

Handy Panel

Preparation of The Wall

One-half inch Plywood, O.S.B. or other approved nailable sheathing may be applied to the studs in accordance with local building codes. Flashing around doors, windows or other protrusions should be installed per building code requirements. **An underlayment of approved building paper must be applied over the sheathing.** The paper should overlap all flashing at least 1/2".

Blind Nailing

Each Handy Panel can be fastened with the enclosed nails. The fasteners are to be driven so the head of the nail is flush with the face of the panel. Nail the handy panel to the sheathing using at least 4 nails per panel. Nail a minimum 1.5" down from the top of the panel every 16 inches On Center (16" O.C.). Start 1/2" from the edge and work across the panel ending 1/2" from the opposite edge. This requires 4 nails per panel at 16" O.C..

First Course

Cedar Valley recommends a starter strip to protect the underlayment. Use the enclosed starter strip or rip a 3/8" thick piece of wood to the appropriate length. Align the starter strip where you wish the bottom of the panels to start. Nail the starter with a minimum 4D nail or use the enclosed nails. Beginning at the right side or starting point, run a bead of exterior caulking against the trim piece where the edge of the Handy Panel plywood backer will sit. Tightly butt the Handy Panel against the caulk taking care to remove any excess that squeezes out onto the face of the panel. Align the Handy Panel on top of the starter strip and nail as above. Fasten the panel to the sheathing. Align the next and subsequent first course panels with the starter strip, butt the panel ends together and fasten. Make sure the end joint of the shingle overlaps the felt paper. **Caution: The end joints on the Handy Panel are fragile. Handle with care!**

Second and subsequent courses

Trim at least 16 inches off the starting panel for the next row or use the cut piece from the end of the previous row as a starting piece for the next row. Stagger the rows enough so the vertical end joints do not line up over each other up the wall. After applying every two or three courses, measure up from the butt of the first course to the subsequent courses, assuring that the courses are level. For larger areas a horizontal chalk line in the middle of the wall can be used to measure down to the panels to ensure they remain level.

(On the Deco Fishscale Handy Panel a 24" stagger should ensure a repeating pattern. NOTE: If applying Fishscale panels directly to studs spaced 16" on center, some blocking may be required to keep the pattern aligned properly.)

Windows, Doors, and Other Protrusions

The Handy Panel is easily cut and trimmed to fit around obstacles by using a small skill or jig saw. Treat openings in the wall just as you would any other lap siding. Caulk liberally around all protrusions and vertical seams. See your local building supply center for a caulk that is appropriate in your area. Use a non hardening exterior caulk to allow for expansion and contraction.

Finishing/Maintenance

The Handy Panel should be stained or primed and painted for maximum durability. Stains help to protect the panel while still showing the beauty of natural cedar. for a natural appearance use a Semi-transparent or Semi-Solid stain the is made for exterior wood siding. **See your retailer for suggestions of stains in your area.** This coating will require maintenance every 3-5 years.

For a product that requires virtually no maintenance, coat the panels with 1 coat of primer and a second coat of Acrylic stain or paint. Even with this heavy coating the grain and texture will still show. This type of coating will require maintenance every 8-12 years.

