

Installation guide for

EXTERNAL  
TIMBER  
CLADDINGS

manufactured by  
Australian Sustainable Hardwoods Pty Ltd  
(ASH)



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## INTRODUCTION

### *What are ASH's external timber claddings?*

The ASH range of external timber claddings and battens are the utilisation of ASH's attractive and high performing internal timber species combined with a deep penetrating water-based, clear treatment to provide a 25-year guarantee of protection from decay and termites when exposed to full weather exposure. This external range of timbers uniquely enables users to visually match with ASH's range of internal timber species for a consistent flow of timber design - from inside to out.

### *Purpose of this guide?*

The details within this guide provide instructions on how to best install and protect these products in their applications.

The NCC performance requirements stipulate that an external wall (including openings around windows and doors) must prevent the penetration of water that could cause:

- (a) unhealthy or dangerous conditions, or loss of amenity for occupants; and
- (b) undue dampness or deterioration of building elements.

This guide addresses these requirements.

### *Why use an Australian manufacturer?*

Being owned and manufactured in Australia provides certainty in compliance as timber is made in accordance with the following Australian Standards and procedures:

- Machined to AS2796 – *Timber – Hardwood – Sawn and milled products*.
- H3 treated to AS1604 – *Specification for preservative treatment*.
- Finger jointed or laminated to AS1328 – *Glue laminated structural timber*.
- Visually graded to AS2082 – *Timber – Hardwood – Visually stress-graded for structural purposes*.
- Third party verified:
  - sustainable to AS4707 – *Chain of Custody for forest based products*.
  - compliant to ISO 14001 – *Environmental Management System*
  - compliant to ISO 45001 – *Occupational Health & Management System*.
- Goods are governed by Australian Consumer Law.

### *Other relevant documents*

This document is designed to be read in conjunction with the following ASH guides and advice:

- [IronAsh and IronOak brochures](#),
- [Tru-Core 'H3 Azole' Warranty](#),
- [IronAsh User Design Guide](#).
- Spax 'Smarter Façade Solutions' document

## Installers note

As with all external timber products, it is essential that installation is conducted to a professional standard. Long term performance of the external timber is greatly influenced by, and is the responsibility of, the installer.

## EXTERNAL CLADDING

Profiles & species - For an updated list of cladding profiles and available species, visit <https://ash.com.au/application/timber-cladding/>

## PREPARATION

Good building design will help ensure long term performance of claddings and the building in general. Use roof overhangs to achieve Service Class 2 (see Figure 1 below) wherever possible to help limit full weather exposure and to extend longevity.

