ENVISION CLADDING PRODUCTS MUST BE INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THESE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS. DEVIATIONS FROM THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY RESULT IN UNSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE, CREATE A POTENTIAL SAFETY HAZARD, AND MAY EXCLUDE COVERAGE OF THE LIMITED WARRANTY.

Make workplace safety your first priority. Always wear the proper protective clothing and safety equipment, and adhere to all safety guidelines contained herein.

MODIFICATION TO THE BOARD OTHER THAN AS STATED IN THESE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS MAY COMPROMISE THE INTEGRITY OF THE BOARD AND COULD LEAD TO PREMATURE DEGRADATION AND SAFETY ISSUES.

Basic Guidelines and Scope of Product:

Envision Distinction™, Inspiration™, and Expression™ square-edge deck boards used as exterior cladding comply with building codes as detailed in UL Evaluation Report ER25876-02.

Envision’s Ridge Premium and EverGrain composite decking collections are not approved as exterior wall cladding.

Grooved edge boards are not approved as exterior wall cladding.

Envision composite boards are non-load bearing and are approved and intended for both cladding and decking applications.

Envision cladding must be installed as a Rain Screen or vented application. “Rain screen” is also referred to as a Rear Ventilated Facade System (RVFS). Do NOT install Envision cladding directly in contact with sheathing or wall surface that lacks sufficient and proper ventilation.

Envision cladding boards are fastened to furring strips to provide a minimum 3/4” air gap. The furring strips must be a minimum of a nominal 1” x 3” and secured to wood studs or masonry walls with the appropriate fasteners for the type of substrate to which they are being attached. Where installs are required to be acceptable for use in California Wildland Urban Interface Fire areas, furring strips must be a minimum of nominal 2” x 4”.

All furring strips must be spaced at a maximum of 16” on center and attached such that the face of the board is flat against the wall surface providing the minimum 3/4” air gap (or 1 ½” air gap for CWUIF areas).

Envision cladding is approved for vertical and horizontal installations. Vertical installations require additional planning and layout of furring strips to ensure a proper drainage plain. Envision Building Products LLC is not responsible for proper layout and attachment of furring strips or integrity and performance of the wall assembly.

Envision cladding boards may be fastened using any corrosion resistant wood/composite screws sized a minimum of #10 – 2 ½” or longer, perpendicular to the surface of the board. See Cutting & Drilling section for specific fastener details.

Much like other polymer based material, Envision cladding experiences slight thermal expansion and contraction. See Horizontal Application of Cladding section for specific spacing instructions.

Fire and other sources of excessive heat may damage Envision cladding boards. Damage caused by fire or other heat sources may include melting, sagging, warping, discoloration, charring, increased expansion or contraction, accelerated weathering, etc.

Low-E glass is one potential source of excessive heat because it is designed to reflect more sunlight than traditional glass. This enhanced reflectivity combined with any irregularity in the window glass can concentrate sunlight onto the cladding and cause heat to build-up on areas of the cladding surface. When this occurs, damage to Envision cladding is possible. Contact the manufacturer of the product which contains the Low-E glass for suggestions to reduce or eliminate the reflected heat.

LUMBER SIZES & DIMENSIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nominal Size</th>
<th>Actual Size*</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1” x 6” (12’, 16’ or 20’)</td>
<td>7/8” x 5-½”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All Tolerances +/- 1/16”
**INSTALLATION**

1: Ensure the structural integrity of the wall assembly and the suitability of framing and sheathing to accept furring strips for attachment of Envision cladding. *Envision Building Products LLC bears no responsibility for the structural integrity of the wall assembly or the proper attachment of furring strips.*

2: Ensure the Water-Resistive Barrier (WRB) is suitable for open joint cladding applications and install in accordance with the WRB’s installation instructions. *Envision Building Products LLC recommends a Water-Resistive Barrier be black in color and rated for UV Exposure.* *Envision Building Products LLC remains brand agnostic regarding WRB selection and bears no responsibility for the performance of any WRB selected. It is the sole responsibility of the architect, designer, contractor or property owner to determine the weather resistant barrier or combination of materials to make the wall assembly suitable for open joint cladding applications.*

3: Attach a minimum nominal 1” x 3” furring strip over the Water-Resistive Barrier on 16” centers to create a minimum 3/4” air gap behind the cladding. *Where installs are required to be acceptable for use in California Wildland Urban Interface Fire areas, furring strips must be a minimum of nominal 2” x 4” (1 ½” air gap).* These furring strips are structural in nature and should be pressure treated wood or other exterior grade structural material.

4: It is recommended to stain or paint the furring strips black to conceal any raw color showing through the open joints. This can also be accomplished by using UV Rated Flashing tape over the face of the furring strip before applying cladding boards as Illustrated (Figure 1).

