

# DesignerWood™ Aluminium Veneer

Fire-rated aluminium batten and cladding system  
with a genuine timber veneer finish

## Technical Detail & Installation Guide

## Genuine timber veneer with the confidence of fire compliance

Atkar Group are dedicated in meeting market requirements around fire compliance whilst offering aesthetically compelling solutions to fit the modern design brief. Our DesignerWood™ Aluminium batten and cladding range includes two outstanding options – a genuine timber veneer and a photo-realistic timber finish. Our DesignerWood™ Aluminium Veneer provides the warmth and charm that you can only get with genuine timber, yet it also offers the fire compliance of aluminium, making it the perfect solution for many project requirements.

DesignerWood™ Aluminium Veneer offers:

- ✓ AS 5637 Group 1 Rating
- ✓ Non-combustible compliant
- ✓ Genuine timber veneer
- ✓ Internal & external applications
- ✓ Quick & easy installation
- ✓ Batten & cladding options



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## Application

DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer is suitable for use as an internal lining on walls and ceilings or as an external cladding for residential and commercial buildings.

## Material

Lightweight solid aluminium hollow profiles with a genuine timber veneer finish.

## Warranty

20 year warranty against delamination. Varnish re-coating required every 3 years. See page 6 for full maintenance requirements.

## Lengths

Battens and claddings are available in standard 5800mm lengths and can be cut to size on site or fully customised to project requirements.

## Fixing Systems

DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer battens have a concealed 2-piece click fixing system and the claddings have a weather-proof interlocking fixing system.

Please refer to page 8 for full fixing and installation details.

## Finish Colours

Available in 7 standard finish options. Colour matched end caps are also available to ensure a seamless finish.

Custom finishes are possible – please contact Atkar Group to discuss requirements.



Western Cedar



Light Elm



Vintage Pine



Dark Alder



Deep Walnut



European Maple



White Cedar

## Profiles

DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer comes in the following standard sizes batten and cladding profiles.

Other batten and cladding profiles are possible – please contact Atkar Group to discuss requirements.

### 2-Piece Click Batten System



45 x 40mm Batten



50 x 70mm Batten



50 x 120mm Batten



50 x 170mm Batten



50 x 220mm Batten

### Weatherproof Interlocking Cladding System



100mm Cladding



150mm Cladding



200mm Cladding

### Fire Certifications

DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer has undergone the following fire tests and received the following results. Please contact Atkar Group for more information.

Fire Test	Result	Certificate #
AS5637.1 : 2015	Group 1 Rating	19-003195
AS/NZ 1530.3-1999	Spread of Flame – Index 0 Veneer thickness less than 1mm	19-003085
EN13501-1 (Reaction to Fire)	A2-s1,d0	ERA – 14 - 073

### BCA Compliance

DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer battens and claddings are suitable where non-combustible materials are required in accordance with Deemed-to-Satisfy Provisions C1.9 (e)(v) of the 2019 NCC, Building Code of Australia.

BCA Section C, Part C1, C1.9 (e)(v) states: The following materials may be used wherever a non-combustible material is required:

(v) Pre-finished metal sheeting having a combustible surface finish not exceeding 1mm thickness and where the Spread-of-Flame Index of the product is not greater than 0.

## Maintenance

Due to its genuine timber finish coating, some maintenance is required for DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer, particularly for external applications, to ensure the timber veneer maintains its character.

Re-coating requirements:

Recoating of DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer is required for all applications every 3 years using Dulux Intergrain.