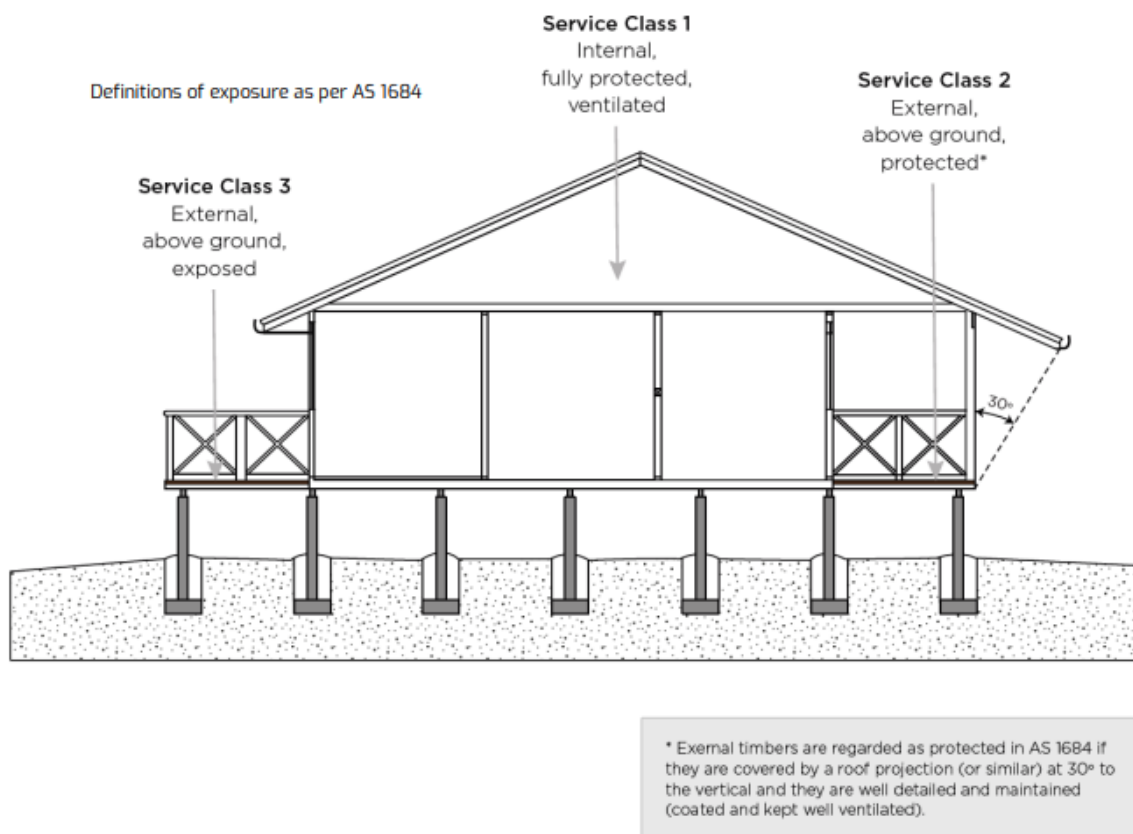


Figure 1.





## REQUIRED HARDWARE AND MATERIALS

Timber cladding profiles. (Available from ASH).

- Typically allow >10% for offcuts. (More for non-orthogonal walls or diagonal installation).

Henkel PUR glue (available from ASH or Henkel resellers)

Spax screws (available from ASH or Spax distributors).

- Screw types, as listed in Tables 1 & 2.

Sikaflex silicone types (available from retail stores)

Cavity battens (Available at ASH. >42 x 32 hardwood battens. Or >70 x 35 pine available from retail stores)

- Plus, if horizontally fixing, 65 x 10 cavity batten or 5mm packers

Corner junction waterproof flashing

Vapour permeable sarking



## INSTALLATION PROCESS

### *Vertical Installation*

See Figure 4.

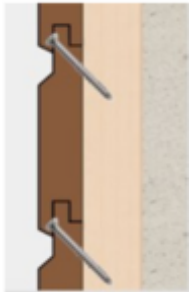
- a. Over sarking, either:
  - a. vertically fix >65 x 10mm cavity battens in line with studs using a framing gun and fixing to a maximum of 450mm centres. Or
  - b. install >5mm packers on studs at a maximum 450mm centres. (see figure 4)
- b. horizontally install >42 x 32mm ASH structural cavity battens (or >70 x 35 structural pine) by fixing through cavity batten into the frame with SPAX 5x80 A2 CS P/T or 6x80 A2 CS P/T screws, to a maximum of 450mm centres.  
(note: ASH hardwood structural battens are stronger, straighter and have superior retention properties – making them preferred to softwoods).
- c. Install flashings and waterproofing corners around windows, doors and other openings in line with manufacturers recommendations.
- d. Install corner and junction trims, straight and true.
- e. To install cladding, if using an end matched profile, ensure that the tongue is facing upward in the first installed board. This is to provide a pathway for any trapped moisture to escape during service life. Install in a brickwork patten so that end matched boards in one row do not align with end matched boards of the next row.
- f. For a neat result, it is recommended that the wall first be measured between corner junctions and that the cladding boards on either ends be ripped to their required width so that they neatly and evenly fit within the pre-attached trims and junctions.
- g. The first board is to be installed straight and true, on the side of the wall with the tongue facing the yet to be clad wall - so that the groove of the next board can be slipped over.
- h. Cladding must be installed with enough spacing to allow for expansion. Do not cramp boards tight.
- i. Cladding should overhang slightly at bottom edge and be cut at a ~15 degree angle to allow a drip-line. Boards must not be installed within 100mm of the pavement. (see Figure 3).
- j. Utilise the correct Spax screws for the intended application. (See Tables 1 & 2).
- k. All docked ends are to be sealed.

