

To ensure the longest life span of your thermally modified cladding installation, please follow these guidelines:

- Stainless steel fasteners are required for exterior installations. You may also use stainless steel for interior installations but is not required.
- Screw fasteners are recommended for exterior installations.
- Fasteners should penetrate 1 1/2” into the solid wood substructure.

Wood Cladding Prep

- If your ThermalPro Cladding is prefinished, sealing cut ends or edges is not required but may extend the lifespan of the wood.
- Predrilling of all holes is highly recommended. The thermal modification process removes water and, therefore, flexibility from the wood. Thin cuts of thermally modified wood can be susceptible to splitting.
- Screwing through the front of the board offers the best holding ability. Utilize 2 screws per joint for wider widths.
- You may fasten through the tongue for boards up to 6 inches wide, to eliminate exposed fasteners. Utilize one fastener per bearing through the base of each tongue. Fasteners should be placed through the face of the start and end boards to ensure both edges are securely fastened to the wall.

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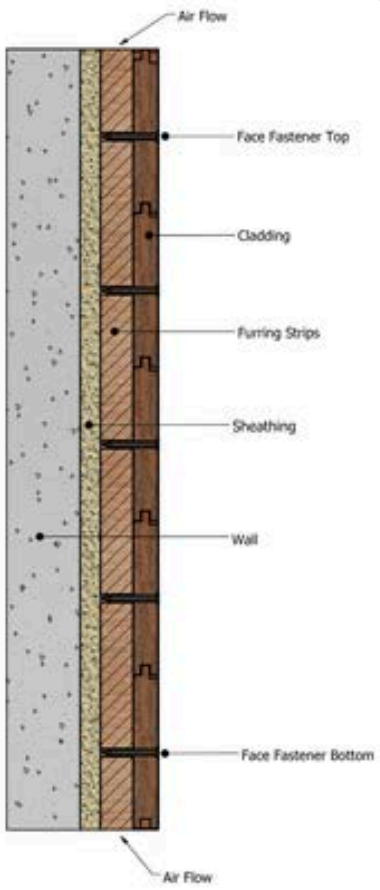
Exterior Installation

Wall Prep

ThermalPro cladding, and all wood cladding should be installed on a properly prepared wall. All exterior sheathing material (plywood or OSB) needs to be covered with ice and water shield house wrap or proper building paper. Consult with your builder for knowledge of local performance of these products. Install per the manufacturer's directions and local building codes.

1. All windows and doors should be installed. The siding interface to the doors and windows should have a 1/8" spaced gap.
2. IMPORTANT: Create the baseline elevation on all walls using a laser line or snapped chalk line. This should be done with accuracy on all walls to ensure perfect alignment.
3. Install window, door, and other trim packages, and put flashing in place.
4. Tongue & Groove cladding can be hung horizontally or vertically. Determine direction before planning rain screen / mounting system installation.
5. Install Mounting System: We recommend a furring strip rain screen with a bottom vent screen to allow proper airflow and drainage. For proper airflow, a gap of 1/8" or greater is recommended. You may also utilize a mesh drain wrap with a base flashing if preferred. Please follow mesh wrap instructions carefully to ensure proper airflow.
6. Prepare your rain screen wall with furring strips placed 16" apart on center, either vertically or horizontally depending on cladding direction. Strips should be 1/2" or greater in depth and be placed no wider than 24" apart. Secure your vent screen at the bottom of the wall as indicated.
7. Placement of the first board is always the most important. Make sure you have preplanned and installed either your bottom water table board and cap or base flashing properly, and ensure that it is level before placing the first board.

