



# HOW TO INSTALL WHITE CEDAR SHINGLES? THE BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR A SUCCESSFUL INSTALLATION

## INTRODUCTION

It is very important to read the installation instructions before you start. These important steps can save time, money and hassles, not to mention you will be happy and proud of the end result.

Take note that this guide is for siding installation only. We have taken care to include the most important steps, but you can count on our technical department to help if you have any additional questions. Just give us a call at 1-888 594-1112 or visit our [website](#) for an instant chat.

## BEFORE INSTALLATION

\* All dimensions in this guide are given in inches.

### MATERIAL INSPECTION

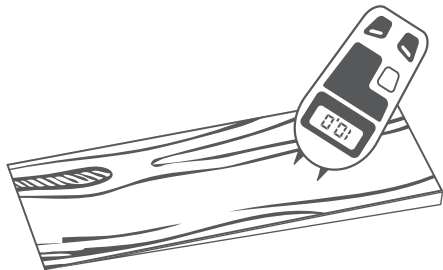
Make sure you have the correct grade, color (if applicable), and quantity on hand before beginning the installation. If you believe there is a problem with your shingles, do not install them and contact us immediately at 1-888 594-1112 so we can make sure everything is okay.

### STORAGE

Boxes or bundles of shingles should be kept on a pallet in a dry and ventilated area at all times. Cover them well after each working day.

### HUMIDITY LEVEL CHECKUP

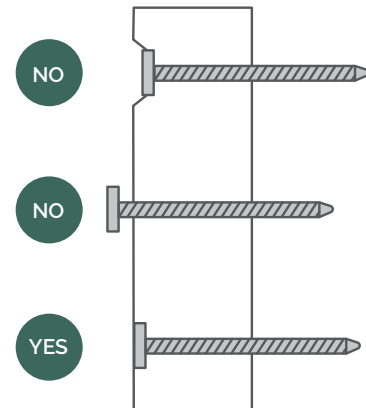
This step is crucial to help you plan the required spacing between your shingles. We generally consider a humidity level of 20% to be the balance point. Therefore, your shingles may shrink (if they are more than 20%) or expand (if they are less than 20%). More the humidity percentage of the shingles is away from 20%, greater the width variation will be once installed. The percentage of the relative humidity outside at the time of installation and the type of shingles must also be taken into account (Read the **Shingle spacing – page 3** section).



### FASTENER SELECTION AND ADJUSTMENT

To install cedar shingles, you need to use specific fasteners and make sure that they penetrate the stiff sheathing by at least 1/2". Whether nails or staples, they must be rust-resistant (hot-dip galvanized, aluminum or stainless).

- **Nails** : Use ring shank nails with a blunt tip. The head should be a minimum of 7/32".
- **Staples** : Crown must be a minimum of 7/16".



### AIR TOOL UTILIZATION

Adjust the pressure properly to avoid damaging the wood. Fasteners should be flush with the shingle.

<sup>1</sup>**IMPORTANT** : Compliance with SBC's installation, storage and maintenance requirements as well as the building code in effect is mandatory and may affect the validity of warranties.

# BEFORE INSTALLATION

## EXPOSURE

The exposure is the exposed surface of the shingle once installed. We recommend a 5" exposure which is 25 square feet of coverage per bundle or box of shingles.

### NUMBER OF ROWS

Measure the height of the wall *from the top of the foundation adding 1"* considering that the first row of shingles must exceed (Read the *Starting course - page 3 section*), and *divide by the desired exposure*. If necessary, adjust your result to have equal rows.

#### Example

Height of 17 feet (204") + 1" = 205" / 5" exposure = 41 rows

### ADJUSTMENT

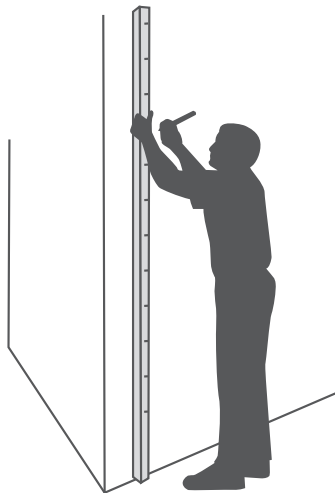
To adjust, take a long wood plank and draw lines representing your exposure. Then take this story pole and set it up on the end of a wall to check where the rows would end. Adjust if needed.

### DOORS AND WINDOWS

Try to line up the rows with the doors and windows or keep a minimum exposure of 4".

### TOP ROW

The last row at the top of the wall should be no less than 4" exposure.