## *Horizontal Installation*

*See Figure 5.*

- a. Over sarking, vertically install >42 x 32mm ASH structural cavity battens (or >70 x 35 structural pine) by fixing to every stud in the frame with SPAX 5x80 A2 CS P/T or 6x80 A2 CS P/T screws, to a maximum of 450mm centres.  
(note: ASH hardwood structural battens are stronger, straighter and have superior retention properties – making them preferred to softwoods).
- b. Install flashings and waterproofing corners around windows, doors and other openings in line with manufacturers recommendations.
- c. Install corner and junction trims, straight and true.
- d. To install cladding, the first board is to be installed at the bottom edge, straight and true, with the tongue facing upward. This is to provide a pathway for any trapped moisture to escape during service life.
- e. For a neat result, it is recommended that the wall height first be measured and that the cladding boards on either top or bottom be ripped to their required width so that they neatly and evenly fit within the required wall height.
- f. The first board is to be installed with the end match tongue facing outward so that the groove of the next board can slip over the tongue. Install in a brickwork pattern so that end matched boards in one row do not align with end matched boards of the next row.
- g. Cladding must be installed with enough spacing to allow for expansion. Do not cramp boards tight.
- h. Cladding should overhang slightly at bottom edge to allow a drip-line but must not be installed within 100mm of the pavement. (see Figure 3).
- i. Utilise the correct Spax screws for the intended application. (See Tables 1 & 2).
- j. All docked ends are to be sealed.

## Secret Fixing Cladding

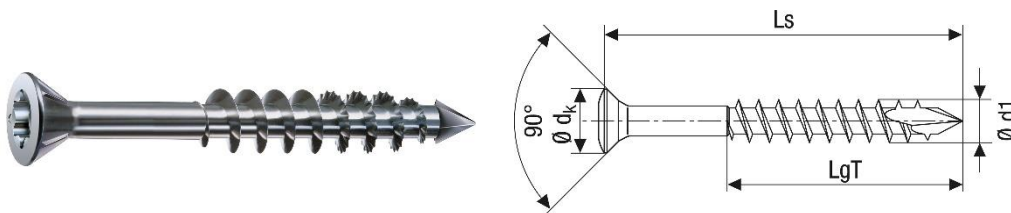


Pre-drill a 2.5mm diameter hole for hardwood boards and hardwood substructures. When fastening hardwood boards to a pine substructure, only the hardwood boards should be pre-drilled.

Ensure screw spacings are according to the National Building Codes.

Using a T-STAR plus T-15 drive bit, drive the screw through the board and into the timber joist. Minimum penetration depth into the joist is 30mm.

The head of the screw can be countersunk to be level with the surface of the board.

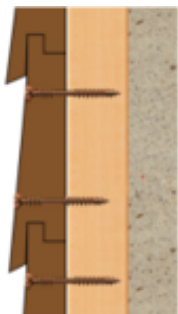


### SPAX façade screw with very small head stainless steel A2 / 304

Thread $\varnothing$ d1	Length total Ls	Min/Max Board Thickness at fixing point	Length partial thread LgT	Bit size T	SPAX Box qty (pieces)	SPAX No.
4.0	45	9 - 15	29	15	100	0467000400453
$\varnothing dk = 6.0\text{mm}$						

Table 1

## Face Fixing Cladding



Choose the correct screw size from table below according to board thickness.

Pre-drilling with a SPAX countersinking tool #5001000351005 is required for hardwood boards and hardwood substructures. When fastening hardwood boards to a pine substructure, only the hardwood boards should be pre-drilled.

Ensure screw spacings are according to the National Building Codes

Using a T-STAR plus T-20 drive bit, drive the screw through the board and into the timber joist. Minimum penetration depth into the joist is 30mm.

