

EVERLOCK SYSTEMS, INC.

Installation Instructions for Gorilla Thermal Panel Skirting

These installation instructions will ensure that your Gorilla Thermal Panel Skirting provides a beautiful and completely accessible home exterior with minimal maintenance. Please carefully read all instructions before proceeding with installation. **Only experienced and qualified individuals taking all appropriate safety precautions should perform installation.**

Measuring Instructions

The four foot wide Gorilla Thermal Panels are twelve feet tall (top to bottom) which will be cut to appropriate heights for your home. Measure the distance from the home to the ground at four foot intervals and add 3 inches. Then determine the number of twelve foot Panels needed. For measurement purposes, assume all panels will cover 47" horizontally.

Required Tools & Accessories

1. Utility razor knife / carpet knife / tin snips.
2. Power saw with fine tooth blade mounted in reverse (backwards) position.
3. Electric screwdriver or drill with 1/4" hex head driver bit.
4. Tape measure, chalk line and/or marking pencil.
5. Straight edge and/or carpenter's square & plumb bob.
6. Hammer.
7. Chicago Welding Co. plastic welding kit (industrial heat gun).
8. Rake or hoe (for dirt replacement and backfill).
9. 7" ground spikes (available in optional hardware kit).
10. 8 x 1" hex head screws for installing vents, Bottom Rail insertion and attaching Top Back Rail (available in optional hardware kit).

STEP 1 - Installing the Bottom Rail

Use a level or plumb bob to align the back of the Bottom Rail directly under the side of the home (see Figure 1). To prevent vegetation around the base of the skirting, to reduce the possibility of damage to the skirting from landscape equipment and to provide a stable base for the Bottom Rail, asphalt roof starter or shingles may be installed around the home.

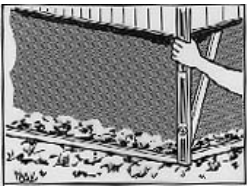


Figure 1

Confirm that the back of the Bottom Rail is aligned with the side of the home. Cut Bottom Rail as necessary for home dimensions. Then secure the rail to the ground surface by inserting 7" ground spikes through pre-punched holes in the Bottom Rail.

Bottom Rail Corners: Follow cuts and dimensions shown on Figure 2. Use a Chicago Welding Co. heat gun that concentrates hot air on the area to bend and bend rail along seam to form corner.

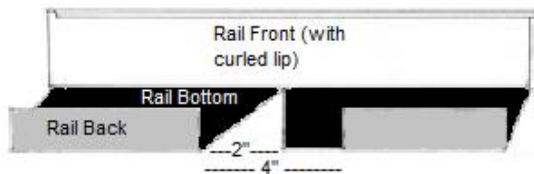


Figure 2

NOTE: In high wind areas and in areas where the ground may be loose or unstable, treated wood stakes may be installed beneath the Bottom Rail to provide stability. In such cases, install the stakes and then insert the 7" ground spikes through the pre-punched holes in the Bottom Rail into the stakes. **For installation on concrete**, instead of ground spikes use 3/4" masonry nails, "Liquid Nail" or other methods appropriate for adhesion directly to concrete.

STEP 2 - Installing the Top Back Rail



Figure 3

Cut Top Back Rail as necessary for home dimensions. Beginning 1/2" from the corner of the home, position the bottom edge of a Top Back Rail flush with the bottom of the home. Secure to the home through slots in rail with #8 x 1" hex head screws, making sure screw is centered in slot. Screws may be inserted in either the upper or lower slot rows (see Figure 3). Always insert the final screw before a corner in the lower slot row to prevent Coupler Corner interference (see Step 5). **INSTALL HEX HEAD SCREWS SNUG, BUT NOT TIGHT.** The Top Back Rail must be able to move from side to side when force is applied. Continue around home always leaving a 1" expansion gap at the corner and between any two pieces (see Figure 4).



Figure 4

SPECIAL ATTENTION: When installing to a home with vinyl siding, due to variable expansion / contraction rates of materials, the Top Back Rail should be screwed to a furring strip which is nailed to the bottom of the floor joist (see Figure 5). If you do attach the Top Back Rail directly to vinyl siding, drill a 1" diameter hole in the vinyl siding. Insert screws through Top Back Rail slots into the middle of 1" hole. This method accommodates variable expansion / contraction rates of both the vinyl siding and Top Back Rail.

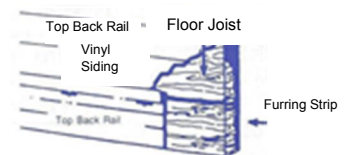


Figure 5

STEP 3 - Cutting the Panels

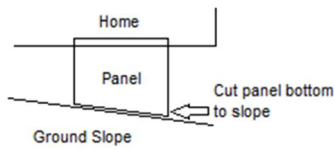


Figure 6

Gorilla Thermal Panels are used vertically. For each panel, determine the distance between the bottom of the Top Back Rail and the ground. Make several measurements to determine the degree of ground slope. To accommodate ground slope, the bottom of each panel should be cut to mirror the slope (see Figure 6). To accommodate ground expansion and contraction, panels should be cut 1" longer when installed during warm weather and 2" longer when installed during in cold weather. It is imperative that the top of each Panel piece be cut square and leveled both vertically and horizontally. Panels may be cut with a power handsaw with a fine-toothed blade mounted in the reverse (backwards) position.