### Process:

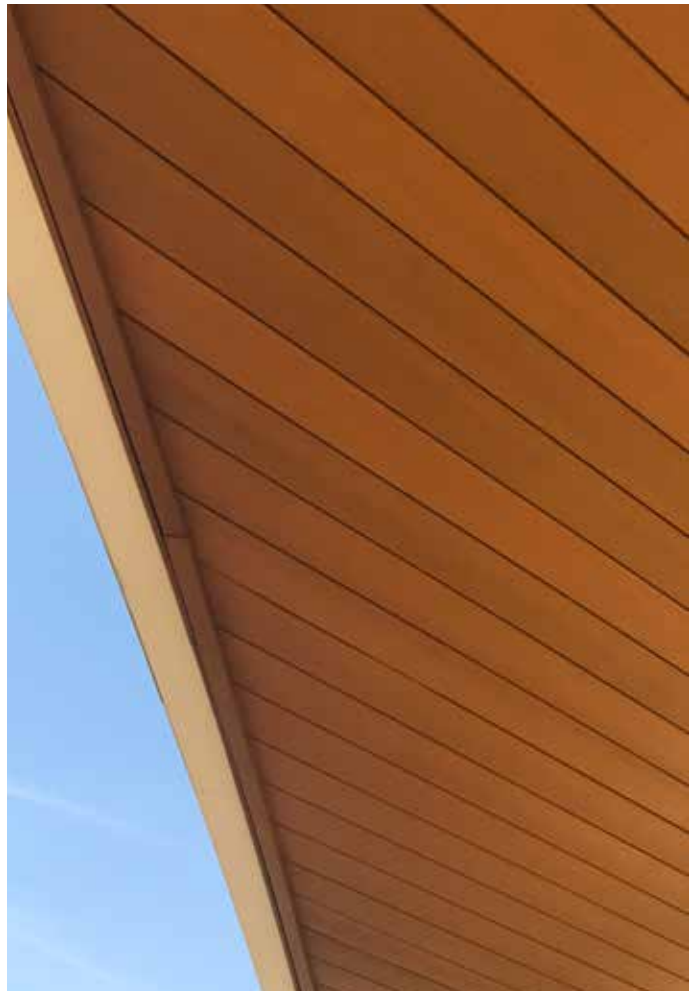
- Before varnishing, it is essential that the surface is clean from oils, old paint residue, silicon or dust. A sponge can be used for dust and dirt and 220 mm sandpaper can be used for heavier stainings.
- The surface should not be cleaned with cleaning materials that contain alcohol or ammonia.
- Using a roller or brush, apply 2 - 3 coats of varnish to the clean surface. Adhere to the varnish manufacturer's instructions.
- Ideal application temperature is between 15° and 30°. It is not recommended to be applied in temperatures below 10°.
- The relative humidity during the application should be below 80%.
- Please ensure safety measures are taken when using varnish. Avoid eye or skin contact. In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and consult a physician.

## Cleaning

- For cleaning, a soft and damp cloth can be used.
- High pressure hose is not recommended.
- The surface should not be cleaned with cleaning materials that contain alcohol or ammonia.
- No cleaning liquid should be used in temperatures over 40°C this can cause plaque deposits to form.

## Surface Scratches

DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer has been powder coated in a flat brown colour prior to being wrapped in the timber veneer. This is done so that if any minor scratches occur to the timber veneer, you will not see the raw aluminium base colour come through, so it is less noticeable.





### Unloading from the vehicle

- Necessary and appropriate measures should be used when unloading the materials to avoid unnecessary damage
- It is important that the panel ends do not overhang from the forklift arms more than 2.5m
- For panels that are less than 6m, using a forklift with a narrow arm (1.2m) is recommended
- For panels that are longer than 6m, using a forklift with a narrow arm (3.5m) is recommended



### Taking from the stack

To prevent scratching of the wooden coating adhere to the following:

- Do not pull or slide over the stack
- For lengths that are less than 6m, they should be lifted from both ends
- For lengths that are longer than 6m, they should be lifted from both ends and the middle



### Storing

- Panels should be stacked no more than 1m in height
- Never step on or walk over the stack
- If the materials will be stored for a long time, the stack should not be fully covered in order to avoid condensation
- The panels should always be kept under cover away from rain or humidity



### Use of ropes

- If ties are required, it should be nylon, hemp or silk. Do not use steel or chain ropes
- In order for the ropes not to crush the corners of the panels, wooden chocks should be placed at the bottom and the top of top side of the stack
- Chocks should exceed the panels by at least 3 - 5 cm



### Use of pallets & chocks

- Chock height should be 10 cm and the distance between chocks should be at least 1.5m
- If there is a wooden pallet beneath the pack and there are some panels protruding from the pallet, then they should be supported with wooden chocks to provide support
- The chocks in between the pack should be aligned on top of another panel
- Polyurethane or wooden chocks should only be used



### Cutting

If it is required to cut the profile, it is recommended to:

- Use a fine tooth TCT Aluminium Cutting Blade
- Use of a Mitre Saw is recommended
- Cut in a straight line to ensure neat jointing etc. A pencil can be useful to draw a light line for accurate cutting