## VENTILATION

It is recommended to leave an air gap between your shingle siding and the under sheathing. This will help reduce moisture considerably thus ensuring superior shingle durability. This gap can be achieved using:

- Wood laths
- A breathable membrane (See our « *Other Products* » section on our website).

## SHINGLE FACE SELECTION

Although we use the best saw blades available, cedar shingles generally have one face (one side) smoother than the other. SBC shingles are graded on both sides, one of many advantages. They can be installed on one side or the other. So, make sure you choose the side you prefer when installing your shingles.



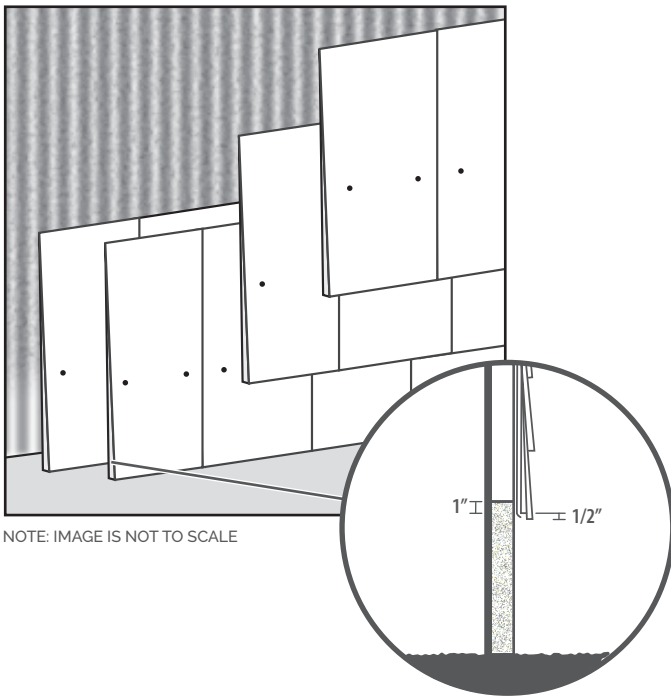
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# INSTALLATION

## STARTING COURSE

This step is essential to prevent water infiltration from the top of the foundation.

The first row requires 2 layers of shingles. The first layer should cover the top of the foundation by at least 1" and the second should exceed the first by 1/2". Make sure the joints between these 2 layers are not aligned. Shingles must not be in direct contact with the ground.



## ALIGNMENT

### HORIZONTAL

Line up the shingles horizontally using a temporarily fastened board or by snapping a chalk line. **For best results**, get our SBC easy installation tool by visiting our website in the **Other Products** section.

### VERTICAL

Joints of successive courses must be offset by at least 1 1/2".

## SHINGLE SPACING

First, you should check the humidity level of your shingles (Read section **Humidity level checkup - Page 1**). Insufficient spacing between the shingles will cause them to stick together when the outdoor humidity is high, which could cause the wood to warp.

### GREEN SHINGLES (NATURAL, NOT DRIED)

Leave a minimum of 1/16" gap between each shingle. Leave a larger space if the humidity level of the shingles is less than the outside humidity level during the installation.

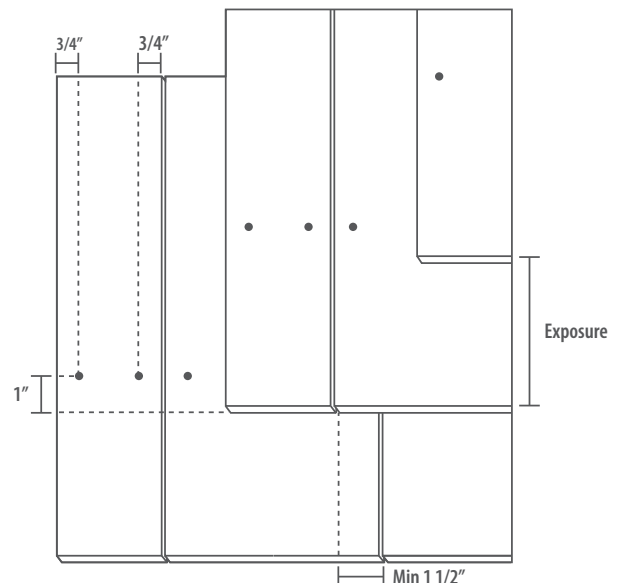
### KILN DRIED NATURAL OR FACTORY-FINISHED SHINGLES

Leave a minimum of 1/8" gap between each shingle. Leave a larger space when the outside humidity level is high and/or when 2 wide shingles are installed side by side.