Face Fastening



Cladding Installation Guide

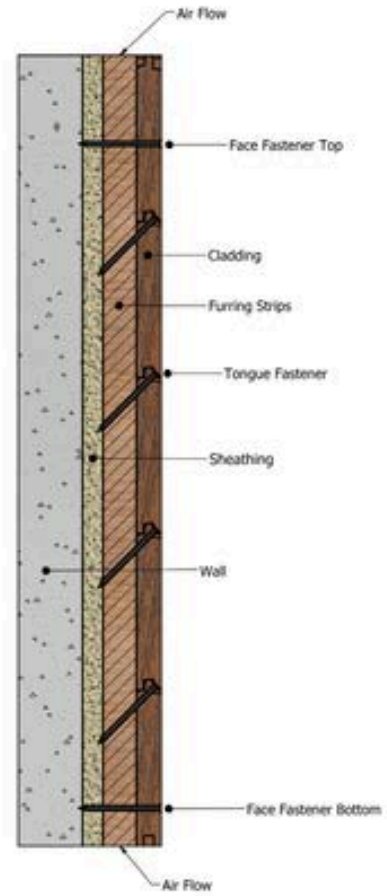
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Exterior Installation

Cladding Installation

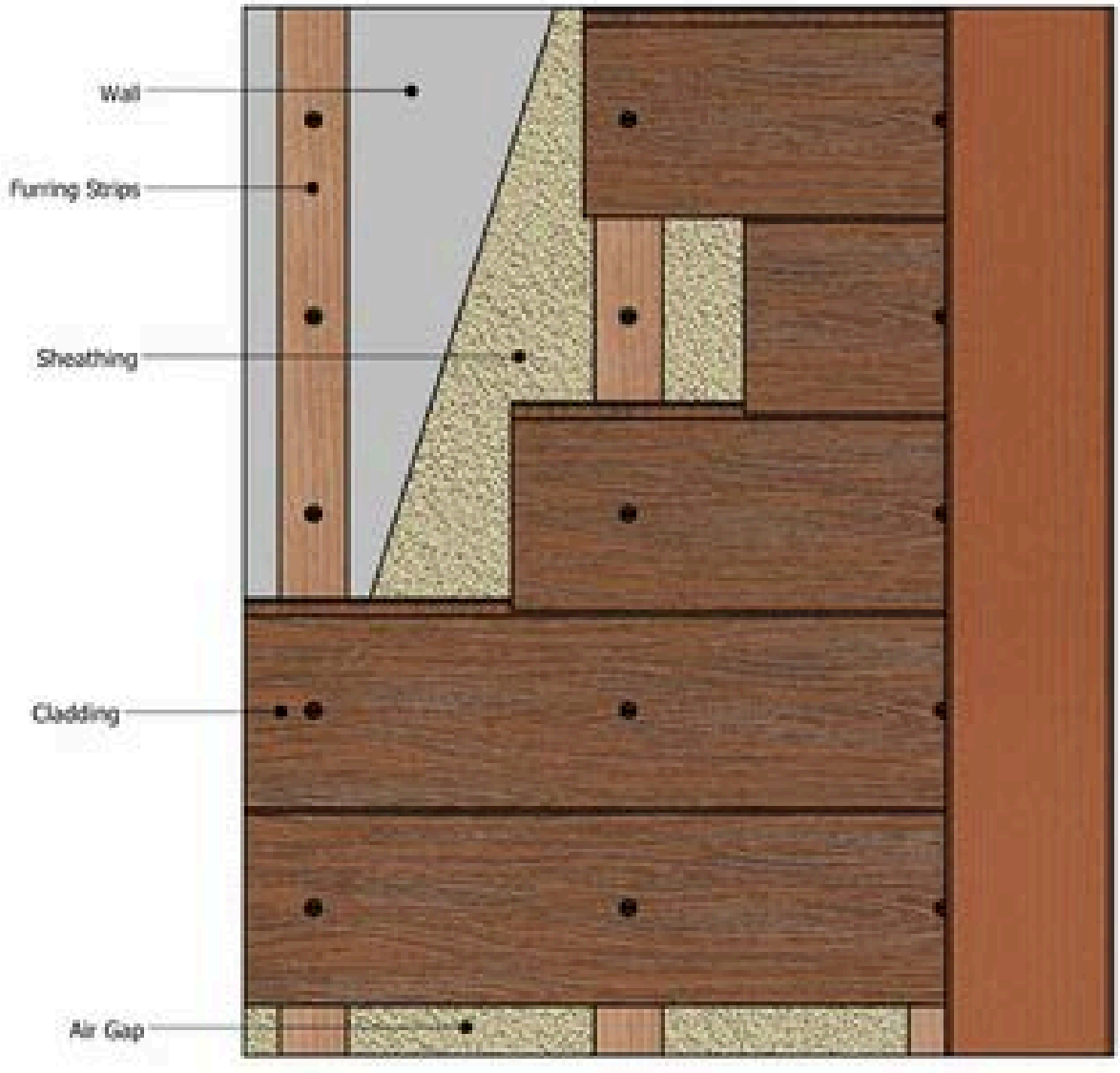
1. Horizontal Installation: Start at the bottom and work upward. The grooved edge should face downward, the tongue edge should face upward.
2. Vertical Installation: Start at the bottom corner with the grooved edge facing toward the adjacent wall, tongue out. Using a level or plumb, ensure that the first board is installed/secured straight and level.
3. Always secure the first board using 2 screws at each junction through the face of the board even when using hidden tongue fastening.
4. Now you are ready to work your way up or over. Make sure each board is full set on the previous board and the seams are tight before fastening each board.
5. When you reach the soffit or corner trim board, you may have to rip the wood siding to the appropriate width. The final board should also be secured through the face using 2 screws at each junction.