# BATTEN INSTALLATION



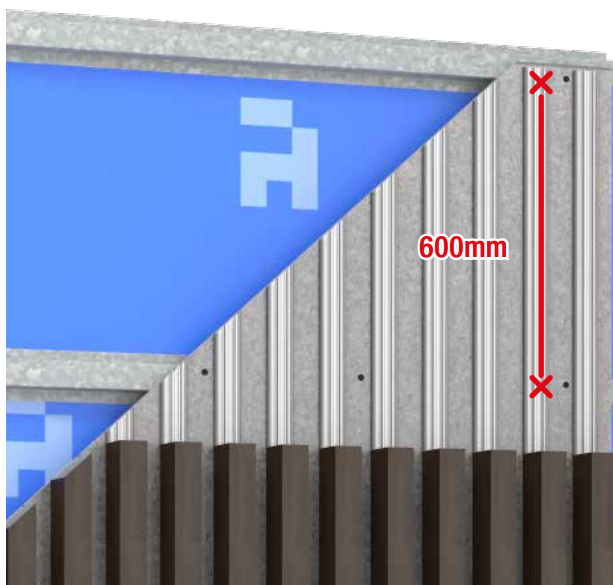
**Figure 1:** DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer - 2 piece click batten profile – 50x120mm

## 2 Piece Click System – Direct Fix

The following installation advice is for DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer battens using a direct fix system.

There are various installation systems that can be implemented (eg stand-offs). Please contact your project engineer for recommendations.

**Note:** For cladding system installation, please refer to page 10.



**Figure 2:** Typical vertical exterior direct fix batten installation – fixing distances

## Fixings & Distances

Battens are to be fixed at a maximum of 600mm centres between screws. The following fixing screws are recommended:

- External Application: Minimum 10x30 Class 3 Wafer Head Screw
  - Internal Applications: Minimum 8 x 30 Zinc Yellow Screw
- Coastal areas may require stainless steel fixing screws. Refer to project engineer for advice.



**Figure 4:** End cap installation

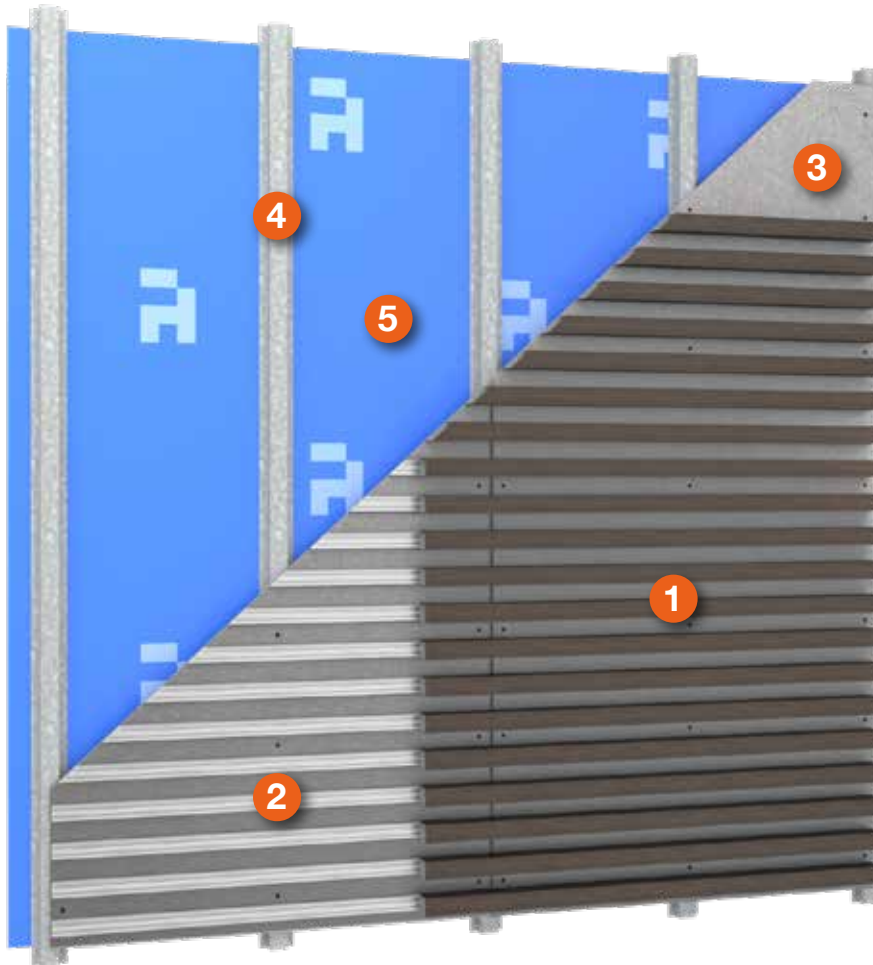
## End Caps

End caps are easily clicked into place after profile has been installed.

