

Storage, Installation and Maintenance of Cladding Boards

1. Storage

If possible, cladding boards should be stored indoors and protected from direct sunlight (UV radiation fades thermally treated wood). Even factory-packaged cladding boards should never be stored in the rain or exposed to moisture, as tightly packed boards cannot properly dry after getting wet. When using base supports, ensure there is sufficient ventilation space under the wood stack, preferably around 150 mm, and the material should not be in direct contact with the ground. A general rule states that cladding boards should be stored for a couple of weeks before installation in the same location where the work will be done: cladding boards intended for indoor use should be kept in a heated indoor space, while boards meant for outdoor use should be stored outside, but protected from rain.

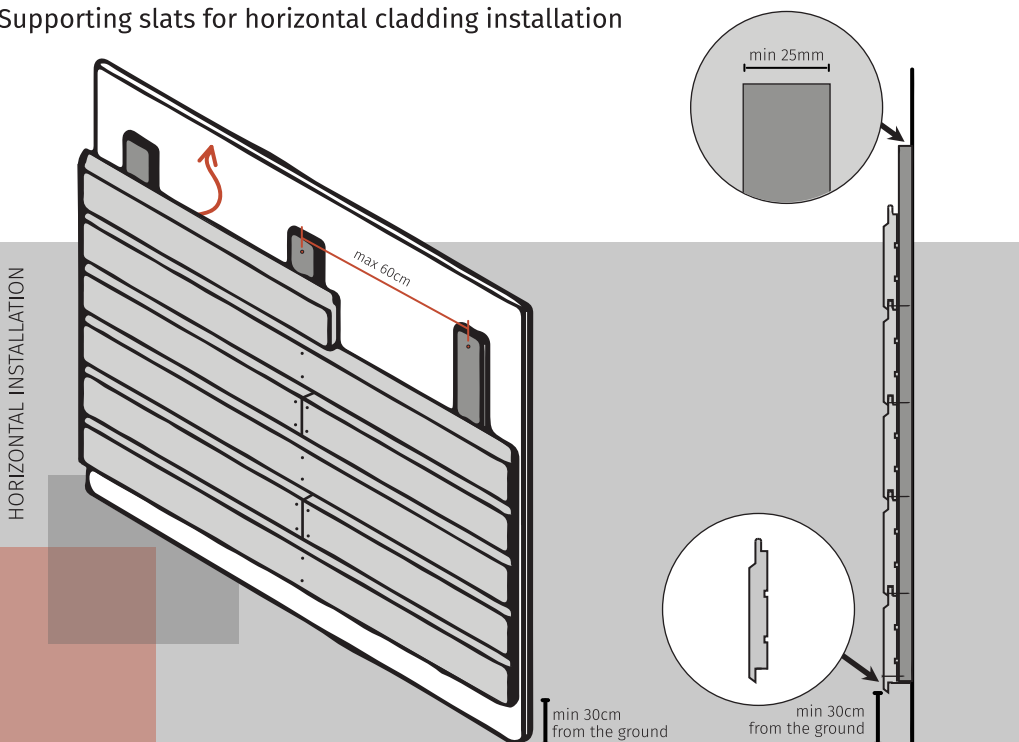
2. Installation

When installing cladding boards indoors, it is essential to ensure adequate ventilation and heating, meaning a consistent level of humidity and temperature. For outdoor installations, protection from rain must be ensured. When planning material quantities, account for cutting waste, which is approximately 10% for cladding boards. To extend the lifespan of a wooden facade, the base height should be at least 300 mm.

