

# KWP Stratford Naturetech™ Prefinished Engineered Wood Soffit Installation Instructions

## Important

These instructions must be followed when installing KWP Stratford Naturetech™ soffit. To ensure a quality installation, read carefully before starting. Deviation from KWP Stratford Naturetech installation instructions may void warranty.

## Storage

- Store off the ground, on a flat surface on pallets to avoid sagging and contact with the ground.
- Siding must be covered and protected from the elements with a water resistant cover provided by KWP.
- Allow KWP Stratford to adjust to atmospheric conditions prior to installation.

## A) GENERAL

Soffit must be installed in a manner that prevents moisture infiltration and water build-up. As with all wood products, do not apply KWP Stratford Naturetech soffit to a structure where excessive moisture conditions exist, such as drying concrete or plaster. Installation over new masonry walls is not recommended until walls are thoroughly dry. To prevent buckling, do not apply soffit to green or crooked structural framing materials.

Always leave a 5/16" (8mm) space wherever soffit butts against trim or other materials to allow for normal expansion and to avoid buckling.

All exposed wood substrate (unfinished) must be primed and painted. HANDLE PREFINISHED KWP PRODUCTS WITH EXTREME CARE DURING STORAGE AND APPLICATION. TOUCH UP ANY DAMAGE TO THE FINISH THAT MAY OCCUR DURING APPLICATION PER PREFINISHERS SPECIFICATIONS.

*Check your local building codes for application procedures for handling moisture and moisture vapor in your area.*

## Cutting KWP Stratford Naturetech soffit

For proper cutting use a fine-toothed saw or power saw with a combination blade. Make sure that the cutting action is on the painted side of the product.

## Stud Spacing and wall construction

KWP Stratford Naturetech soffit can be used as siding. In this instance, it must be nailed into studs spaced not more than 16" (400mm) O.C.

## Nailing KWP Stratford naturetech siding

KWP offers 2" (50mm) spiral color-matched nails. Nail length will be determined by wall construction and in all cases must allow a minimum of 1¼" (32mm) penetration into solid backing or 1-½" (28mm) if spiral nails are used. There must not be more than 16" (400 mm) O.C. spacing between nails. Nailing should always start at one end of the siding and proceed toward the other end to prevent rippling. Ensure that strips are aligned at corners of the building. Do not countersink nail heads. Particular attention is necessary when using an air nailing gun. For more detailed explanation on using Stratford as siding, refer to the Naturetech Installation Instructions and follow the same installation practises as indicated for Naturetech Provincial and Prestige siding.

## Trims and accessories

A complete range of trims and accessories are available from KWP including:

- Color-matched aluminum moldings
- Color-matched nails
- Engineered wood Trim Board to match siding colors
- Color-matched caulking and touch-up paint

## KWP Stratford Naturetech soffit installation

Soffit can be installed in different ways. Panels can be installed parallel or perpendicular to supports.

- Space nails 6" O.C. at panel edges and 16" O.C. at intermediate supports.
- All panel edges must be supported or backed by solid framing.
- Minimum size framing should be nominal 2" x 4".

- To allow expansion, always leave a space of 5/16" (8mm) between panels. For perpendicular installation, if the direction of the panels needs to be changed due to the walls' position, gluing panels to joints is approved. In this last case, it is important to leave a 5/16" (8mm) space in less than 6' of direction change. Concerning the ventilation, a perforated venting strip is recommended in the same color as the Stratford collection. This strip will ensure proper ventilation.

immediately rub off the excess with a cloth to prevent any blotchy appearance.

#### **Care of pre-finished siding**

All KWP Stratford finishes are long wearing and require little maintenance. However, for best results, Stratford must be washed annually using non-abrasive household cleansers according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Test cleansers on a small area to ensure they do not damage the finish. Rinse siding surface thoroughly after applying cleanser.

- Consult your local building code for open soffit applications.
- Exhaust ducts shall terminate not less than 3 ft. in any direction from openings in vented soffit. Refer to your local code.

#### **Gaps & sealants**

- Seal all gaps with a high-quality, non-hardening, paintable sealant. Follow the sealant manufacturer's instructions for application.
  - Protect edges of board against permanent exposure to weather.
- Leave 5/16" space at all panel end and edge joints for 12 foot soffit. Support and seal all edges.

#### **Touch-ups**

Any scratches should be covered by color-matched KWP touch-up paint. Soak the raw surface with touch-up paint by applying it with a fine brush or point of a cloth, then