

**fiberon<sup>®</sup>**

# **HORIZON and SYMMETRY DECKING**

**Vertical Application Installation Instructions  
for 12 ft., 16 ft., and 20 ft. square edge boards (only)**





## Horizon and Symmetry Decking Vertical Application Instructions

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Approved Fibron products, when used in vertical applications, are a superior and cost-effective alternative to wood. Fibron products maintain their good looks with far less maintenance than oiled or painted products. Fibron products are straightforward to work with and are installed in a manner similar to wood. The following includes specific requirements for installation of approved Fibron boards for use in vertical applications, along with best practices.

For more information, refer to the Resources section at [fiberondecking.com](http://fiberondecking.com). Or, call 1-800-573-8841 or email [info@fiberondecking.com](mailto:info@fiberondecking.com).

### **Before getting started**

- When used in a siding application, Fibron products are the cladding component of a siding or rainscreen system.
- These instructions must comply with both the requirements of the specific siding systems as noted, as well as with all of the manufacturer's requirements as noted above.
- If it is not possible to meet the installation requirements for the approved Fibron product within the siding or rainscreen system, do not use the Fibron product for this application.
- Consult local building code officials for applicable requirements for rain screen assemblies.
- Where required, check with local officials for wind load testing requirements.
- Neighborhood associations and/or historic districts may regulate size, placement, and type of siding. Apply for permits if required by local authorities and codes.
- Remember to check local building codes for additional restrictions and requirements.

### **Approved Fibron boards are an excellent choice for appropriately constructed vertical applications**

- Commercial - 10 year Performance Warranty and 10 Year Stain and Fade Warranty
- Residential - 25 Year Performance Warranty and 25 Year Stain and Fade Warranty
- Maintenance - Simple Care and Maintenance requirements
- Cost - Compared to wood, the life cycle cost benefits are superior to wood
- Installation - Comparable to wood in the tools and time required to install

### **When used in a vertical installation, approved Fibron products require appropriate attention to:**

- Support - Structural support behind the Fibron boards
- Attachment - Proper attachment to the structural support
- Fastener - Size, geometry and proper location
- Gapping - End-to-end and side-to-side
- Ventilation - Ventilation for heat and moisture management