The head of the screw can be countersunk to be level with the surface of the board thanks to the milling ribs under the screw head.



**SPAX façade screw with double thread**

Stainless steel A2/304 antique

Thread $\varnothing$ d1	Length total Ls	Min/Max Board Thickness at fixing point	Length partial thread LgT	Bit size T	SPAX Box qty (pieces)	SPAX No.
<b>4.5</b> $\varnothing$ dk = 8.0mm	43	11 - 13	18	20	500	4547140450439
	50	14 - 20	21	20	200	4547140450509
	60	21 - 30	26	20	100	4547140450609
	70	31 - 40	31	20	100	4547140450709

Table 2

Figure 2.

FLASHING AROUND WINDOWS

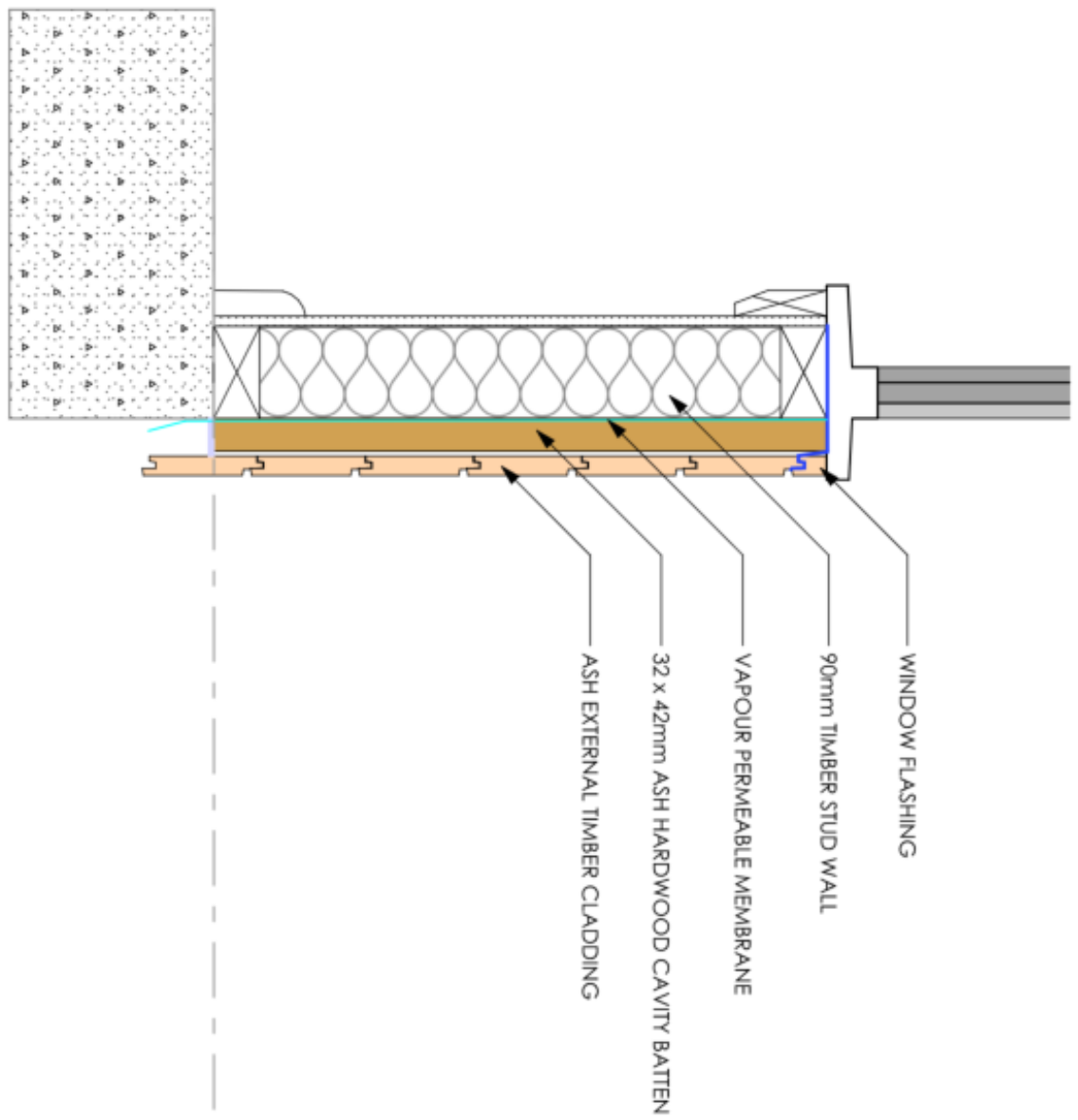


Figure 3.

