

SECTION 10 – Special Situations

Trimming Curved Openings

Flexible J-channel simplifies installations around curved objects such as half and full round windows. To install around the top of an arched window, follow these simple steps:

Measure the circumference of the arch, then add 1-1/2" to allow for overlap of the bottom J-channel.

Place the channel along one side of the window, leaving a 3/4" section below the bottom edge of the window sill (shown). Position the first nail at the base of the arch. Drive the nail through the flange, tightly securing the flexible channel.

NOTE: This is an exception to the rule that says don't fasten vinyl tightly. When installed around curved objects, flexible channel must be nailed tightly.

Place additional nails every 6" along the flange. Again, nail tightly. Be sure the last nail is positioned at the base of the opposite arch.

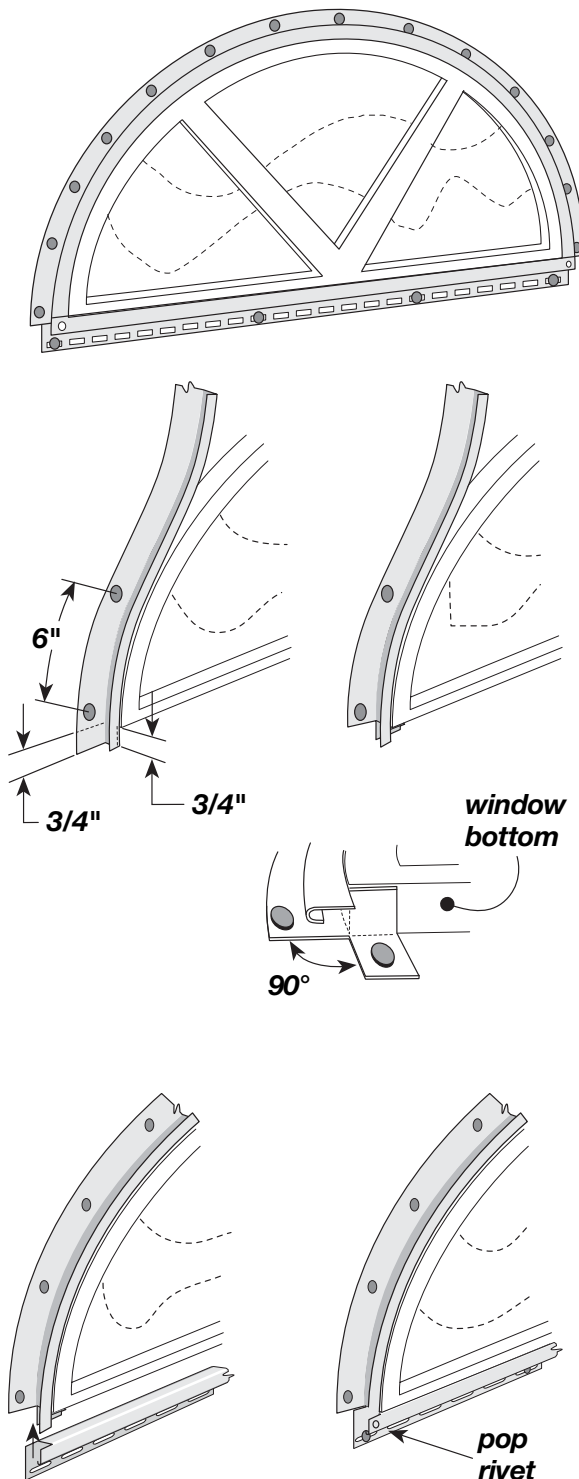
Using a utility knife, cut through the back of the channel, at the point where it extends beyond the bottom edge of the window sill. Make a second cut perpendicular to the first at the base of the channel face. The length of the cut should equal the length of the extension (shown).