**Note:** After furring members are installed, run string line to ensure that the faces of the furring members are in plane. Envision cladding will conform to the contour of the furring members or wall to which it is attached. It may be necessary to shim or plane furring members due to thickness variations in lumber, or variations in the wall to which the furring is attached.

5: Envision cladding is approved for Horizontal and Vertical applications as long as cladding boards are fastened with screws to furring strips on 16” centers. Vertical applications may require additional layers of furring to allow for proper attachment and to create a suitable drainage plane as shown (Figure 2). Third party Drainable UV rated battens for open joint applications are also an option. These can be substituted for PT Lumber where necessary. However, it is the installer’s responsibility to adequately maintain a proper drainage plain and minimal required rear ventilation for each configuration. It is also the installer’s responsibility to ensure that the furring strips are structurally attached and capable of accepting screws to adequately hold the cladding in place.

6: Determine location of cladding starting course, check and confirm level and prepare to attach a furring member near center of the first board length.

7: Chalk a level line based on the lowest corner of the structure, or lowest point where siding will be installed.

8: The line must be a minimum of 6” above grade. Where boards are installed above a roof system allow a minimum of 1” space between the roof surface and the bottom of the board.

9: **Prepare to install Envision cladding boards.** Verify color selection of Envision cladding prior to installation. Inspect boards prior to installation and ensure the best combination for aesthetic appeal. Envision cladding is specially made with natural board to board color variation for unique, natural aesthetics. **Layout and view all boards prior to cutting and fastening to ensure the desired look is achieved.** Discuss any desired material changes, including color issues, with the supplier prior to cutting or fastening the cladding to the structure.
**HANDLING**

Envision cladding products are heavier and more flexible than traditional wood products. Use care and do not attempt to lift or carry more cladding than you can safely handle at one time. Proper clothing and safety glasses must be worn at all times when working with cladding.

Store material on a rigid, smooth, and flat surface. The unused material should be kept covered and supported a minimum of every 24”. If boards become bent, most can be bent back to their original shape during application.

Determination of the effectiveness, suitability, and safety of any application or use of Envision cladding products is solely the responsibility of the homeowner, contractor, or installer. Building code regulations vary, and the homeowner, contractor, or installer must consult local building and safety codes for specific requirements prior to the application of Envision cladding products.

**CUTTING & DRILLING**

When working with Envision cladding products, saw blades with carbide tips are recommended. Saw blades must be sharp. The use of dull saw blades will result in damage to the outer layer of Envision cladding boards. For best results, use blades with two teeth per inch. To avoid clogging when drilling holes, frequently remove shavings by raising the drill bit out of the hole.

- Envision cladding boards are single sided and must be installed with the cap/grain side out.

- **PRE-DRILLING:** To avoid splitting and cracking, pre-drilling the fastener holes is recommended near ends of the boards. The drill bit diameter should be the same diameter as the fastener shank.

- **STRING LINE:** The use of a string line to align fasteners/boards is recommended to enhance the appearance of your finished deck. (Do not use a chalk line to avoid staining face of board.)

- **FASTENER DEPTH:** Do not drive fasteners more than 1/16” below the surface of the deck board. Be sure to find the proper clutch setting on your fastening device.

10: Install Envision cladding boards with minimum of two (2) composite decking screws on furring strips, spaced a maximum of 16” on center with a minimum of 1/8” spacing at edges. Fasteners must be spaced so that no part of the fastener is within 3/4” from the end of the board and 1” from the edge of the board on square edge boards only. **(Figure 3)**

**HORIZONTAL APPLICATION OF CLADDING**

**Installing First Course**

- Measure and cut board to length, allowing for butt joints on shared 1” x 3” minimum furring strips.
- Ensure the board is level and secure it to the approximate middle furring strip using two (2) #10 – 2 ½” or longer corrosion resistant composite deck screws, allowing 1” clearance from the edge of the board.
- Install two (2) #10 – 2 ½” corrosion resistant composite deck screws per furring strips working from the middle section outward while maintaining level.
- **Screw Orientation:** Install fasteners perpendicular to board surface. Do not “toe-nail” or “toe-screw”.
- **Placement:** Do not overdrive fasteners. Fasteners should be installed flush with the board surface, no more than 1/16” below the surface of the board. Be sure to find the proper clutch setting on your fastening device.
- When fastening mitered ends of boards, fasteners must be spaced so that no part of the fastener is within 1 ½” from the end of the board.
  - DO NOT SCREW MITER JOINTS TOGETHER. Allow end to end spacing on BOTH miter joints or butt joints alike at inside/outside corners and window trim to allow for thermal expansion and contraction.
  - Pre-drill fasteners close to the ends and ripped boards narrower than 3” to avoid splitting and cracking.

Continued on next page…
Additional Courses

• Install the second course with a minimum of 1/8” spacing between courses and allowing for adjustments for maintaining a consistent but level appearance.

• Continue installing two screws per furring strip in the proper fashion previously listed with two screws fastening each end of the board.

