

## **Installation**

Best practice should be followed at all times and installation carried out by qualified and competent personnel. There are many possibly types of installation; new build, refurbishment, agricultural buildings, domestic dwellings, garden buildings etc. and the relevant design and installation techniques should be appropriate to the situation.

Design and installation guidance can be obtained from the “Timber Decking and Cladding Association” <http://www.tdca.org.uk/timber-cladding/>

Or the “Timber Cladding Manual” published by the Timber Research and Development Association (TRADA.) <https://www.trada.co.uk/publications/download/?id=67117F1D-D6E5-43A0-B259-BC3801DE5800>

Please always follow the recommended guidance, but here to help are some basic principles when installing our Black Painted Featheredge boarding.

Store product on site, off the ground, on a well-supported flat surface, covered until time of use and avoid contamination with dust, dirt or other site contaminants. A dirty or contaminated surface will have a detrimental effect on the application of subsequent coatings.

Ensure all cut ends, cut outs, notches, holes etc. that expose un- painted timber are liberally swabbed with a preservative end seal, such as Ensele® End Grain Preservative

<https://www.lonzawoodprotection.com/eu/ensele/>

or Ronseal end grain protector <http://www.ronseal.co.uk/garden/cleaners-and-prep/decking-end-grain-protector/>

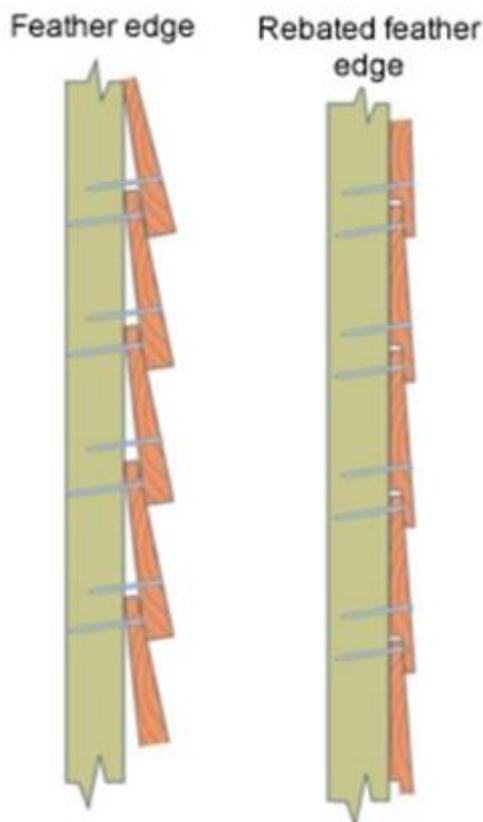
Boards should be fixed to vertical studs or battens at 400mm centres ideally, but not more than 600mm centres. Use a double stud / bearer where the boards will join in their length.

A breather membrane should be used behind the battens and sufficient air circulation allowed behind the boards.

When installing our Standard Featheredge please allow a consistent overlap of 35mm, giving a face cover of 140mm. With our Premium rebated board the overlap is set by the profile to 25mm.

However, a 3mm expansion gap should be allowed to accommodate expansion during use.

See diagram below



## Nails

Use stainless steel annular ring shank cladding nails with a minimum length of 45mm

If the nail head punctures the paint surface, then this should be re-sealed with a touch up of paint over the nail head.

Take care when fixing near the ends of a board as this may cause splits either immediately or later during service. This can be avoided by pre-drilling before nailing.



Timber cladding will expand and contract as its equilibrium moisture content changes according to the season, humidity and exposure to sun or rain. This is quite normal and is nothing to be concerned about.

## Maintenance

In service, the exposed surfaces should be periodically re-painted with Sikken's Cetol BL Opaque or equivalent water based product. **Do not use oil based paints.**

Paint manufacturers guidelines should be followed. The surface should be clean and dry and free of dust or surface contaminants. Temperature should be 10 to 25°C with a relative humidity of less than 80%. Paint temperature should be above 15°C. Do not paint in direct sunlight.

The frequency for maintaining exterior painted cladding may vary according to the severity of the exposure, but typically would be required at 4 to 6 year intervals.

During service, it is advised to regularly inspect the condition of the boards and to carry out localised repairs should the boards become damaged, or the paint surface is broken. General maintenance of gutters, downpipes, overhanging trees etc. should be upheld to avoid excessive wetting as this will invalidate the warranty.