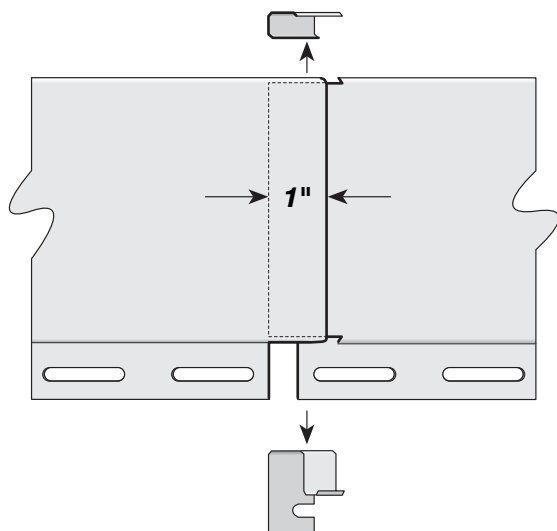
Put a 90° bend in the channel, then nail the resulting tab under the window (shown).

Repeat at opposite ends of arch.

To install the bottom J-channel, square cut the corners to overlap the flexible J-channel. Use the same technique described under "Installing window and door trim" (page 37). Use pop-rivets to secure corners (shown). Use washers on the inside of the rivets to prevent pull through.

NOTE: Remember to properly flash all windows.





Frieze Board

A frieze-board appearance can be created using the 3-1/2" lineals in combination with new construction window starter or J-channel used as a starter.

Materials needed: 3-1/2" or 5" lineals, new construction window starter or J-channel.

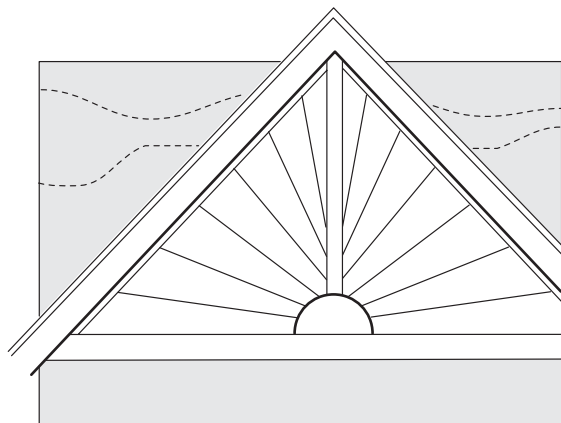
Position short leg of new construction window starter against the soffit or overhang and nail in place.

Snap lineal onto locking edge of the new construction window starter between starter and soffit/overhang, and nail in place.

Trim 1-1/2" from the return leg of the overlapping lineal. Make a cut 1-1/2" at the 90° bend of the lineal face and inside (locking) edge. Trim 1-1/2" from nail flange and receiving channel. Overlap lineals 1" by fitting the notched lineal over the un-notched lineal.

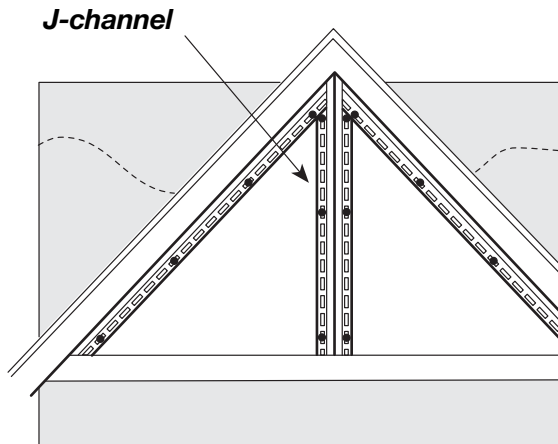
An alternative to using new construction window starter is to use 1/2" J-channel as a starter. Install J-channel with back edge against soffit or overhang, then slide lineal over J-channel.

Decorative Sunbursts



Sunbursts are not a product; they are an installation technique you can use to create an outstanding decorative finish at major accent areas such as gable ends or over garage door openings. Creating a decorative sunburst isn't difficult, but it does take patience and attention to detail. If you're ready for a professional challenge, add a sunburst to your next installation.