Tongue Fastening

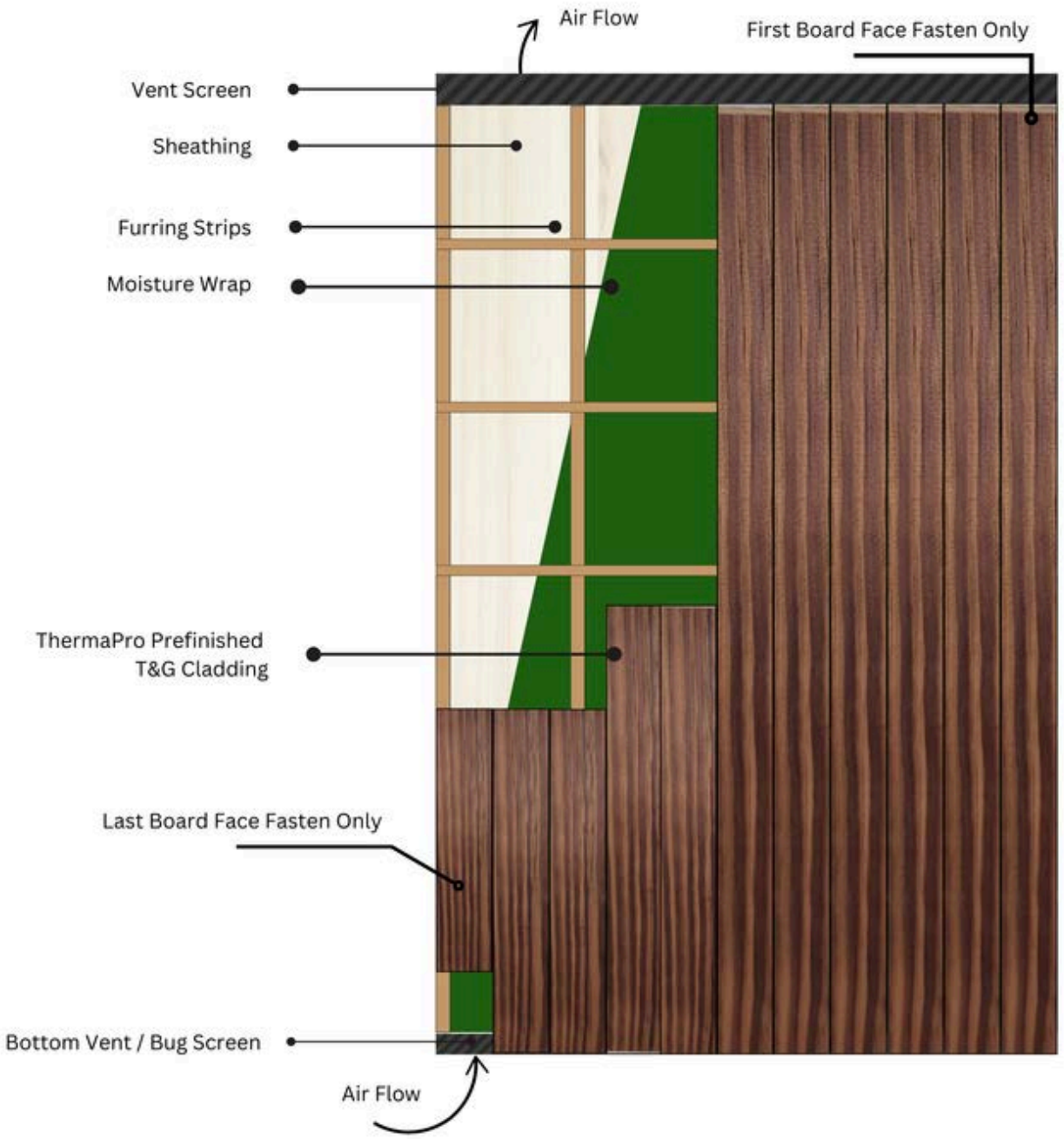


Inspect all boards thoroughly prior to installation for manufacturing defects, moisture-related issues, or damage incurred during transportation. Do not install defective material. Once installed, products are considered accepted as to quality and condition.

Horizontal Installation Diagram



Vertical Installation Diagram



Corner Installation

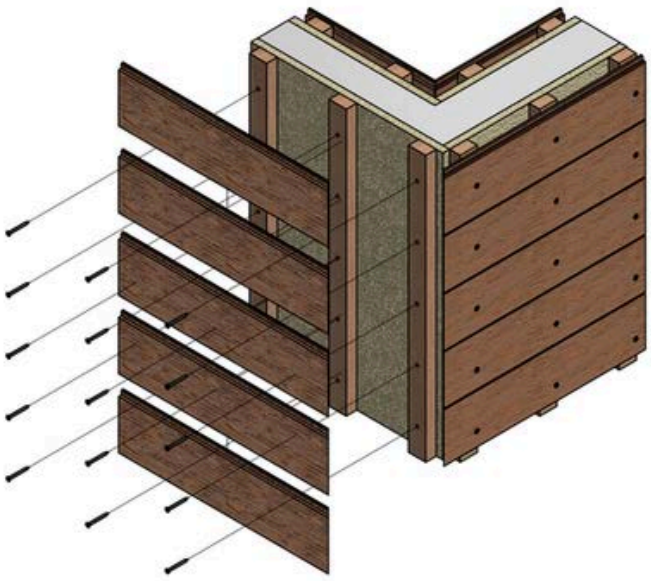
Corner detailing plays an important role in the final aesthetic of your installation. To help inspire your design approach, we've included