Installation Guide
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Note: **Custom dimensions**, available upon request, with supplement.

## Dimensions: standard series (panels)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1'</td>
<td>305 mm (1') x 1220 mm (4')&lt;br&gt;305 mm (1') x 1525 mm (5')&lt;br&gt;305 mm (1') x 1830 mm (6')&lt;br&gt;305 mm (1') x 2440 mm (8')&lt;br&gt;305 mm (1') x 3050 mm (10')</td>
<td>2'</td>
<td>610 mm (2') x 1220 mm (4')&lt;br&gt;610 mm (2') x 1525 mm (5')&lt;br&gt;610 mm (2') x 1830 mm (6')&lt;br&gt;610 mm (2') x 2440 mm (8')&lt;br&gt;610 mm (2') x 3050 mm (10')</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16''</td>
<td>405 mm (16'') x 1220 mm (4')&lt;br&gt;405 mm (16'') x 1525 mm (5')&lt;br&gt;405 mm (16'') x 1830 mm (6')&lt;br&gt;405 mm (16'') x 2440 mm (8')&lt;br&gt;405 mm (16'') x 3050 mm (10')</td>
<td>4'</td>
<td>1220 mm (4') x 1220 mm (4')&lt;br&gt;1220 mm (4') x 1525 mm (5')&lt;br&gt;1220 mm (4') x 1830 mm (6')&lt;br&gt;1220 mm (4') x 2440 mm (8')&lt;br&gt;1220 mm (4') x 3050 mm (10')</td>
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### Prior to installation

#### Merchandise check-up

**IMPORTANT:** Upon arrival of merchandise on site, shipment should be carefully inspected by the installer. In case of breakage or irregularity please notify immediately CEMFORT. **Any damaged equipment should not be used.** Any product with an anomaly/defect which has been installed will be declared « accepted as is » by the client.

#### Security

- It is strongly recommended to wear gloves when handling panels and wear a mask and safety glasses when cutting and drilling panels.
- If irritation occurs, we recommend rinsing the affected area with cool water.
- If discomfort or irritation persists, consult a doctor immediately.
Handling

Remove the panels of their delivery range by lifting one side at a time.

Always move the panels in vertical position.

NOTE: For handling of large panels, we recommend using glass carriers.

Storage

➢ Merchandise must be stored in an enclosed area, away from water, excessive moisture or anything else that could damage your order.
➢ Panels shall be placed flat on a surface free of protrusions.
➢ Be sure to keep the polyurethane enamel provided for touch-ups at room temperature (minimum of 8°C (45°F) and up to 40°C (105°F)).

NOTE: DO NOT COVER DIRECTLY ENAMELED SURFACE OF A WOOD PRODUCT. ACIDS COULD ALTER THE ENAMEL.
# Provided tools and accessories

The following table summarizes the tools and accessories supplied with respect to the selected installation method.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tools &amp; accessories</th>
<th>CEM-TRIM</th>
<th>CEM-SCREW</th>
<th>CEM-LAP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drilling template</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>Predrilling template 2mm</td>
<td>Predrilling template 2mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drill bit</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td></td>
<td>Titanium or carbide drilling drill bit: 8.3 mm (21/64&quot;) for pre piercing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Back strips and moldings for ventilation | Back strips not applicable, Cem-Trim Design: see p.9 | Ventilation grill included | Back strip galvanized steel satin 24 gauges, enameled, length 3050mm (10’)
| Interface ribbon    | Not Applicable | Interface ribbon 25 mm (1”) length and 6 mm (¼”) thick, self-adhesive in rolls of 10.6m (35’)| Not Applicable |
| Adhesive            | (For 1220 series) | | Not Applicable |
| Screws              | 1” metal or wood screw | 1-1/2” metal or wood screw | |
| Sanding block       | | Sanding block and fine sanding paper | |
| Enamel              | | | Enamel for touch-ups |

(Material may be different than shown depending on the production batch of our supplier)

For Cem-Core installation system, please refer to page 21 and/or contact Cemfort.