Due to expansion and contraction all end caps should be glued into position with Bostik seal n flex 1 or similar.



**Batten Installation Overview**



- 1. Battens
- 2. Backing Strip
- 3. Exterior Cladding
- 4. Top Hats
- 5. Weather Barrier

Figure 4: Typical horizontal exterior direct fix batten installation

**HORIZONTAL OR VERTICAL**

DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer battens can be installed vertically or horizontally.

**BATTEN DISTANCES**

The recommended minimum distance between DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer battens is 100mm.

**EXTERIOR INSTALLATION**

DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer battens are not designed to provide weatherproofing of the building, therefore the battens needs to be installed over suitable exterior cladding.

**INTERIOR INSTALLATION**

DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer battens can be installed directly to most internal linings (eg. Plasterboard) or directly fixed straight to the ceiling grid.

**Tip.** Paint base cladding black for a streamlined look.

**BACKING CLIP**

Once fixing surface is prepared, separate the backing clip from the profile and screw directly to the wall or ceiling.

**BATTEN PROFILE**

Once backing clip is secure, click in the top batten profile. Note: It can be difficult to un-click the profile once it has been clicked into the backing frame. If necessary, carefully use a soft mallet to remove the backing clip.

**JOINING BATTENS**

Butt joints are required when joining battens together. To reduce movement between the joining battens it is advised to use a section of timber or aluminium inside the battens.

It is also important to stagger the Backing Strips across a single batten as this helps to achieve a straight finish.



**Figure 5:** DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer – 100mm interlocking cladding system

## Interlocking Cladding System - Direct Fix

The following installation advice is for our DesignerWood Aluminium Veneer claddings using a direct fix system to top hats. There are various installation systems that can be implemented. Please contact your project engineer for recommendations.

## Horizontal or Vertical Application

Claddings can be installed horizontally (see page 11) or vertically (see page 12).

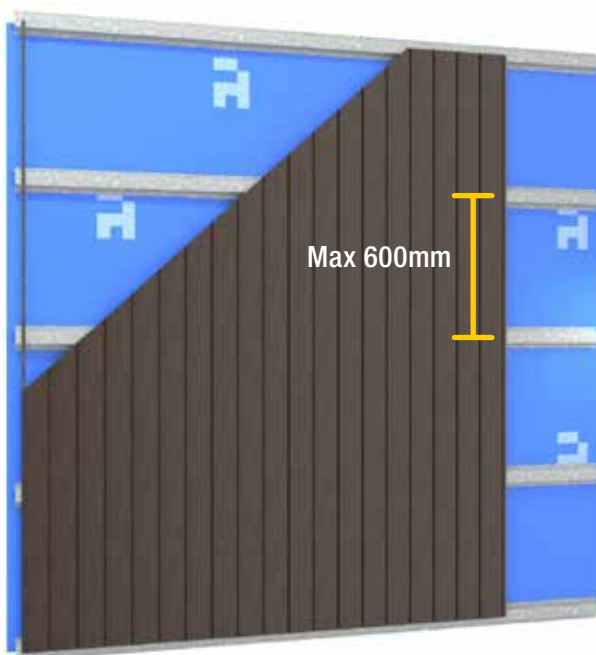
## Ground Clearances

A minimum 150 mm clearance to the earth when installing on building exteriors is required.

## Joining

Butt joints are required when joining two cladding planks together. It is recommended that joints be secured at top hat sections so that they can be neatly aligned.

Never butt join more than 2 planks in a continuous line. For longer runs please use a DesignerWood Veneer T profile (available from Atkar Group) to cover the join - this is to allow for expansion.