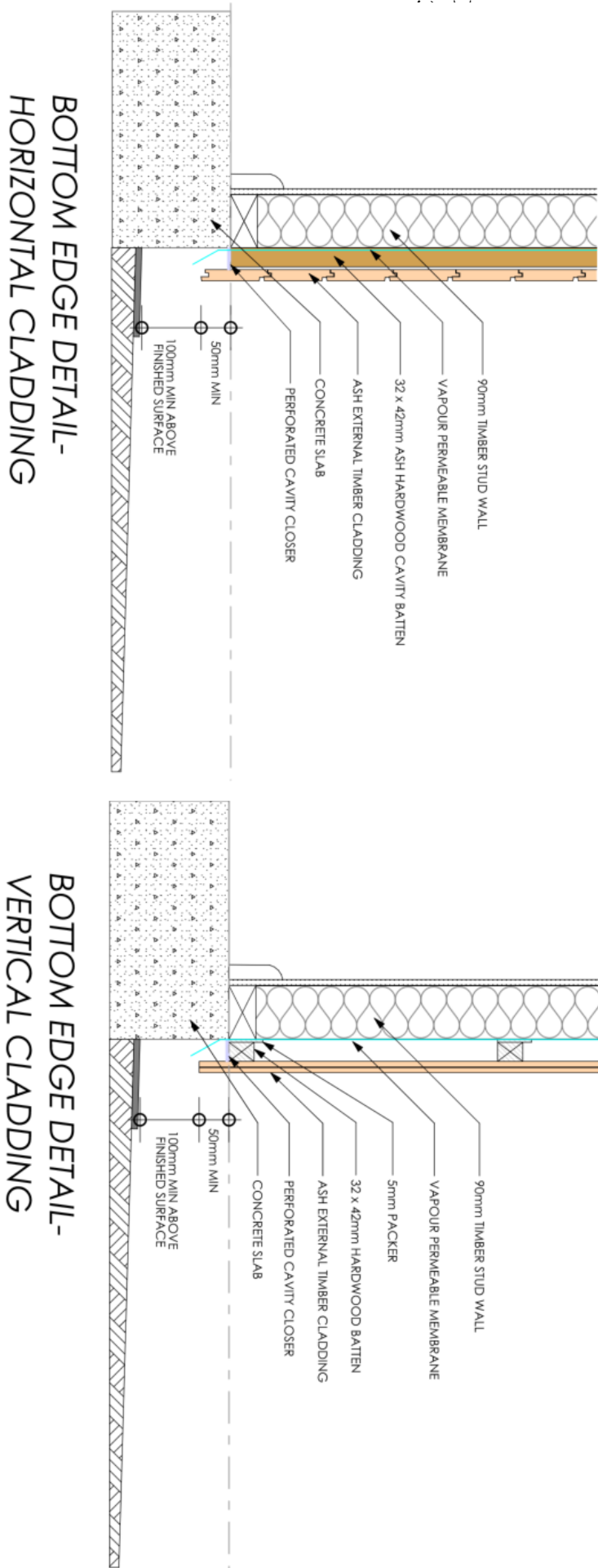
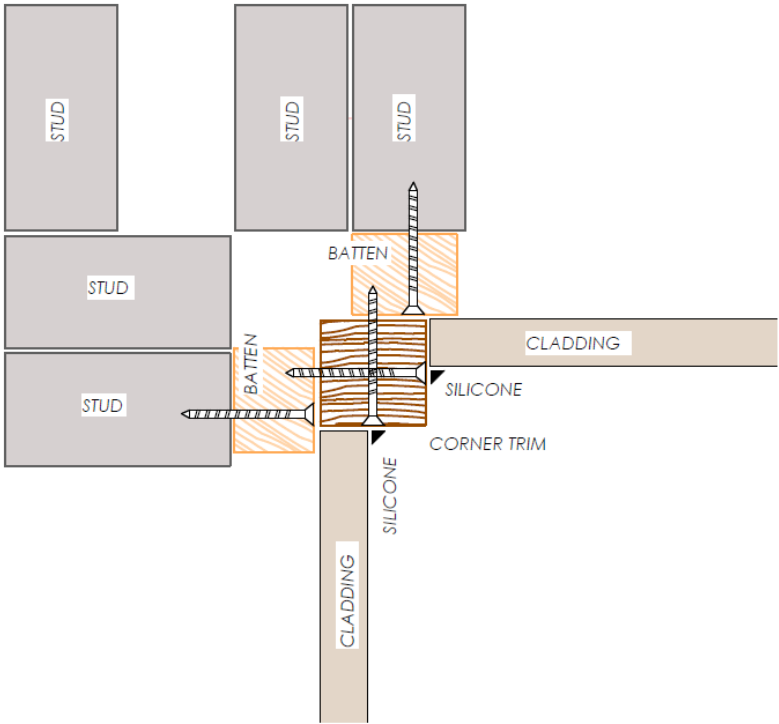