• Repeat this process for additional courses while maintaining proper spacing. Stagger butt joints so they do not fall on one single furring strip. Butt joints shall not be located directly over or under a wall opening, such as a door or window.

• The last (top) course may require a board to be ripped and predrilled for all fasteners if less than a 3” width.

• Allow space for ventilation at top and bottom of cladding. Air must be allowed to move from the bottom to the top and circulate within the air gap cavity.

• Butt joints and Miter joints: End-to-end spacing between boards must be approximately 1/16” for every 20-degree increment of temperature difference between the temperature during installation and the maximum expected summertime temperature in your area. Butt joint of boards must be staggered. Example: 80-degree F time of installation and a maximum expected summertime temperature of 100 degrees F equals and end spacing of 1/16”. (Figure 4)

Adjoining Walls and Openings

• Envision cladding boards may be used in many creative ways to finish out corners, as well as window and door openings.

• Outside corners may be mitered for a finished look. Proper alignment is critical for appearance and spacing for expansion or contraction is required.

• Envision cladding boards may be ripped for door and window casing with the factory edge facing out.

• Proper spacing, drilling, and fastening must be maintained in these situations as outlined in these instructions.

• Square butt joints are recommended for inside corners.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Temp at Install</th>
<th>Max Temp</th>
<th>End to End Spacing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>80°F</td>
<td>100°F</td>
<td>1/16”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60°F</td>
<td>100°F</td>
<td>1/8”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40°F</td>
<td>100°F</td>
<td>3/16”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VERTICAL APPLICATION OF CLADDING

• Refer to Step 5 and Figure 2 for guidelines on furring strips and wall preparation.

• Measure and cut Envision cladding boards to length, allowing board to extend slightly past the furring strips but allowing adequate space below the soffit for rear ventilation.

• It is recommended starting with a full board on outside corners and working inward.

• Using a level, ensure board is plumb and positioned correctly to work with cladding on adjoining walls.

• Additional furring may be necessary for corner boards as well as window and door surrounds to provide adequate fastening surfaces. Plan ahead to ensure proper fastening.

• Starting at the top and working downward, install two (2) #10 – 2 ½” corrosion resistant composite deck screws. Pre-drill ends of boards to avoid splitting and cracking. (Figure 5)

Install two (2) #10 – 2 ½” corrosion resistant composite deck screws at all other furring strips located a maximum of 16” on center.

• Follow all previous instructions regarding screw orientation and pre-drilling recommendations.

• Continue installing next courses in the same manner while maintaining a minimum of 1/8” spacing on edges and following recommended guidelines for end to end joints.

• When notching boards around openings, always ensure the factory finished edge faces out and pre-drill any boards having widths 3” or less before fastening.
CLEANING
Semi-annual cleaning of your cladding is recommended. Prompt cleaning of stains is required.

FOR DETAILED CLEANING INFORMATION:
Please visit the care and cleaning section on our website at EnvisionDecking.com.

After cleaning, flush the surface of the boards using a garden hose or a power washer hose with a fan tip nozzle at a pressure not exceeding 1,000 psi to remove any excess cleaning agents. IMPORTANT NOTE: Do not sand the surface to remove stains.

LIMITED WARRANTY

DECKING AND CLADDING PRODUCTS BEGIN TO AGE AS SOON AS THEY ARE EXPOSED TO NATURE. IT IS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT HOW LONG DECKING AND CLADDING PRODUCTS WILL LAST. THAT'S WHY ENVISION BUILDING PRODUCTS LLC PROVIDES A LIMITED WARRANTY FOR ENVISION PRODUCTS THAT INCLUDES A BINDING ARBITRATION CLAUSE AND OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS WHICH ARE INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE. YOU MAY OBTAIN A COPY OF THE LIMITED WARRANTY AT ENVISIONDECKING.COM OR BY CALLING 1-800-253-1401.

Envision Building Products LLC provides a Limited Warranty for Envision Products installed in accordance with these written instructions. Distinction, Inspiration, and Expression are also provided with a Stain Resistance Limited Warranty. Returns of or claims for boards due to any condition that was clearly apparent prior to application/fastening of product will not be considered after boards have been cut, applied/fastened to structure, joist, etc. SEE ENVISION BUILDING PRODUCTS LLC’s LIMITED WARRANTY FOR COMPLETE TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

BUILDING CODE APPROVED
Envision Distinction, Inspiration, and Expression deck boards are ASTM D7032 compliant. See UL ER25876-01 for use as a walking surface on exterior decks, balconies, porches, walkways, and stairs and UL ER25876-02 for use as exterior cladding. Visit www.UL.com/erdirectory for details.

Envision Building Products LLC
Lamar, MO 64759
Customer Service: 800-253-1401

These application instructions were current at the time of printing. To obtain a copy of the most current version of the application instructions, visit us online at EnvisionDecking.com.