Installing Tongue & Groove

Importer's Instructions

Dark Red Meranti and Red Balau Batu tongue & groove material can be installed horizontally and vertically.

**Horizontal application:** Start at the bottom and work up with the groove edges facing downward. Siding up to 6” wide can be blind nailed with one siding nail per bearing toe-nailed through the base of each tongue. Nails must penetrate 1 ¼” into solid wood framing.

**Vertical application:** Start at one corner with grooved edge toward adjacent wall. Use a level, or plumb line, to ensure that the first board is installed plumb. The grooved edge of the first board may have to be trimmed to ensure a flush fit. Siding is nailed to horizontal blocking and, or furring strips, at 24” on center. As with horizontal installations, pieces up to 6” can be blind nailed and wider pieces should be face nailed.

Stainless fasteners are the only way to go. A nice option is to use the woodpecker 2 ¼ stainless steel screw versus a nail application, for the ultimate holding power.

**IMPORTANT:** Siding walls with more than 10 rows of siding we recommend a 1/32 to 1/16 inch gap above eye level to allow for expansion and contraction.

**IMPORTANT:** In high moisture areas it is imperative to leave some room where you start and stop, for example between windows, or two walls. Leave a space to allow the wood to expand and contract. Or another option is to simply do not install the tongue and groove tight, leave a 1/16” to allow expansion and contractions.

Please Note: 1 X 4 Tongue & Groove, V-Groove, is our most popular product used for siding. We also do custom milling siding such as shiplap, and bevel siding profile upon request.

**For Soffit installation we recommend a polyurethane adhesive in addition to brad nail or staple due to the weight of this product.**

It is recommended that you apply one coat of Messmers UV Plus for Hardwoods on all four sides prior to application, and then another coat can be applied after.