NOTE: *Because each sunburst installation involves unique dimensions and angles, the following instructions outline the basic technique. You must adapt these instructions to your specific installation.*

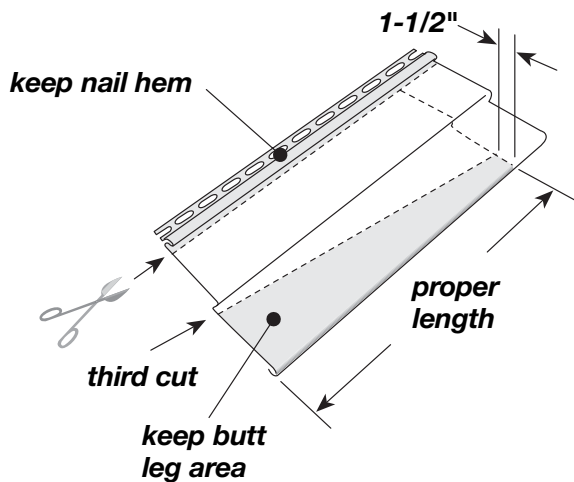


Materials needed: J-channel, starter strip, coil stock and siding. (When choosing a siding panel, remember that wider panels install more quickly than narrow panels. In addition, panels with decorative profiles – for example, dutchlap – are impractical for sunburst applications. For best appearance and easiest installation, choose from single exposure or larger face double exposure panels.)

Tools needed: In addition to standard installation tools, you'll need a nail hole punch and a pop rivet gun.

The following instructions assume an installation at a gable end. Refer to illustrations for each step.

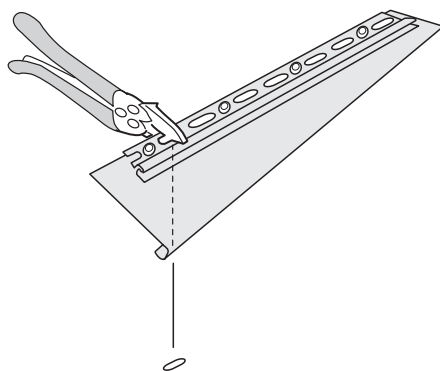
Plumb J-channels back-to-back in the center of gable.



Cut the nail hem and lock off a siding panel. Put the pieces aside; you'll need them for the final step.

Measure the distance between the J-channel and the rake. Subtract an allowance for expansion. Cut the panel to this length ("proper length" in illustration). Trim the panel at the rake end to match the rake angle.

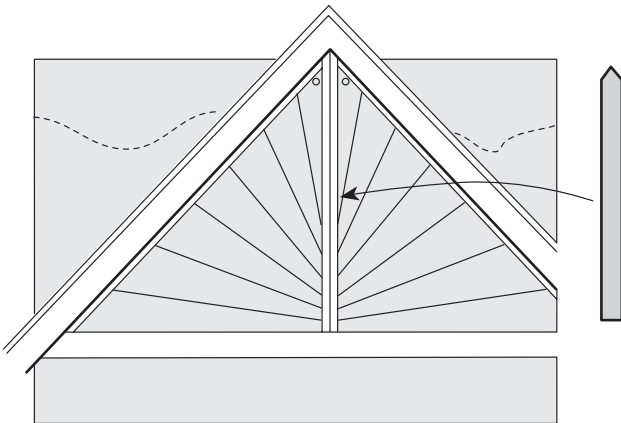
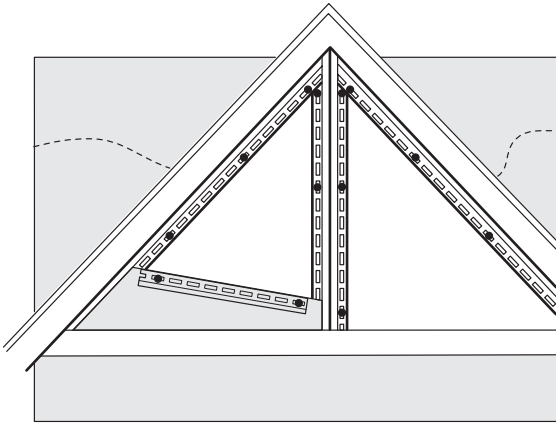
Cut the panel to the correct taper (third cut). This is a critical step, because the "flaring" of each panel allows you to create the sunburst's arch. To create the taper on a single exposure panel, start at the channel end of the panel. Mark a point 1-1/2" above the bottom butt. Then, on the opposite end, mark a point where the upper edge of the panel meets the rake. (If using double exposure panels, the mark goes under the center butt. On double exposure panels, the upper exposure is removed completely.) Now scribe a line between both points and cut with a utility knife or snips.