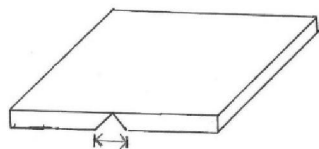
STEP 4 - Connecting Panels and Forming Panel Corners

- When installing Panels over 48" high, framing behind Panels is required for stability.
- Panels are connected by sliding the Panels into the grooves on each side of the Panels.
- Install the first Panel at a corner on the front side of the home. Then work your way around the home.
- Insert #8 x 1" hex head screw in panel face 1 1/8" from bottom of Panel, then snap the front Bottom Rail lip over screws (see Figure 7).



Figure 7

PANEL CORNERS



4"

Figure 8

The Panel corners are made by cutting a "V" in the foam and bending the vinyl. In cold weather, Panels should be pre-heated before bending.

On back of Panel, chalk a line from top to bottom of foam where the corner will be located. Chalk two cut lines: 2" left and 2" right of corner chalk line.

Following cut lines, cut two 45° cuts the length of the back of the Panel (see Figures 8 & 8.1). **DO NOT CUT THE VINYL PANEL FACE.**

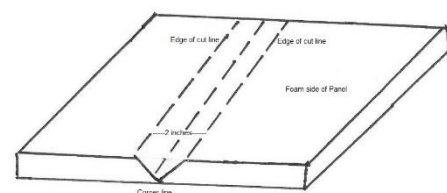


Figure 8.1

To expose more of the panel face to heat gun, cut out 1/4" of foam on each side of corner line. Heat back of exposed Panel face. Bend Panel into a corner, and secure to Bottom Rail using method described above.

STEP 5 - Installing The Top Front Rail, 4" Coupler & 11" Coupler Corner

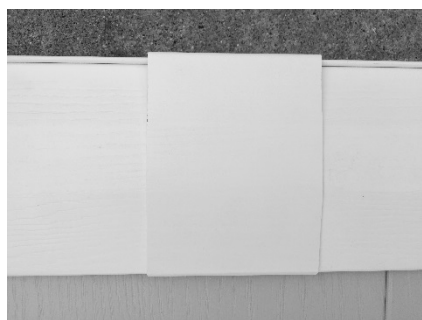


Figure 9

The Top Front Rail easily installs by snapping the top edge of its spring lock into the Top Back Rail. Be sure to push the Top Front Rail all the way into the Top Back Rail until it "snaps" into place.

Attach the bottom of the Coupler to the bottom of Top Front Rail, and then gently push the top of the Coupler up and over the 2-piece Top Rail, covering the 1" expansion gap (see Figure 9).

Once the Panel corners are installed, cut Coupler Corners per Figure 10. Heat the mid-point of the Coupler Corner and bend to form the corner. Use a Chicago Welding Co. heat gun that concentrates the hot air on the area to bend. Install Coupler Corner over Top Rail as shown in Figure 11. **NOTE:** If a screw in the upper slot of the Top Back Rail interferes with a Coupler or Coupler Corner, cut a notch in the back of the coupler to slide over the interfering screw.

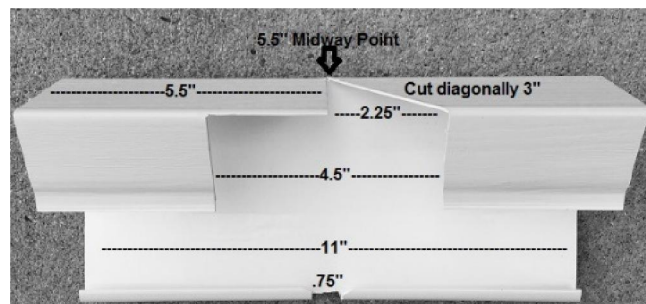


Figure 10

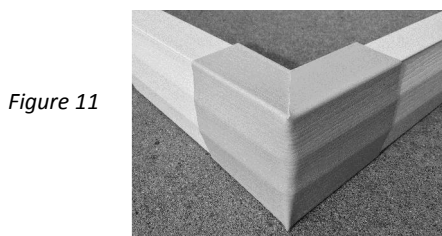


Figure 11

Ventilation & Access

Ventilation – Gorilla Thermal Skirting is nearly airtight and will not self-ventilate. Vent Inserts are needed and are available at your Gorilla Thermal Skirting Retailer. Each Vent Insert provides 28 square inches of ventilation (65 square inches for auto vents). Ventilation codes may vary by community and manufacturer and should always be verified prior to installation. Using a power saw with the blade mounted in the reverse (backwards) position or a razor knife, cut an opening in the desired Panel. Insert the Vent through the opening with the vent flange on the outside of the Panel and attach with #8 x 1" hex head screws.

Access - Access can be gained at virtually any point by using an EZ Access Crawl Space Door or Access Door Conversion Kit.