# Horizon and Symmetry Decking Vertical Application Instructions

## Square Edge Board Profile

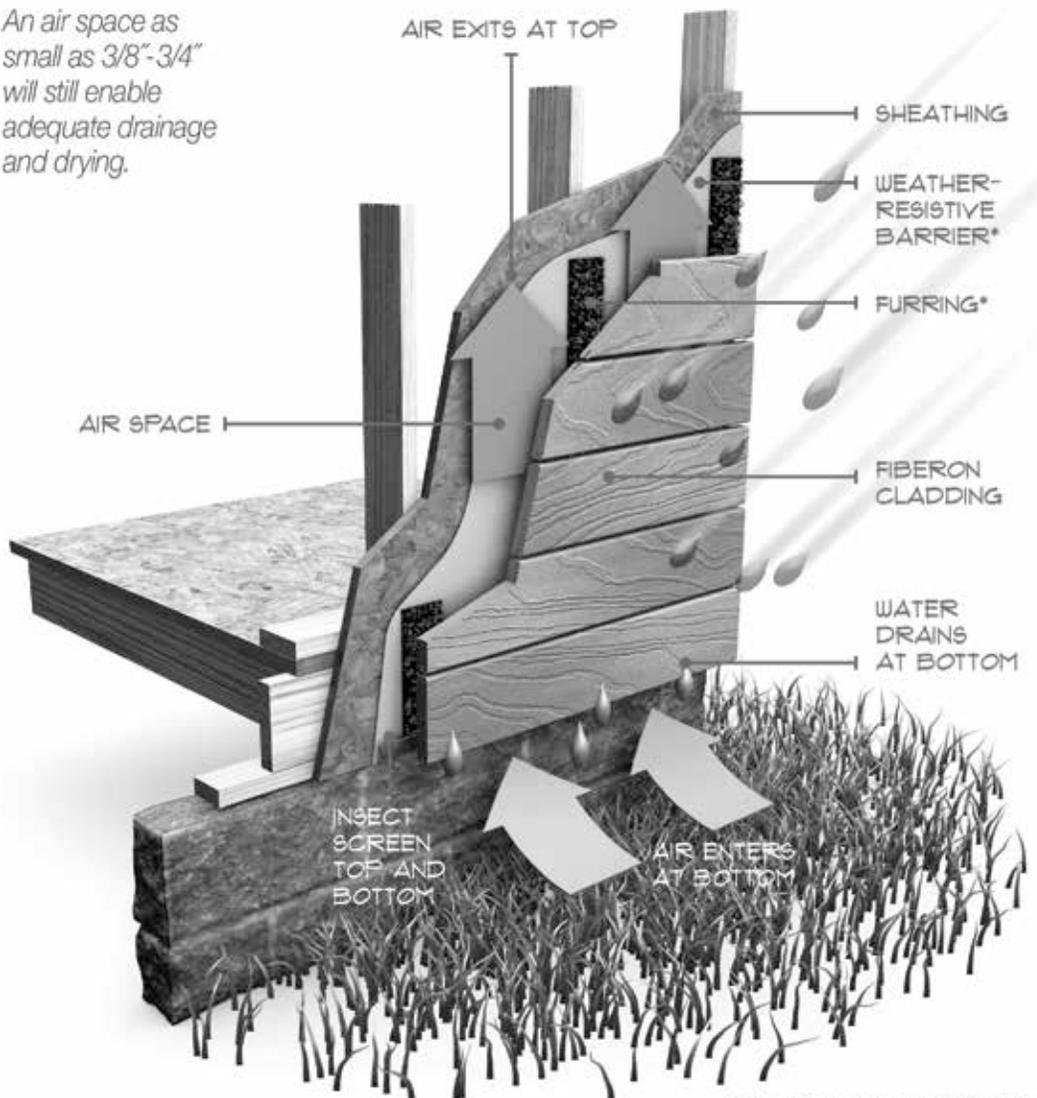


## Required Tools and Supplies:

- Power Drill
- 1/8 in. Countersinking Drill Bit
- Protective Eye Wear
- Tape Measure
- Torpedo Level
- Speed Square
- Miter Saw
- Pencil
- Adjustable Square
- Minimum 4 ft. Level

## A typical rainscreen system application

*An air space as small as 3/8"-3/4" will still enable adequate drainage and drying.*





**Structural attachments**

- Approved Fiberon decking products must be installed onto appropriate structural members and in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions.
- Minimum size furring strip is 1x3 PT SYP or engineered equal.
- Maximum distance between furring strips is 16 in. O.C.
- When fastening butt joints, additional or larger furring strips are required.

TABLE 1: Furring	Min. Thickness	Max. Spacing	Min. Ventilation
Structural attachment	3/4 in.	16 in. O.C. or less	3/4 in. N.F.A.

**Fastening boards to approved furring strips**

- Two face fasteners are required, installed no more than 16 in. O.C.
- Minimum size face fasteners is #8 x 2 1/2 in.
- Minimum distance for fasteners from board edge is 1 in. minimum.
- Minimum distance for fasteners from board end is 1 1/2 in.
- All fasteners are to be installed perpendicular to board surface (toeing not permitted).

TABLE 2: FASTENERS	Quantity	Min. Edge distance	Min. End distance
#8x 2 1/2 in. (minimum size)	2 per furring	Not less than 1 in.	Not less than 1 1/2 in.

**Different face fasteners result in varying aesthetics**

- Testing fasteners for desired appearance is recommended.
- For best results, use fasteners specifically designed for composite decking.
- When installing in an area in which salt water or salt spray could result in rust, the use of specially coated fasteners, or minimum 316 SS grade fasteners, is recommended. Rust stains from fasteners are not covered by stain and fade warranty.