OPTION: Special flashings, moldings, etc., custom bending and enameled color-match to panels color available at CEMFORT Panels Inc. For INFO: (450)373-0455 or info@cemforthd.com
Tool options for on-site cutting and installation

This includes cutting panel edges around windows, pipes, electrical outlets, unanticipated adjustments, etc.

- High-speed circular saw (min 4000 revolutions per minute) with finishing blade (60 teeth minimum) carbide or titanium tipped.
- Router with titanium or carbide-tipped blade.
- Laser
- Jigsaw with titanium or carbide-tipped blade.
- Sawing plate with titanium or carbide blade.

Note: Be sure to use titanium or carbide blades and drill bits to make precise cuts and use a guide to ensure straight and rectilinear cuts.

Panel cutting

Panels are precut by CEMFORT. For additional on-site cutting:

- Place a sheet of plywood between the saw and the panel to prevent damages to the enameled surface;
- Guide the panel in order to have the finished surface up and protect it from slipping tools or other material;
- Have a continuous guide to ensure a straight edge;
- Use a finishing blade (60 teeth minimum-8"diameter) with carbide or titanium tip;
- Using enamel supplied by the manufacturer, paint the new edge.
On-site enamel touch-ups

To make enamel touch-ups on-site, you must follow these steps:

Note: ambient and substrate temperature must be higher than 8°C during application and 3 hours after.

- **Surface preparation:**
  - Using the grade #80 sandpaper included in your order, slightly chamfer all corners to eliminate sharp edges;
  - Using a clean and slightly humid cloth, carefully clean the freshly cut area.

- **Mixing and enamel application for all on-site cuts:**
  - Using a stick, mix the content of the colored enamel supplied with the CEMFORT panels on delivery;
  - Using a foam roller or a soft sponge, apply without pressure enamel on the edge of the cut or on flaking, taking care to avoid spillage on the surface already colored. In that event, immediately wipe any spills with a clean cloth;
  - Allow 30 minutes to dry;
  - Apply the second coat within a maximum delay of 1 hour and let dry 30 minutes before handling the panels. Same operations are applicable for water repellent touch-ups.
  - Warning: Outside corners. Apply on site enamel on the apparent back outer corners.

Always follow directions on the container. The touch-ups are meant only for the panels edges, never apply on surface.

**Maintenance**

Note: It is important during the pre-drilling and on site cutting to immediately remove any dust to avoid damaging the surface. Dust from cutting and predrilling left on the surface may solidify with rain/humidity and stain it permanently.

For cleaning, use a sponge and a nonabrasive household detergent diluted in water, rinse thoroughly with clean water. Soft bristle brush may be used. Do not use any solvent based or acid product. After installing the siding, make sure the panels are free of dust.

Pressure washing can be carried out within a maximum pressure of 100 pounds, using a cleaning nozzle with a wide jet. A minimum distance of 1m (3’) of the panels should be kept at all time.
**Preparation**

Vertical furring (20g caliber minimum)
Do not apply panels directly to studs or structural timber. Ensure adequate ventilation of the rear frame to comply with the National Building Code standards in effect and the principle and standards of the usual ventilated rain screen. Ensure adequate ventilation at the bottom, top of the wall and openings.

Furring (« Z » bars or « hat channels ») must be spaced at a maximum of 400mm (16") for walls, ceilings and soffits and should be discontinued at the meeting of a building construction joint and floor level. Furring should match the architectural vertical joints, in addition to meeting the maximum spacing mentioned above and must be 75mm (3") wide « hat channel » type at panel joints.

Ensure flatness of the support.
Pressure at perimeter mounting system
Extruded Aluminium trims, T-6 structural grade, enameled and with sealing compressible close-cell foam on trims fins rear surface.

- All Cem-Trim trims are painted in factory and available in 10' lengths.
- Ventilation grill of 1/2'' x 2-1/2'' x 10' enameled is included in the system.
1- **Assembly**

- Construct the wall system as stated in the drawings and according to the composition described in the wall description tables. The cladding steel framing shall be aligned with each other with a maximum deviation of 3mm (⅛ inch) on 2400mm (8 ft).