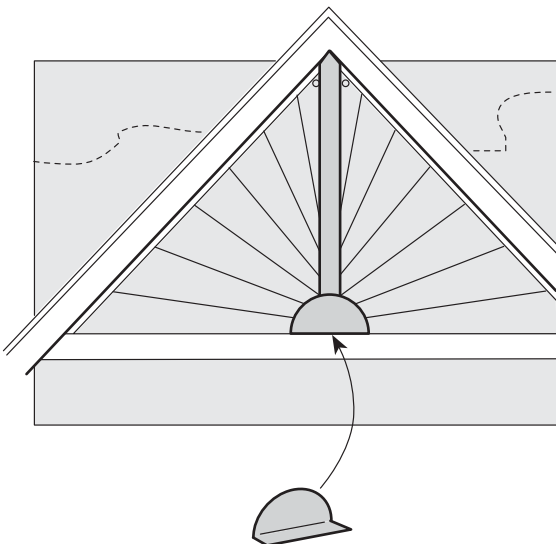
Pop-rivet the nail hem and lock to the trimmed panel. Using the factory nail hem as a guide, punch slots in the panel. Position panel and nail.

Repeat until both sides of the sunburst are completed.

NOTE: To install the final panels at the top of the sunburst, bow the panels slightly and slip them under the gable end J-channel. For added protection against high wind, you may have to face nail these panels.

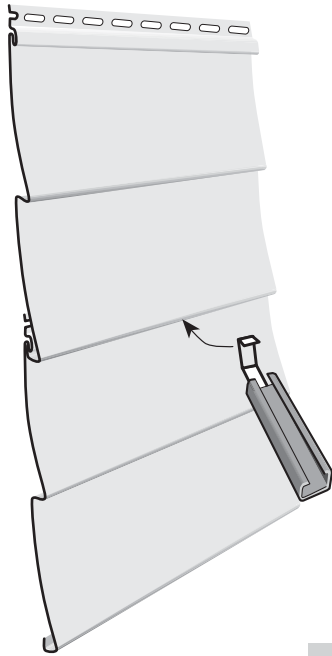


Form a sleeve from aluminum coil stock and cover the center J-channels. Secure with pop rivets.



Cut an arched section from coil stock to form the "sun" portion of the sunburst. Leave a 1" strip below the arch and bend out at a right angle. Fasten the piece in place using pop rivets.

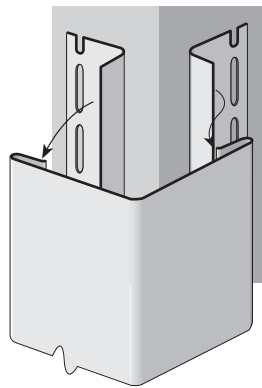
SECTION 11 – Repair



Replacing a Damaged Siding Panel

To remove a damaged panel, insert the hook end of a zip tool into the lock between the damaged panel and the panel above. Pull downward. This will allow access to the damaged panel's nail flange. Remove the nails securing the panel.