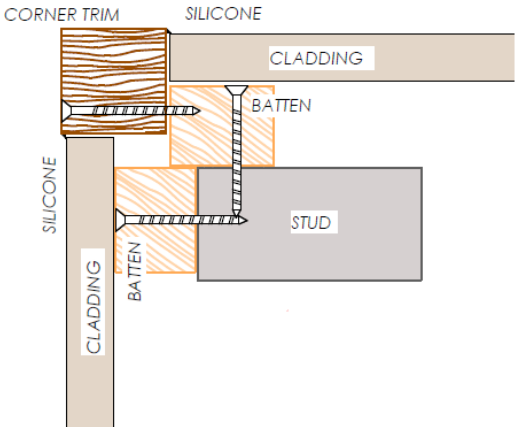


Figure 5

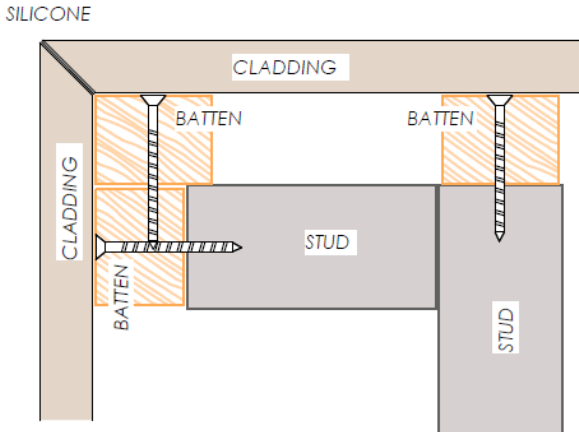




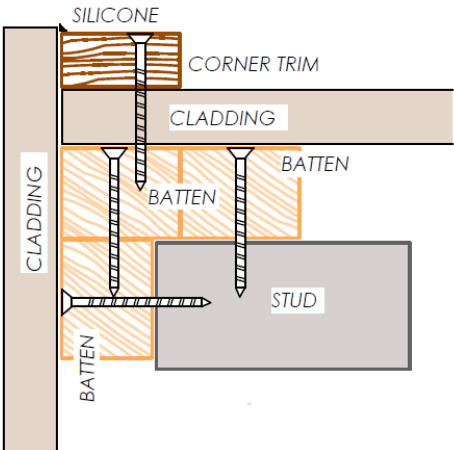
RETURN CORNER DETAIL- A



EXTERNAL CORNER DETAIL- A



EXTERNAL CORNER DETAIL- B



EXTERNAL CORNER DETAIL- C

Figure 6.



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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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