- For ceilings or soffits, make sure the dead weight (including the weight of the panel, etc) does not exceed 48 kg/m² (10lb/sq.ft) and the ventilation is sufficient, thus avoiding condensation at the back of the panels. The thickness of the panels should be 10 mm or 12 mm (3/8'', 1/2''). The furring should have a maximum space of 400 mm (16 inches).

- For wall application, do not assemble the panels directly on the wall studs. Install the steel furring (hat channel) vertically. Make sure the ventilation is adequate in the wall cavity and at the base of the wall. The vertical hat channel furring must be spaced at a maximum of 400 mm (16'''). They should be aligned with each other with a maximum deviation of 3mm (⅛ in) on 2400mm (8''). The furring and cladding should be discontinued at the building construction joint. The vertical omega furring should be of 75 mm (3'') length towards the vertical architectural lines (joints between panels). The maximum deflection of the building including the frame should be within L/360. The contractor should have the architect’s approval of the support before having the CEMFORT panels installed.

- At the exterior and interior corners of the cladding, install an appropriate folded furring of 62mm X 62mm (2 ½'' x 2 ½'') caliber 20, on the back of the panel to provide support and help get a straight angle.

- Select the appropriate trim in the range of “Cem-Trim®” moldings, as per the situation requirements. The installation concept of CEMFORT’s prefab cladding involves the install of the panel by a pressure molding at its perimeter. Use of a construction laser is recommended to ensure moldings consistent alignment.

- **Note:** For panels used as ceilings/soffits or over 610mm width, add a strip of the included adhesive mounting sealant on the total length of the intermediate supports (follow the sealant manufacturer’s instructions). Do not apply/install if temperatures are lower than zero (0) Celsius.

- Important: make sure of the straight alignment of the “Cem-Trim®” moldings at all times.
➢ Note: Plan the use of the ventilation grill at the bottom and top of walls and at wall’s ridge opening. Leave a ventilation space of 25mm (1").

➢ Start by placing the “Cem-Trim®” junction/starter pressure molding at 25mm (1”) from the flashing for an efficient air circulation and partially fix the latter to each of the vertical omega furring, using 25mm (1”) stainless steel screws. Slide the CEMFORT panel in the upper part of the trim and completely fix the trim afterwards.

➢ Position the horizontal molding “Cem-Trim®” on the upper part on the panel and adjust the molding with panel’s length. Partially fix the latter with 25mm (1”) stainless steel screws on each omega furring and once the next panel has been insert into the trim, fix completely. Secure the trims winglet with panel’s surface without deforming it. Trims must be fasten each 16” on omega furring. Repeat the above steps for each CEMFORT panel.

➢ When panels are horizontally fixed to the furring with “Cem-Trim®” pressure moldings system, insert a compressible foam bloc inside both ends of adjacent horizontal pressure moldings. Important: Place correctly the compressible foam piece inside the horizontal pressure molding.

➢ Position the appropriate “Cem-Trim®” pressure molding vertically, overlapping horizontal moldings and compressible foam pieces. Joint only when it meets horizontal moldings. Make sure the compressible foam piece is subjected to the cavity in the cross meeting of the vertical and horizontal moldings. Attach the molding with 25mm (1”) stainless steel screws at 400mm (16”) c/c on the vertical furring and at intersection of architectural lines, press it without deforming it. Make sure that the straight alignment is maintained at all time.
Typical details | Installation diagrams Cem-Trim®

Legend
1. Cemfort Panel
2. Cem-Trim® Junction
3. Cem-Trim® Horizontal / Vertical
4. Cem-Trim® Jamb / Corner
5. Cem-Trim® Inside Corner
6. Enameled bend Aluminium/metal
7. Metal frame – Galvanized steel

Outside Corner

Inside Corner

Jamb / Junction

Junction 2 colors

Color « X »

Color « Y »

Junction : Vertical / Horizontal
Vertical furring (20g caliber minimum)

Do not apply panels directly to studs or structural timber. Ensure **adequate ventilation** of the rear frame to meet the *National Building Code* standards in force and the principle and standards of the usual **ventilated rain screen**. Ensure adequate ventilation at the bottom and top of the wall.