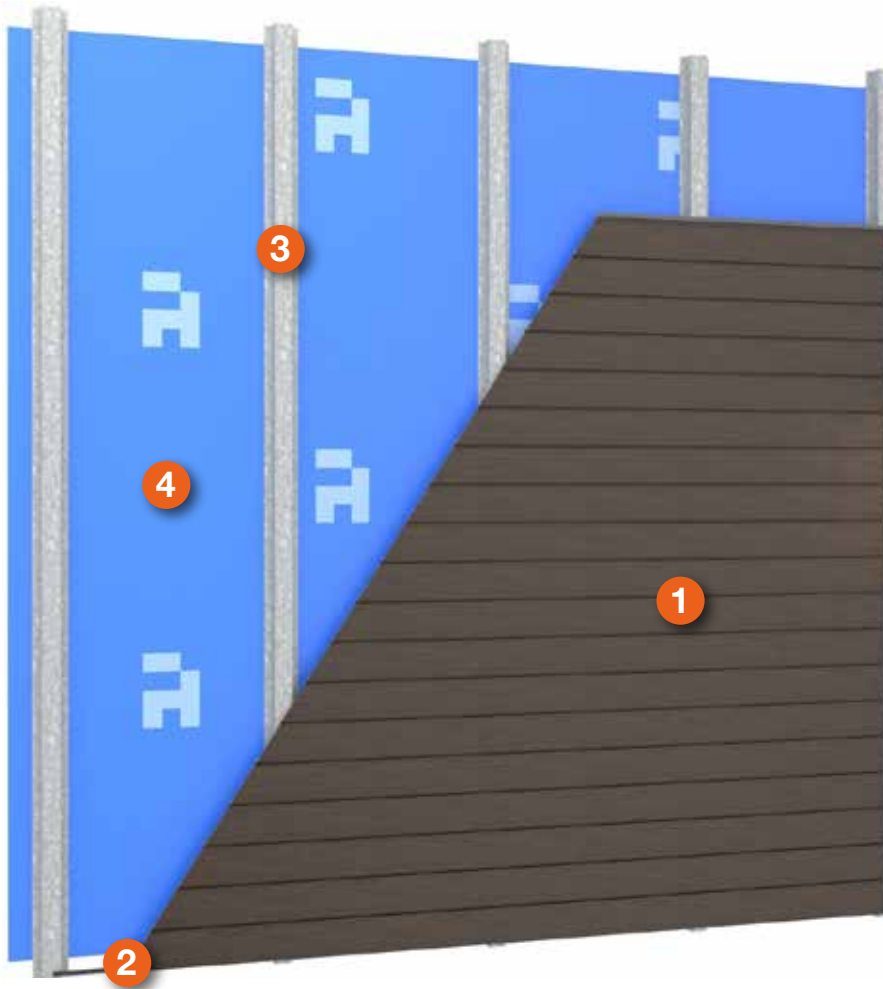
**Figure 6:** Typical vertical exterior direct fix cladding installation – fixing distances

## Fixings & Distances

Claddings are to be fixed at a maximum of 600mm centres between screws. The following fixing screws are recommended:

- External Application: Minimum 10x30 Class 3 Wafer Head Screw
  - Internal Applications: Minimum 8 x 30 Zinc Yellow Screw
- Coastal areas may require stainless steel fixing screws. Refer to project engineer for advice

### Horizontal Cladding Installation



- 1. Cladding
- 2. Starter Strip
- 3. Top Hats
- 4. Weather Barrier

Figure 7: Typical Exterior Horizontal Cladding Installation

#### INSTALL TOP HATS VERTICALLY

For horizontal installation, top hats need to be installed vertically over timber, masonry or steel structures. The recommended maximum top hat spacing is 600mm.

#### STARTER STRIP REQUIRED

Horizontal cladding always needs to start from the bottom of the building. A starter strip (available from Atkar Group) is required and must be secured prior to installing the first cladding plank.

#### INSTALLING HORIZONTAL CLADDING PLANKS

Screw the claddings to each top hat and then simply interlock the next plank and repeat.