**Ventilation is required for vertical assemblies and essential for operative rainscreen assemblies**

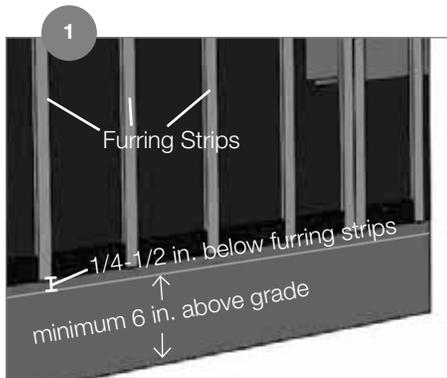
- Unobstructed ventilation of at least 3/4 in. is required behind the entire assembly.
- Unobstructed air intake (bottom) and exit (top) of at least 3/4 in. is required.

**Gapping**

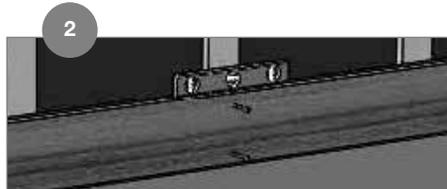
- Spacing between board edges must be at least 3/16 in.
- Spacing at end of boards is temperature dependent. Refer to the table below.

TABLE 3: Gapping	If <30	If >30 and <50	If >50 and <70	If >70
Butt	1/4 in.	3/16 in.	1/8 in.	1/8 in.
Edge-to-edge	3/16 in.	3/16 in.	3/16 in.	3/16 in.
Against wall or post	1/4 in.	1/4 in.	1/4 in.	1/4 in.
From roof surface	1 in.	1 in.	1 in.	1 in.

# Horizon and Symmetry Decking Vertical Application- Horizontal Installation Instructions

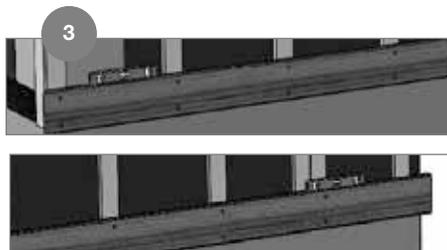


Chalk a level line based on the lowest corner of the structure, or lowest point where siding will be installed, particularly in regard to remodels. The line must be a minimum of 6 in. above grade. Where boards are installed above a roof system (as in a turn gable), allow a minimum of 1 in. space between the roof surface and the bottom of the board (TABLE 3).



Measure and cut board to length, allowing for butt joints on shared 1x3 minimum furring strips.

Secure board to the approximate middle furring strip first, after ensuring the board is level, using two #8 x 2 1/2 in. composite decking screws and allowing 1 inch clearance from board edges. See TABLE 1 for fastener placement, TABLE 2 for fastener specs, and TABLE 3 for proper gapping.

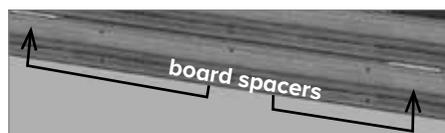
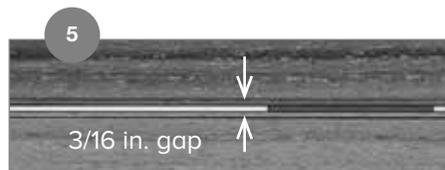


Secure outward toward the board ends using two screws per furring strip, checking the board often for level.



Secure the end of the board using two #8 x 2 1/2 in. composite decking screws, not closer than 1 1/2 in. from the board end and 1 in. from the board edge. Pre-drill end fasteners to prevent stress cracking.

In courses requiring more than one board, butt the next board to the previous, using TABLE 3 for gapping requirements.

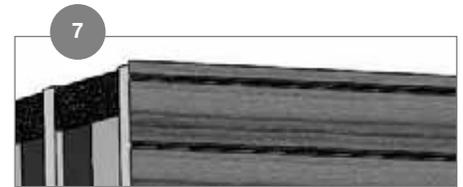


Using 3/16 in. spacers, secure the next course starting from the approximate center of the board and working outward. Continue checking to ensure courses are level. Adjustments may be necessary to accommodate board width variation.