NOTE: *The nails may be allowed to stay in the wall if they are driven flush with the substrate after the damaged panel is removed. Remove damaged panel and install a new panel, then use the zip tool to lock the new panel into the panel above.*

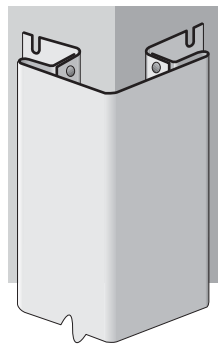
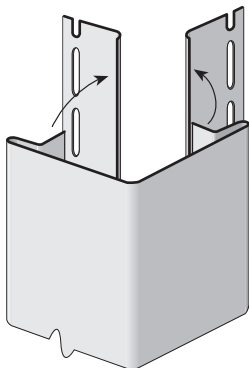


Replacing a Damaged Outside Corner Post

Remove face portion of damaged post by scoring along outside corner of receiving channel with a utility knife.

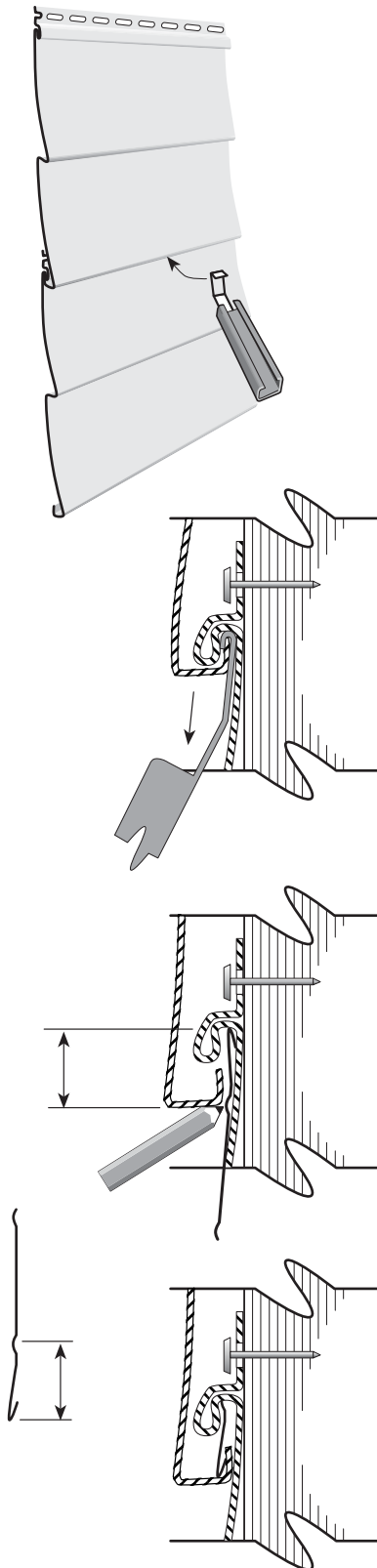
Remove the nailing flanges from the new cornerpost by scoring and bending until the flanges snap off. Be sure to score along inner corner of receiving channel.

Lap partial receiving channel of new post over partial channel on remaining nail flange. Pop rivet the two receiving channel legs together as needed.



Repairing Buckled Siding at the Joist

Vinyl siding sometimes becomes buckled between the first and second floors of a newly built siding installation due to settling and shrinkage of wet lumber and some framing practices. Using “engineered” lumber for the joist greatly reduces the chances of shrinkage and settling and can help prevent buckling of siding. If, however, you do have a building with this situation, here is a way to correct the problem using aluminum starter strip.



With a zip-lock tool unlock the buckled panel from the panel below by inserting the hooked end of the tool behind the return leg of the buckled panel until the hook catches. Pull down and “unzip” the panel.

Insert an inverted scrap piece of starter strip into the exposed receiving lock of the lower panel.

With the scrap piece inserted into the lock, lay the upper panel over the starter strip. The starter strip should be visible behind the upper panel. Mark a line on the scrap piece where the return leg of the upper panel meets the scrap piece.

Trim the starter on this line, saving the portion with the locking edge.

NOTE: Cut the starter strip in shorter lengths to ease handling and relocking.

Insert the trimmed edge into the lock of the lower panel. Begin at one end and, using a zip-lock tool, pull the return leg of the upper panel down to engage the upper panel with the aluminum starter strip.