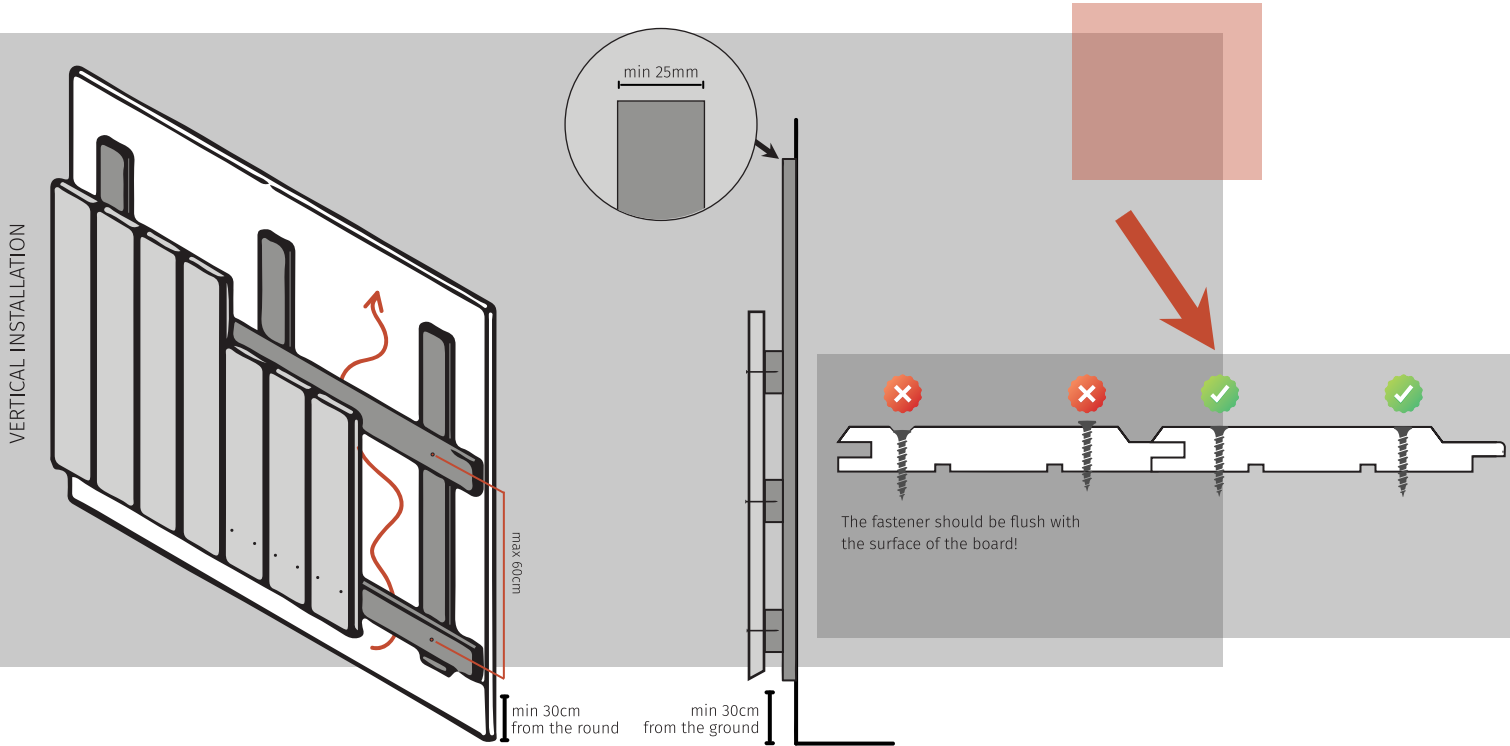
2.1 Battens or supporting slats

Cladding boards are installed on a measured and leveled batten framework. The recommended width for batten material is 45-50 mm, with a height of 20-25 mm. When installing cladding boards horizontally, the battens should be vertical, and when installing the boards vertically, the battens should be horizontal. The recommended batten spacing is 40-50 cm (max 60 cm). The battens must allow air to circulate behind the cladding along the entire wall. In horizontal cladding installation, the battens are vertical, allowing air to move vertically behind the cladding. Therefore, for vertical installation, it is necessary to install two layers of battens: first a vertical layer, then a horizontal layer across it to ensure proper ventilation.