Furrings (« Z » bars or « hat channels ») must be spaced at a maximum of 400mm (16") for vertical surfaces as well as for ceilings and soffits and should be discontinued at the meeting of a building construction joint and floor. Furring should match the architectural horizontal joints, in addition to meeting the maximum spacing just mentioned and must be 125mm (6") wide « hat channel » type at the architectural joints. An acceptable alternative is to place 2 ‘hat channels’ 2’ wide, side-by-side in order to fasten panels to furring.

Ensure flatness of the support.

Ceilings and soffits

For ceilings and soffits, make sure there is sufficient ventilation to avoid condensation on the rear of the panel. The furring should be spaced at 400mm (16") maximum. For all of the junction details, see the architectural plans.
**Procedure**

1. **Back strip : horizontal**
   - Place the back strip to the corresponding horizontal architectural joints.
   - Temporarily secure the back strip on furring as specified on the frame plans, the panels’ fasteners will keep them in place permanently.

2. **Back strip : vertical**
   - The back strip must have a minimum size of 50mm (2") onto the rear edge of the panel, in addition to the spacing of the joint as specified on plans.
   - Place an ongoing length for vertical joints. Vertical back strip must overlap the horizontal back strip.
   - Temporarily secure the back strip on furring as specified on the frame plans, the panel’s fasteners will keep them in place permanently.

**Ventilation Grill:**

Perforated vent grills are included with materials. Position these at the bottom of the cladding, above the openings and at the top of the façade. Plan to leave a 1” gap for proper ventilation.

3. **On-site pre-drilling Cem-Screw**

CEMFORT products are offered to be pre-drilled at our facility. Should there be a need to perform on-site pre-drilling:

- Pre-drill the panel using the drill bit provided with your order. Screw holes must be 2mm wider than diameter of fastener to allow expansion of panel.
- FREQUENCY : horizontal = 405mm (16"), vertical = 610mm (24")
- Immediately remove any dust to avoid surface damage.
4. Interface ribbon (Rear of panel)

➢ Position the flexible self-adhesive ribbon directly to the outer edge of the back of the panel. Ribbon must be positioned at 25mm (1'') from the edge of the panel and on 3 edges of the panels (not at panel’s bottom edge).

5. Fixing to the furring

Start the installation with the fasteners at the center of the panel and move towards exterior of panel. Fasten the panels to the furring using only the fasteners provided by CEMFORT.

➢ Fasteners must be positioned asymmetrically at the panel’s corners at least 38 mm (1.5'') of edge and 64 mm (2.5'') from the top with a maximum spacing of 405mm (16'') horizontally and 610mm (24'') vertically or as specified on plans.

➢ Keep a minimum distance of 3mm (1/8'') between panels, according to specifications described in the plans.

➢ In the inside and outside corners, install a 20 gauge galvanized steel bracket of 75mm x 75mm (3" x 3") at panel rear to provide support and help get a straight angle. Bracket should be mechanically fastened through the panels without being directly attached to the frame.

6. Ventilation

➢ Ensure a minimum clearance of 25mm (1'') between panels and flashing, at the top of window/other openings and at top and bottom of the wall to allow ventilation and proper drainage. Ventilation grills for this usage are included with the Cem-Screw system.
**Important Notes**

- The steel supports shall be 20 gauge or more (see description on plans);
- Galvanization layer thickness on steel must be of Z275g/m²;
- Vertical furring (a minimal distance of 6mm (1/4") between the joint junctions) should be discontinued at the junction of a horizontal joint between two panels. Example: at the junction of floor stages;
- Press the panel at 1mm (1/32") from the back strip surface: do not crush it on the back strip. **Do not use impact tools.**
- Place the panel in its final position. Screw holes must be 2mm larger than diameter of fasteners. Start the installation of fasteners with the center panel and move towards exterior.

**Typical details | Installation diagrams**

![Exterior Corner Diagram](image)

**Legend**

1. Cemfort panel  
2. Provided screw  
3. Pre-drill 2mm larger  
4. Enamel bent metal  
5. Interface ribbons
Panel fixation to furring

Due to the attachment points of the furring and panels, when they take their expansion on two different furrings as in example A; the expansion of both materials is equal. When panels are to expand on two furrings as in example B; uneven pressure is then exerted on the panels and can cause potential damage.