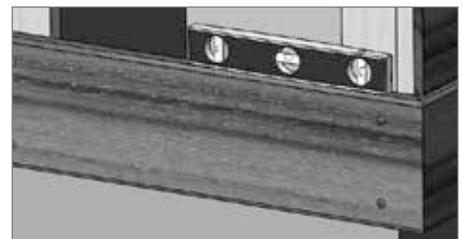
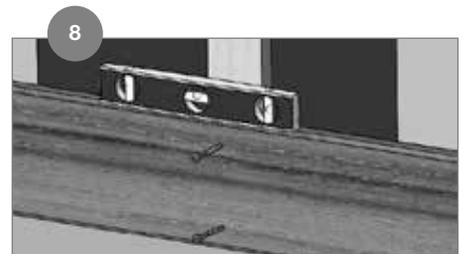


As courses are added, stagger butt joints in a consistent "stair step" fashion for best results. Never allow a butt joint directly over or under an opening in the wall. Stacked butt joints are permitted, but require special care in gapping. At butt joints, fasteners must be installed perpendicular to the board. Angling fasteners is not permitted.

If possible, do not use boards that do not span the length of three furring strips at a minimum (approximately 32 inches). Notch boards around openings in the wall. Always pre-drill holes in boards 3 inches wide or less.



At the top of the wall, it may be necessary to rip the board to the required width. Always pre-drill boards 3 in. wide or less.



Move to adjoining walls, ensuring courses are level with the previous wall. Frequently check courses for level at the corners to ensure boards are all aligned.

Note: When installing corner boards and framing out windows, additional furring may be required to provide sufficient fastening surface. Build out the corner boards and window/door trim at least 1/4 in. beyond the cladding. Corner boards should extend 3/8 in. – 1/2 in. lower than the siding courses.

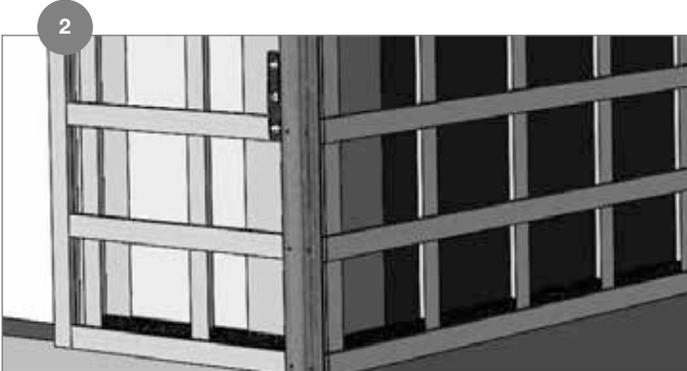
At corners and all intersections with different planes or materials, ensure proper gapping (TABLE 3), fasteners (TABLE 2), and fastener placement (TABLE 1).

## Horizon and Symmetry Decking Vertical Application - Vertical Installation Instructions

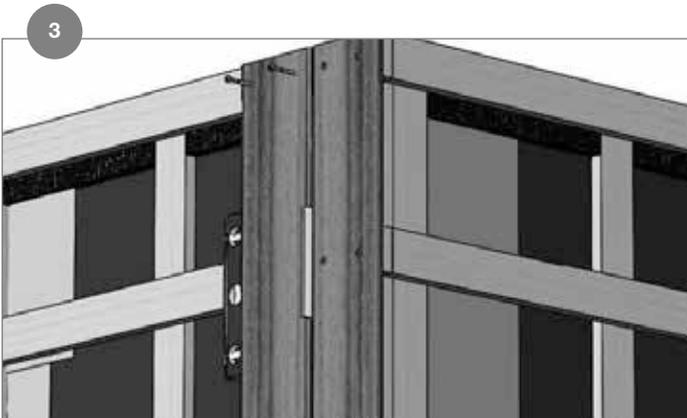


*Note: For a centered appearance, ripping two equal boards may be required.*

Measure and cut the first board. The board should extend 1/4 in. – 1/2 in. below the furring/strapping, and be 1/4 in. clear from the soffit. Starting from the top and working downward, secure using two #8 x 2 1/2 in. composite deck screws placed a maximum of 16 in. o.c. not closer than 1 in. from board edges, and 1 1/2 in. from board ends.