several corner detailing options for your upcoming project. These examples are not intended to represent a complete list of possibilities, but rather to showcase some of the many design directions available. Interior and exterior corner details may be mixed and matched and can also be adapted across other cladding profiles to achieve your desired architectural look.

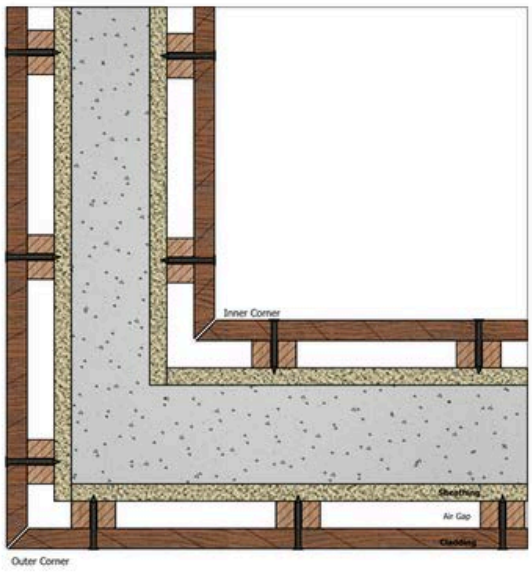
Please allow for a minimum 1/32" expansion gap between boards and do not caulk these gaps. Remember, you need to allow for airflow behind the cladding to prevent moisture buildup.