This means that:

➢ It is recommended that vertical furring be discontinued at the junction of floor levels to allow its deformation absorption, see A;

➢ The vertical furring must not exceed 3050 mm (10’) long;

➢ For smaller parts, it is possible to set them on the same metal sleeve subject to compliance with the two points above;

➢ Floor junction: CEMFORT panels must stay at a 100mm (4”) distance from floor, sidewalks, etc.
SYSTEM - Cem-Lap®
Overlap mounting system

Preparation

Vertical furring (20g caliber minimum)

Do not apply panels directly to studs or structural timber. Ensure adequate ventilation of the rear frame to meet the National Building Code standards in force and the principle and standards of the usual ventilated rain screen. Ensure adequate ventilation at the bottom and top of the wall.

Furrings («Z» bars or «hat channels») must be spaced at a maximum of 400mm (16") for vertical surfaces as well as for ceilings and soffits and should be discontinued at the meeting of a building construction joint and floor. Furring should match the architectural horizontal joints, in addition to meeting the maximum spacing just mentioned and must be 150mm (6") wide «hat channel» type at the architectural joints. An acceptable alternative is to place 2 ‘hat channels’ 2’ wide, side-by-side in order to fasten panels to furring.

Ensure flatness of the support.

Procedure

On-site pre-drilling Cem-Lap. CEMFORT products are offered to be pre-drilled at our facility. Should there be a need to perform on-site pre-drilling:

➢ Pre-drill the panel using the drill bit provided with your order. Screw holes must be 2mm wider than diameter of fastener to allow expansion of panel. Always use the same drill bit diameter to ensure correct size pre-drilling.
Drilling

Note: Start the installation by fastening the center screws and move towards exterior.

1. Fixing to vertical furring

- Secure the panel in the upper part to at least 38mm (1 ½”) from the horizontal edge, at 50mm (2”) from a corner and at a maximum spacing of de 400mm (16”) horizontally or as specified on plans.

- Overlap by 50mm (2”) the bottom panel

2. Vertical back strip installation

- Place the metal back strip provided at the rear of a vertical joint before attaching panels to furring. Back strip will need to be temporarily fixed and panel screws will hold them permanently; see Picture 2. Apply a bead of sealant at the rear interface between the back strip and the panel.

- Insert next panel; on back strip previously installed. For any other specific junction details, view plans.
➢ Pre-drill the panel using the drill bit provided with your order. Always use the same drill bit diameter for pre-drill of CEMFORT panels to ensure proper larger size hole than diameter of fastener by 2mm for expansion / contraction of panel.

3. Vertical Junction

➢ Keep a minimum distance of 3 mm (1/8'') between panels. Ensure a minimum spacing of 25mm (1'') between panel and flashing, at the top of openings and at the top and bottom of the wall to allow ventilation and proper drainage. Use the ventilation grill provided with your order.

➢ Note: for specific back strip, corner and junction details; see plans.

**Important Notes**

➢ The steel supports shall be 20 gauge or more (see description on plans);
➢ Galvanization layer thickness on steel must be of Z275g/m²;
➢ Vertical furring (a minimal distance of 6mm (1/4'') between the joint junctions) should be discontinued at the junction of a horizontal joint between two panels. Example: at the junction of floor stages;
➢ Press the panel at 1mm (1/32'') from the back strip surface: do not crush it on the back strip. **Do not use impact tools.**
➢ Place the panel in it’s final position. Screw holes must be 2mm larger than diameter of fasteners. Start the installation of fasteners with the center panel and move towards exterior.

**Typical details | Installation diagrams**

![Interior Corner](image1)
![Exterior Corner](image2)
Preparation

Vertical furring (20g caliber minimum)

Do not apply panels directly to studs or structural timber. Ensure adequate ventilation of the rear frame to meet the National Building Code standards in force and the principle and standards of the usual ventilated rain screen. Ensure adequate ventilation at the bottom and top of the wall.