## FASTENERS PLACEMENT

This step is very important to ensure the stability of your shingles (To select your fasteners, refer to section **Fasteners selection and adjustment - page 1**).

- Use 2 fasteners per shingle at about 3/4" on each side and 1" above the base of the top row. **Our embossed nailing line, at 6 1/8" from the butt**, will be very helpful as a visual guide during this step.
- For shingles over 8" wide, use 2 additional fasteners driven 1" apart near the shingle center.



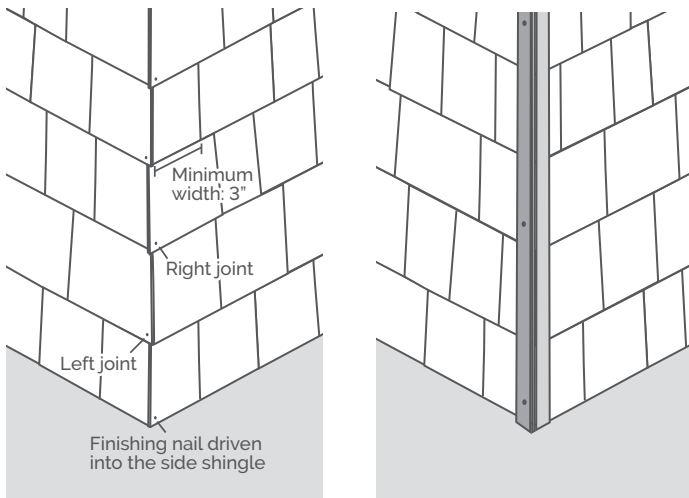
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# INSTALLATION

## WALL CORNERS

### 2 POSSIBLE METHODS

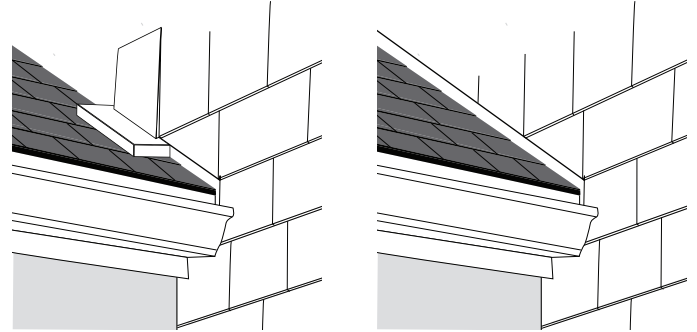
- Alternate shingles by overlapping in such a way as to have joints alternate successively on either side of the corner. Fasten the lower corner of the shingles with a finishing nail.
- Install a vertical molding on which the shingles will rest. Leave a gap of at least 1/2" to allow for wood expansion.



NOTE: IMAGE IS NOT TO SCALE

## ROOF MEETING A WALL

To prevent mold from water and ice accumulation, allow 2" spacing where the roof and base of a shingle wall meet. This will give the shingle a chance to dry properly.



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## OPENING AND EDGES

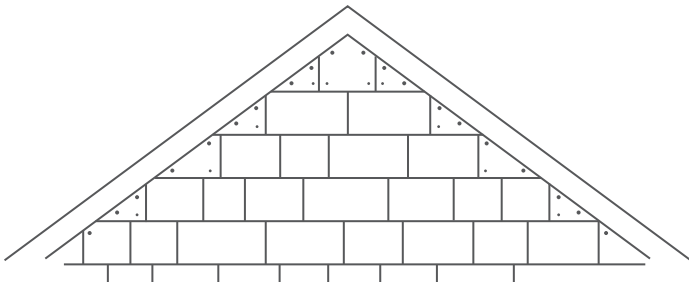
- A metal flashing is often required to make sure your building project is waterproofed.
- Sealant or self-adhesive membranes are also used when required.

## FACTORY-FINISHED SHINGLES: STAIN TOUCH-UPS

- Each surface that was cut during installation must be touched up with SBC touch-up stain (in quarts or small bottles with a sponge applicator).
- Avoid adding stain on already finished surfaces since the color and luster may be affected.

## GABLES AND TOP OF THE WALL

To ensure shingle stability and ease of installation, keep a minimum of 4" exposure at all times and use larger shingles. Applying glue and/or using fasteners attached to each corner of the shingle butt can be helpful. Installing a trim molding over the last row may also be an option.



NOTE: IMAGE IS NOT TO SCALE

## WELL DONE !

You now know the basic steps to install your SBC cedar shingles properly. To find out how to maintain your cedar shingle siding, see our Maintenance Manual.

**Have a good installation !**

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