Supporting slats for horizontal cladding installation



Supporting slats for vertical cladding installation



2.2 Cladding installation

Cladding installation with screws or nails

The fastener should be selected based on the thickness of the cladding board, with a recommended length being at least 2.5 times the thickness of the board. It is advisable to place screws or nails 7–10 cm from the ends of the board (to prevent splitting) and 1.5–2 cm from the edges. For boards 140 mm wide or wider, it is recommended to use two screws, one at each edge of the board. If fasteners need to be placed closer to the end or edge, pre-drill holes for the screws or nails. When installing external cladding boards made from thermowood, it is essential to pre-drill pilot holes for the fasteners. **Ensure that the depth of the fastener is flush with the surface of the board!**

For selecting fasteners for cladding boards, consult a Standwood specialist. The most effective method for installing cladding boards is to use a nail gun with stainless steel nails (A2 or A4). For thermally treated materials, the use of acid-resistant stainless steel fasteners (A4) is mandatory for outdoor applications.

Cladding installation with TERRALOCK clips

The Rothoblaas TERRALOCK clip system can be used for both deck and exterior cladding installations. This system ensures ventilation behind the facade and eliminates the need for separate support battens.

Installation with shorter TERRALOCK 60 clips

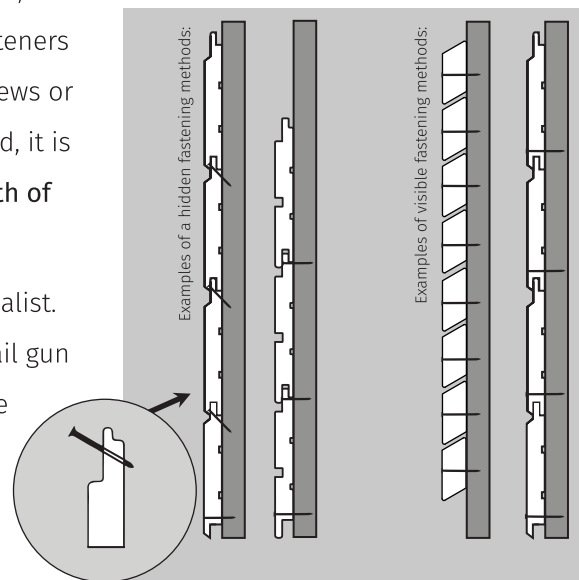
A - TERRALOCK 60 clips, 2 pcs

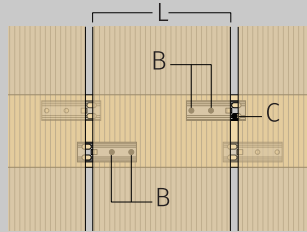
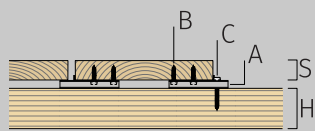
B - Clip fastening screws for decking board KKF 4.5x20, 4 pcs

C - Clip fastening screw for support beam KKF 4.5x40, 1 pc

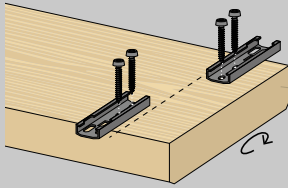
S - Decking board thickness must be >19 mm

H - Support beam thickness must be >38 mm



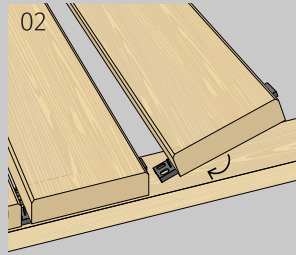


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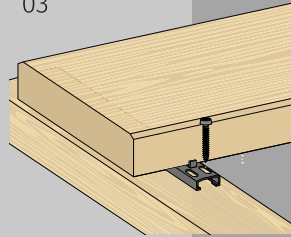


