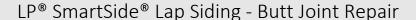
Technical Bulletin No. 003





When LP® SmartSide® Lap Siding is installed such that the required minimum 3/16 inch (5 mm) gap is not provided at a **caulked butt joint**, or where the siding abuts trim, door casings, etc. follow the repair guidelines below.

Butt Joint Repair:

- 1. Use wooden wedges to separate the affected piece from its upper overlapping piece.
- 2. Using a keyhole or reciprocating saw with a fine-tooth blade, remove enough material from the end of one piece of lap siding to provide a minimum 3/16 inch (5 mm) gap. Insert a piece of metal flashing behind the butt joint before cutting to protect the water-resistive barrier from being damaged by the saw.
 - If repairing open butt joint option with pan flashing and no sealant, protect the existing flashing from being damaged by the saw.
 - If repairing joint moulding option, add the thickness of the joint moulding web to the butt joint gap retaining a net 3/16 inch (5 mm) space for expansion.
- 3. If any area of the siding has been forced to deflect away from the wall, face-nail only that area to flatten the piece back against the wall. Be sure to properly paint all exposed nail heads to prevent liquid moisture intrusion and water buildup.
- 4. Sand or use other means to smooth out cut ends so the surface is prepared for priming, do not sand face of siding.
- 5. Remove all loose debris, sawdust, and leftover caulk from the butt joint.
- 6. Using a paintbrush, prime all exposed wood fibers with a high-quality 100% acrylic exterior primer. Be sure to follow the paint manufacturer's application instructions.
 - If repairing open butt joint option with pan flashing and no sealant, apply a second layer of high-quality 100% acrylic exterior paint at butt joint ends.
- 7. Seal the gap with a high-quality, non-hardening, paintable exterior sealant meeting ASTM C920, minimum Class 25. Follow the sealant manufacturer's instructions for application.
 - If repairing open butt joint option with pan flashing and no sealant, skip this step.
 - If repairing joint moulding option, skip this step.
- 8. Complete primed siding butt joint repair by applying a finish coat of paint to the siding using a high-quality 100% acrylic exterior paint. Be sure to follow the paint manufacturer's application and maintenance instructions.
 - If repairing Prefinished siding, skip this step.

Click **here** to review LP SmartSide butt joint repair video:

TIPS & TRICKS: REPAIRING LAP SIDING BUTT JOINTS

ADDRESS 1610 West End Ave. Suite 200 Nashville, TN TEL 888-820-0325

WEB LPCorp.com

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