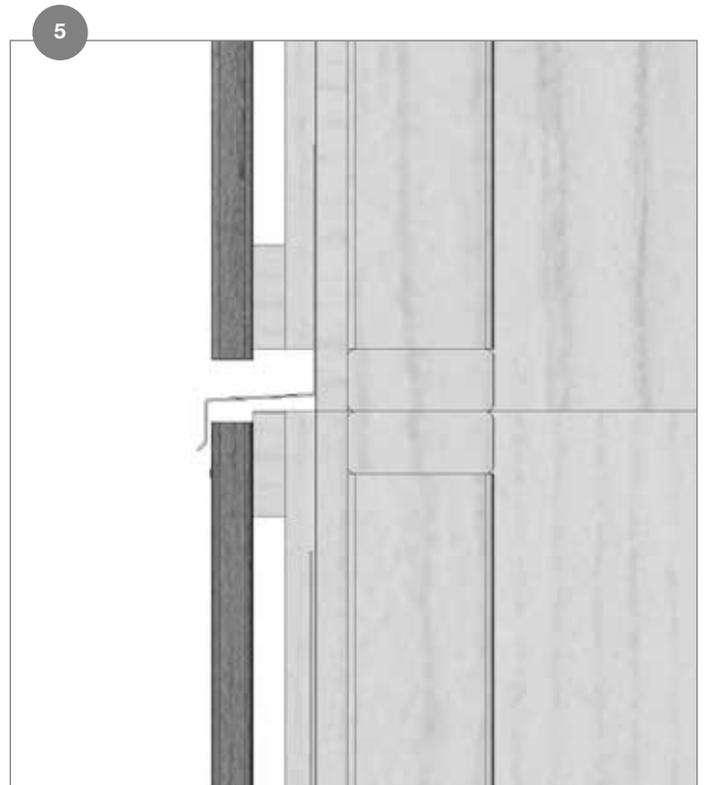
Working downward, secure the board into each furring/strapping, not exceeding 16 in. o.c., using two #8 x 2 1/2 in. composite decking screws. Be sure to maintain plumb.



Using 3/16 in. spacers, secure the next course starting from the top and working downward.



Notch boards for openings in the wall. Always pre-drill holes in widths 3 in. or under, and secure with one #8 x 2 1/2 in. composite deck screw.



For walls exceeding the available length of the boards, separate the lower wall from the upper with a z-flashing, allowing 1/4 in. clearance between the top of the lower boards to the underside of the z-flashing. Maintain approximately 1/2 in. clearance between the z-flashing and the start of the upper boards.

## Horizon and Symmetry Decking - Best Practices

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**RACKING** – Racking, or laying out a dozen or so boards in advance of installation, is recommended to achieve optimal aesthetic outcomes. Racking allows boards to acclimate and to achieve similar temperatures, which will result in consistent and proper gapping.

**STORAGE** – Prior to installation, Fiberon products must be stored in a level manner, properly supported by 2x4's every 2 feet on-center. Storing the product in a location with a temperature comparable to the installation environment will reduce temperature acclimation time. Not storing the product properly may result in distortions visible after installation.

**AESTHETICS** – Frequently check that the courses remain level, and adjust for slight fluctuations in board width as you go. When laying out the installation, take appropriate steps to avoid having to rip boards into very narrow profiles, such as when cutting around windows and doors.

**FASTENERS** – Never use less than the minimum-sized fastener. Always use a fastener that is suitable for the job, especially in salt water and spray environments.

**GAPPING** – Failure to gap properly will create consequences that may not be easily remedied. Always follow the gapping requirements (TABLE 3).

**STRUCTURE** – Never exceed maximum spans between furring strips (or engineered equal). Inconsistencies in the construction of the structural wall may telegraph through to the surface of the cladding. Take care to ensure the fastening surfaces are flat and true prior to starting board installation. Never use Fiberon boards as structural elements.

Manufactured by



[fiberondecking.com](http://fiberondecking.com)  
800.573.8841



Charter Member Composite Lumber Manufacturer's Association (CLMA)  
Charter Member North American Deck and Rail Association (NADRA)

FIB-0344-LIT Rev A 1/17