Furrings (« Z » bars or « hat channels ») must be spaced at a maximum of 400mm (16") for vertical surfaces as well as for ceilings and soffits and should be discontinued at the meeting of a building construction joint and floor. Furring should match the architectural horizontal joints, in addition to meeting the maximum spacing just mentioned and must be 125mm (5") wide « hat channel » type at the architectural joints and 75mm (3') at intermediary supports.

Ensure flatness of the support.

Procedure

1. Walls and panels preparation

- Begin by placing the pre-perforated ventilation grill included with the system on the hat channels. Plan to leave a spacing of 1'' (25mm) between the bottom of the panel and flashing.

- Place the Cem-Core horizontal rails where the panel hangers and panels will be mounted, with the assistance of a laser or level. Space the Cem-Core horizontal rails each 24'' o/c or depending panel size and fasten to the vertical supports with the #14, 1-1/2'', self-tapping screws provided by Cemfort. See Picture 1
➢ At the back of the Cemfort concrete panels, plan/measure to add 2 holes at each 24" o/c in order to fasten the panel hangers to Cemfort panels. Make sure to align the holes to the panel hangers holes as well as to the Cem-Core horizontal rails already on the wall.

➢ Using the special bit provided by Cemfort, pre-drill the measured holes at the back of the panels. **Warning:** Make sure that the holes are deep enough and free of any dust/dirt before using the Cem-Core anchors.

➢ Place the panel hangers in line with the pre-drilled holes and using a rivet gun, fasten the Cem-Core anchors using adequate and continuous pressure on the gun, the anchor rod will remove by itself. Plan on using the adjustable panel hangers (hole on top) at each of the 4 corners and the standard panel hangers at the center. **See Picture 2**

2. Insertion and adjustment of panels

➢ Insert the panel hangers at the back of the prepared Cemfort panels into the Cem-Core horizontal rails on the wall, adjust at need.

➢ Once the Cemfort panels and panel hangers are completely inserted into the horizontal supports, use the adjustment screw supplied by Cemfort in order to adjust and fasten the panel hangers to the horizontal rails. These screws will maintain the panels in place.
➢ When pre-drilling the panels and placing the panel hangers at the back of the Cemfort panels, make sure to plan a minimal spacing of 1/8'' (3mm) between the panels or as indicated in the spec. This will need to be considered when taking your measurements.

3. Ventilation

➢ Ensure a minimum spacing of 25mm (1'') between panel and flashing, at the top of openings and at the top and bottom of the wall to allow ventilation and proper drainage. Use the ventilation grill provided with your Cem-Core system.

4. Corners

➢ In the inside and outside corners, install a 20 gauge galvanized steel bracket of 75mm x 75mm (3'' x 3'') at panel rear to provide support and help get a straight angle. Bracket should be mechanically fastened through the panels without being directly attached to the frame.

➢ Follow the above described installation steps of the Cem-Core system, but depending on the chosen panel, plan that the panel from one side, will be 3/8'' (10mm) or 1/2'' (12mm) longer in order to cover the edge of the panel on the other side, which will be at least 1/8'' (3mm) shorter or as indicated in specs, to account for the expansion joint.

5. Junctions

➢ Level to frame: For a junction between panels and a window and/or door frame, which is level (flush) to the Cemfort siding system, cut the panels to the desired dimension, but plan a minimal spacing of at least 3mm (1/8'') between the edge of the Cemfort panel and the window/door frame. Treat the cut edge with the touch-up enamel included in the Cem-Core system (ref : Page 7 for process of on-site touch-up). Insert the prepared CEMFORT panel into the horizontal rails and apply a flexible caulking or silicone between the CEMFORT panel and frame.

➢ Projection/recess: For window and/or door frame which is in projection/recess, use a prefinished galvanized steel corner molding available through Cemfort and
fasten it permanently to the ‘omega’ furring. Position the corner molding in a way so it makes the transition between the omega furring and the frame. Cut the CEMFORT panel to the desired dimension or as specified on plans and treat the cut edge with the touch-up enamel provided in the order (ref: Page 7 for process of on-site touch-up). Insert CEMFORT panels into the horizontal rails and adjust.

Rely on the most recent version of the installation guide available at www.cemforthd.com

**Notes:**