

Installation Guidelines® - Brick & Stone Panels
Manufactured Home Skirting * Foundation Siding * Porch & Deck Applications

EVERLOCK SYSTEMS, INC. (ESI) has provided these suggested instructions as installation guidelines. ESI; however, neither installs the panels nor has any control over the installation. It is the responsibility of the contractor and/or the installer to ensure panels are installed in accordance with these instructions and any applicable building codes. ESI assumes no liability for either improper installation or personal injury resulting from improper use or installation.

BASIC GUIDELINES & GENERAL INFORMATION

- Always work from left to right, completing installation on one side before beginning another. Always start at ground level.
- Panels are intended for use in vertical placement only, and are not designed or warranted for roofing or flooring applications. Mansard roofs with a 9/12 pitch or greater are acceptable applications.
- To ensure color uniformity, do not mix dye lots on the same wall. All cartons are marked with a dye lot number (code) on the label.
- Panels begin to contract at a temperature of 45° Fahrenheit. If installation is done in cold weather, additional precautions must be taken: (a) check for 1/4" cutbacks around all openings and corners, and (b) store panels in heated areas prior to installation. Be careful not to force panels on top of each other as this will override the expansion joints and may cause buckling.
- Install no more than two corners at a time. This allows for height adjustment.
- Plan ahead as the size of your nail or screw may vary from job to job. Any nails or screws used with panels must penetrate a solid substrate by at least 1/2" and be non-corrosive.
- Panels are acceptable for use as interior applications, but never in places of extreme heat such as around a fireplace or behind a stove.
- Face nailing is generally not necessary. If needed, pre-drill a hole in an inconspicuous area, such as a mortar line. The hole must be larger than the shank of the nail or screw, but smaller than the head, to allow for possible expansion. The head can be covered with matching paint or mortar fill.
- Nailing should not restrict slight panel movement. Non-corrosive fasteners should be driven straight into the center of the hole making light contact with the panel. Do not attach fasteners tightly.

SPECIAL SITUATIONS & SUGGESTIONS

SITUATION:

- Nail heads can be seen in between two courses.
- Panels won't lock together side to side.
- The top locking fingers won't lock into the previous row.
- Panels are buckling.
- Panels are not laying down flat.

SUGGESTION:

- The frame may not be level. Check previous panels to ensure that all panels are properly seated (See Basic Guidelines).
- Make sure the nails are not restricting panel movement. Check for proper spacing at side interlocks. Make sure all fingers are engaged into previous panel.

Tools & Accessories You will Need (Not included)

- Power saw with fine tooth blade (reverse blade) or concrete blade.
- Electric screwdriver or drill.
- Tape measure.
- Straight edge and/or carpenter's square.
- Hammer.
- Rake or hoe for dirt replacement and backfill.
- Chalk line and/or marking pencil.
- Vent inserts and/or EZ Access® Crawl Space Door.

REMINDERS:

Some adjustment may need to be made at the overlap of two corners (as they are installed) in order to maintain the corner / panel horizontal alignment. There is approximately a 3/4" vertical adjustment available.

Fitting panels between window or around openings requires a cut-back spacing of approximately 1/4" to allow for product expansion.

ATTACHING OBJECTS TO PANELS:

Never attach fixtures directly to panels. When attaching fixtures, first drill a hole slightly larger than the diameter of the fasteners, allowing for expansion and contraction. NOTE: Fasteners for fixtures must penetrate the solid substrate.

NOTE: Due to the additional thickness of the newly designed panels, they can no longer be heat bent.