Terralock 60 installation

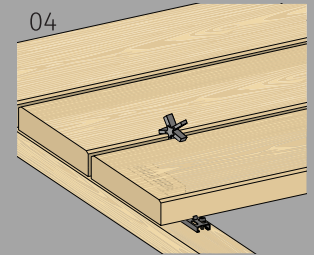
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Installation with longer TERRALOCK 180 clips

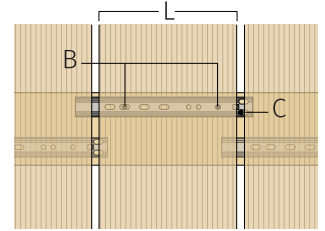
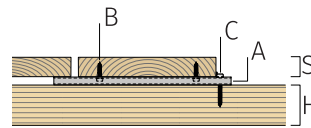
A - TERRALOCK 180 clips, 1 pc

B - Clip fastening screws for decking board KKF 4.5x20, 2 pcs

C - Clip fastening screw for support beam KKF 4.5x40, 1 pc

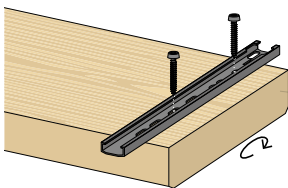
S - Decking board thickness must be >19 mm

H - Support beam thickness must be >38 mm

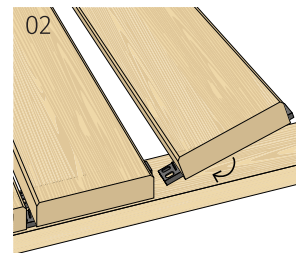


Terralock 180 installation

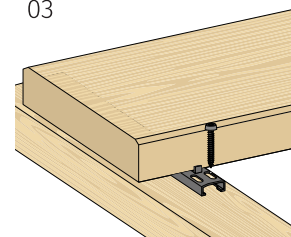
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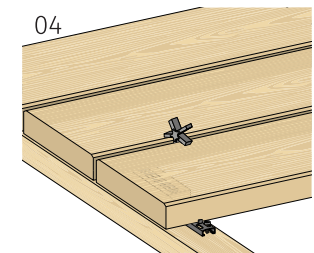
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Covering the ceiling with cladding boards is similar to installing horizontal wall cladding. Start the installation from the ceiling and then proceed with the walls. It is recommended to trim the tongue (the upper protrusion) from the edge of the first row of boards and secure the board from both edges, regardless of its width. A sufficient ventilation gap (at least 10 mm) should be left between the edge of the ceiling board and the wall.

3. Usage and maintenance

Thermally treated wood will gradually turn gray over time due to UV exposure, similar to untreated wood. Thermally treated wood does not necessarily require oiling, and if the client prefers the natural gray tone, the boards can be left untreated. However, it's important to note that wood is a natural material and will not gray uniformly. Sun-exposed and rain-exposed sides of buildings will fade faster than shaded facades. Applying a clear oil treatment can reduce the likelihood of cracking and extend the lifespan of the cladding while allowing the wood to develop a natural gray patina. Using tinted oil helps to maintain the original color of the facade. **When applying oil, consider the following:**

Remove loose particles, dirt, dust, and deteriorated wood layers from the surface using a wire or scrubbing brush or scraper. Clean the surface to be treated. Remove old paint and varnish layers before treatment and use a specialized cleaning agent if necessary. Rinse the surfaces thoroughly with water and allow them to dry. Prime untreated wood surfaces with a wood preservative, mixing it thoroughly. If using tinted oil, it may need to be mixed during application. Apply one or two coats to the surface, repeating as needed based on the condition of the wood. Mix enough oil from the same batch to cover the entire surface area. The surface must be dry, with wood moisture below 20%. During painting and drying, ensure that the temperature of the air, the surface being painted, and the paint is above +5°C, and that the relative humidity is below 80%. Avoid oiling in direct sunlight and in wet conditions.