SECTION 12 – Miscellaneous

Cleaning Vinyl Siding

Vinyl siding resists most common household stains, but it will become dirty like any product exposed to atmospheric conditions. In areas not exposed to direct sun and rain, periodic washing with a soft bristle brush and clean water from a garden hose may be necessary to remove surface dirt. Chalk may also accumulate on the surface. This is a normal condition for pigmented materials exposed to the elements.

For best appearance, clean vinyl siding at least once a year.

To remove soil, grime and chalk from your siding, use a garden hose, a soft bristle brush and a bucket of soapy water. (You can also use the solution described below in the section dealing with mildew.) To minimize streaking, wash the house from the bottom up.

Thoroughly rinse the siding with clean water from a garden hose. Avoid prolonged or high pressure rinsing of open ventilated areas. Keep cleaning solution off surrounding fixtures and surfaces not scheduled for washing.

Stubborn stains

If you can't remove especially stubborn stains using normal household detergents, request a cleaner from your siding contractor or your local building materials retailer. Always test any cleaner on an inconspicuous area before full use.

Mildew

Mildew may be a problem in some areas, especially warmer climates with consistently high humidity. Mildew appears as black spots on surface dirt and is usually detected in areas not subjected to rainfall, such as under eaves and porch enclosures. To remove mildew, prepare a solution as follows:

1/2 cup detergent (Tide, for example)

2/3 cup trisodium phosphate (Soilax, for example)

1 quart 5% sodium hypochlorite (Chlorox, for example)

3 quarts water

CAUTION: Greater concentration may cause damage to the siding and soffit.

If the above solution does not readily remove mildew spots, ask your siding contractor or your local building materials retailer for a mildew cleaner.

Siding over Asbestos

Vinyl siding retrofit over asbestos

This is a recommendation from the Vinyl Siding Institute after discussions with Federal EPA officials. Because local regulations supersede federal regulations, local EPA officials should be contacted in the area where the work is being done.

The most desirable practice is not to disturb the existing siding on the home. Apply sheathing over the existing asbestos siding and then apply vinyl siding over the top of the sheathing. The sheathing will serve to flatten the wall and also retain any breakage of the cement asbestos siding. Nails should be long enough to penetrate the sheathing, existing asbestos siding and into the wall studs.

If there is a need to level or flatten a wall, apply furring strips over sheathing.

In the case where the homeowner wants the existing cement asbestos siding removed completely, removal should be done by a professionally trained asbestos removal crew.

Please note that some jurisdictions require all asbestos removal to be performed by a trained asbestos removal crew.

Historic Restoration

Vinyl Siding Institute recommended guidelines

If a building is in an historic area or has been designated an historic building, be certain that approval for the use of vinyl siding has been obtained from the local historic society. This applies to building additions as well.

Before proceeding to re-side an historic building, the building should be examined for moisture, insect infestation, structural defects and other problems which may be present. These problems should be addressed and the building pronounced "healthy" before re-siding with any material.

Do not damage or remove the original siding. If at all possible, do not alter the original structure so that the application of vinyl siding is reversible (i.e. the original would remain intact and some time in the future, if desired, the vinyl siding could be removed). Exception: "In cases where a non-historic artificial siding has been applied to a building, the removal of such a siding before the application of vinyl siding would, in most cases, be acceptable." (Preservation Briefs, Number 8 - U.S. Dept. of the Interior - 1984)

Exercise every care to retain architectural details wherever possible. Do not remove, cover or add details until you have the building owner's written approval. Determine that the owner has consulted the local historic society regarding the foregoing.

Use siding which closely approximates the appearance of the original siding in color, size and style.

For More Information

We believe these instructions will enable you to successfully complete a siding, soffit or porch ceiling installation. But we also realize that no set of instructions can answer every question or problem that might come up during a project. So if you are in doubt about how to complete a specific procedure, we suggest you try two avenues of help:

First, call or visit your building materials supplier. You should be able to find someone with the knowhow and experience to answer your question or solve your problem.

Second, if you need additional help, call us at 1-800-233-8990. Our Sales Support Group is always ready to help you.