INSTALLATION

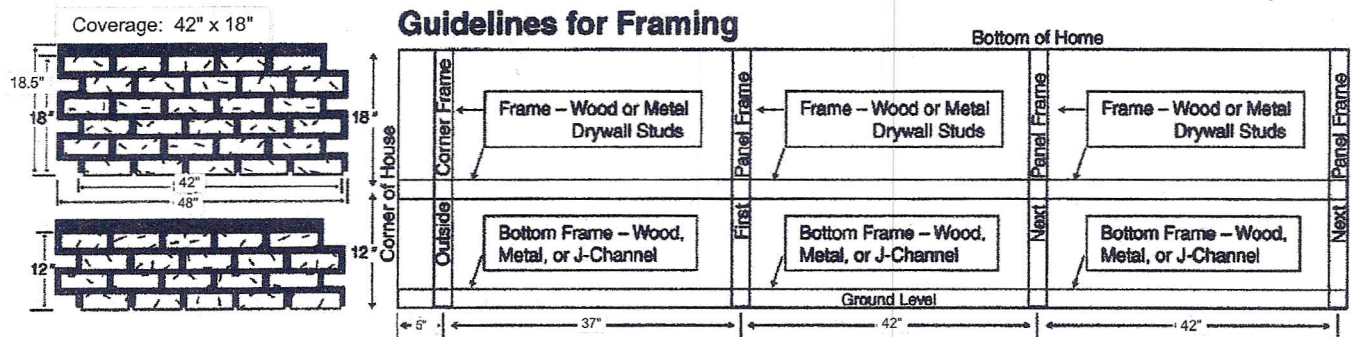
FRAMING IS MANDATORY wherever panels connect together vertically or horizontally unless a firm, nailable wall surface is available. This will prevent expansion problems, help prevent blowouts, and allow proper installation. Use treated wood or U-channel metal dry wall studs. Recess frames under the home a minimum of 1" from side of home.

GUIDELINES FOR FRAMING (Spacing is approximate.)

Working left to right, start 5" from corner of home and install vertical frames.

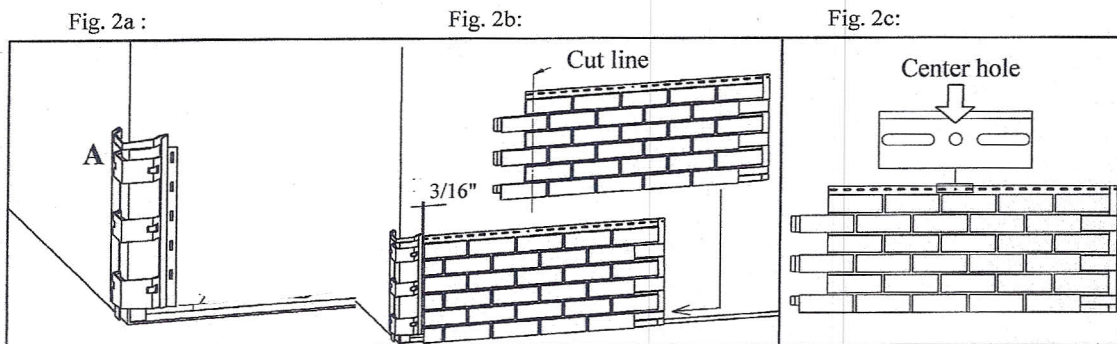
Then measure how many panels are needed from bottom of home to ground. Panels cover 18" vertically. If (for example), 30" are needed, then one 18" panel and one 12" panel (cut down from 18") are needed. The first horizontal frame is needed at 18" below home. **NOTE:** In areas with severe frost heave, call Everlock Systems for guidelines.

Fig. 1



INSTALLING SKIRTING: At each wall vertical edge extremity, install corner base A (see fig 2a). Always work from left to right and from the lowest point upwards. Cut a straight line at the left edge of the panel (see fig 2b). Slide to corner base and leave 3/16" of space to allow the panel to expand. Fasten at least five different places on the fastening channel holes, leaving 1/32" space between the fastener and the panel. When each panel is in the correct position, fasten at the center holes to allow an equal expansion/retraction on each side (see fig 2c). **NOTE:** In the case of a panel that has been cuted, a new center point must be created by piercing a 3/16" hole the same height as the oblong fastening holes.

Secure bottom of panels into bottom frame with flat head screws or nails every 10" (or use bottom rail). Add next layer of panels until completed. When all the panels are in place, clip the corner façade on the corner bases.



To avoid vertical panel seams in the same spots from one horizontal row to another, and to achieve a realistic look, stagger vertical seams (panel joints) every other row. Never force panels down on top of each other. Set them down gently ensuring that every clip is engaged, and allow the panels to seat themselves. J-trim may be used for inside corner treatments or you may scribe and cut panels to fit into the corner. It is recommended to sleeve the corner with vinyl or aluminum coil prior to installation of panels.

TO FINISH OFF THE TOP OF THE PANEL, the top lip can be placed behind/under the siding of the home, or use finish trim.

VENTILLATION: Ventilation codes vary by community and manufacturer. Open air or automatic vents are available.

ACCESS: Contact your dealer about EZ Access® Crawl Space Doors.