Reminder: all fasteners and any corner fastening systems used, such as Easy Trim™ should be stainless steel. Fasteners with colored heads to match your cladding are available from several manufacturers.

Option 1: Mitered Corner

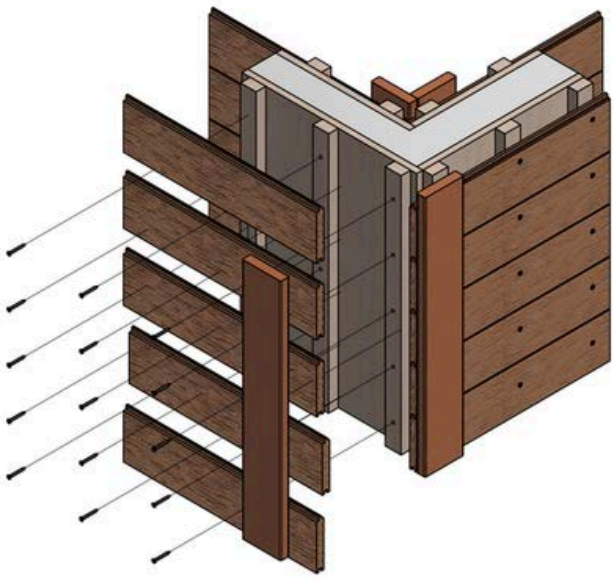
This option requires cutting the mitered end before board installation

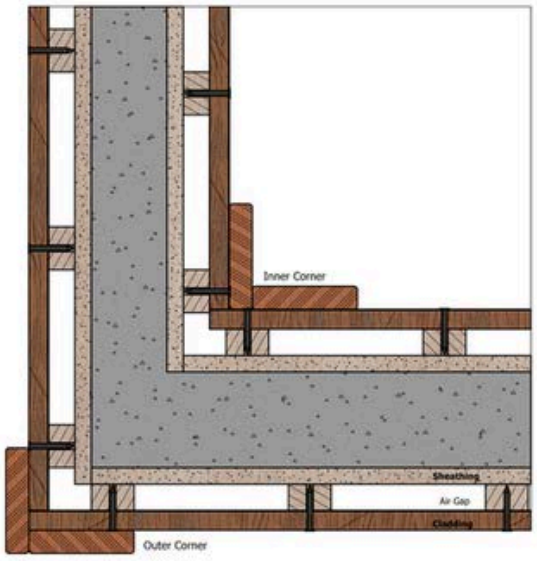




Option 2: Trim Board Corner

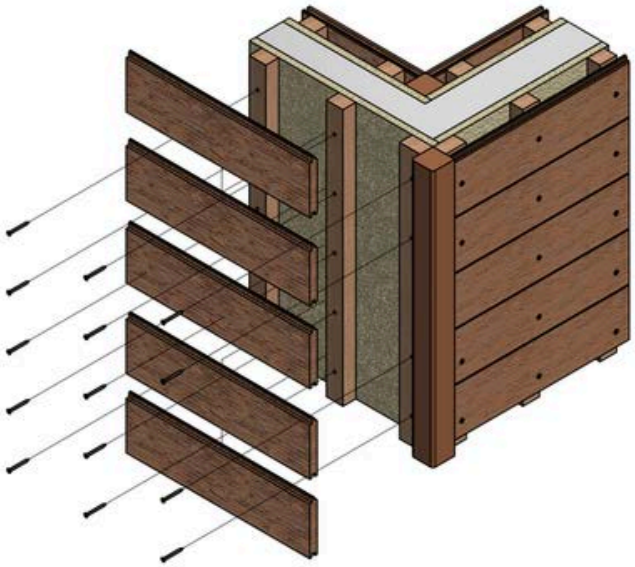
This option uses matching 1x4 trim boards or contrasting color 1x4 trim.

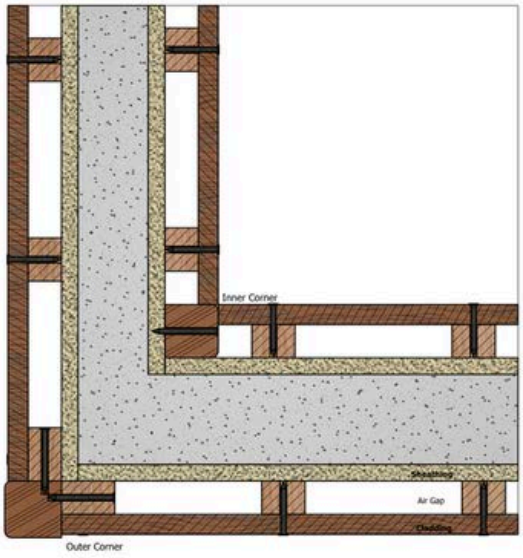




Option 3: Butted Corner

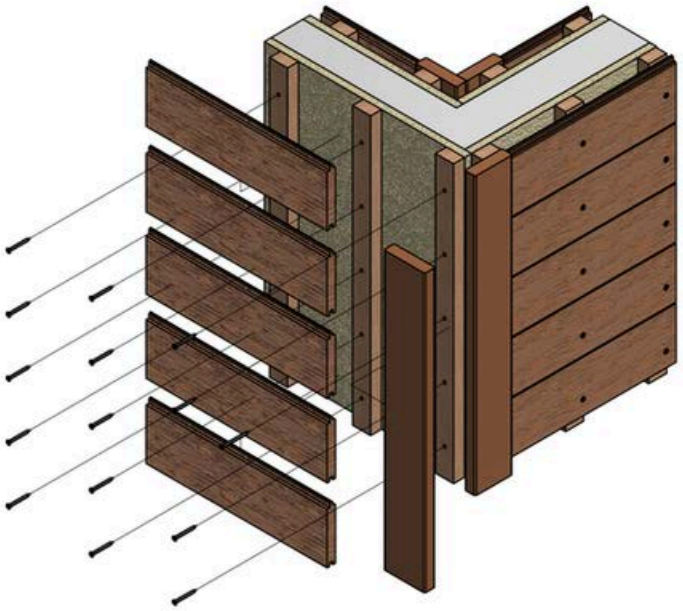
This option uses matching or contrasting 2x2 trim boards. Trim board size may vary based on furring strip sizing. Please plan accordingly.

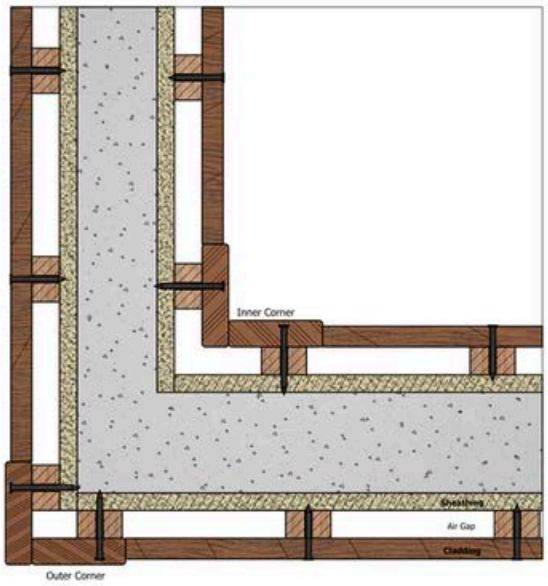




Option 4: 1x4 Butted Corner

This option uses matching or contrasting 1x4 trim boards.





Care & Maintenance

ThermalPro products are 100% natural wood which means there are naturally occurring imperfections. You may find variances in grain pattern and color from board to board, or small cracks, surface checking or knots. These are common imperfections found with real wood products.

ThermalPro Prefinished Products are coated with Sansin all-natural wood finishes, specially formulated for thermally modified wood. These finishes provide UV protection and typically require recoating only every 5–7 years, depending on exposure and environmental conditions.

Uncoated cladding will naturally weather to an elegant silver patina over time—without the warping, twisting, or instability commonly associated with untreated wood. To encourage a more uniform weathering process, we recommend the use of Sansin WoodForce. Periodic maintenance coatings are recommended. Please refer to the manufacturer's maintenance guidelines.

Cleaning: A mild cleaning agent and a scrub brush or light pressure wash will remove any surface items.