# CLADDING INSTALLATION

## Vertical Cladding Installation

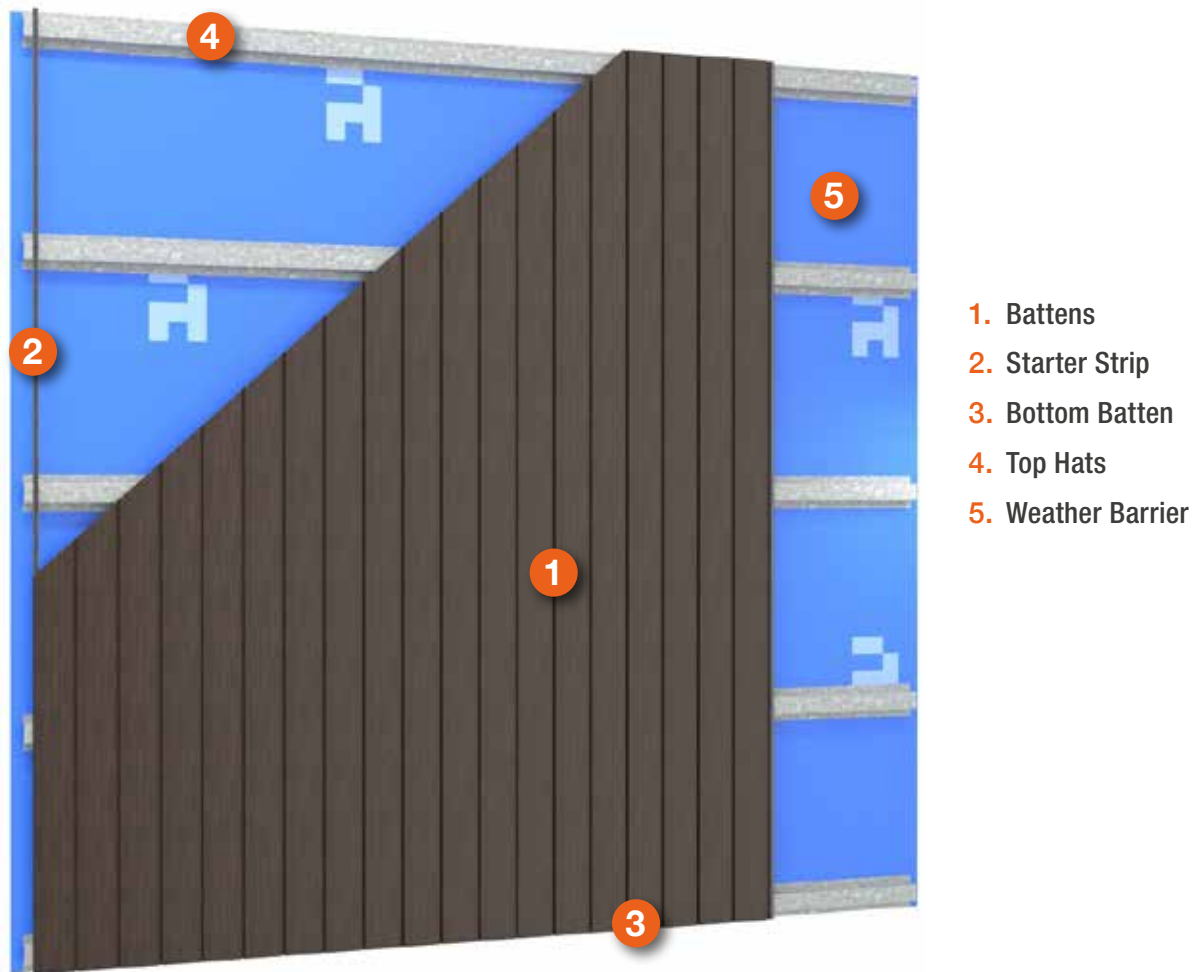


Figure 8: Typical Exterior Vertical Cladding Installation

### INSTALL TOP HATS HORIZONTALLY

For vertical installation, top hats need to be installed horizontally over timber, masonry or steel structures. The recommended maximum top hat spacing is 600mm.

### STARTER STRIP REQUIRED

A starter strip (available from Atkar Group) is required for vertical claddings, and must be secured prior to installing the first cladding plank.

### BOTTOM BATTEN REQUIRED

Vertical claddings need to rest on a batten (or similar) at the footing of the exterior. Ask your Project Engineer or contact Atkar Group if you need advice for your specific project.

### ENSURE A WATERTIGHT INSTALLATION

To ensure a watertight installation for vertical cladding, it is essential to screw the cladding plank to the top hat and then add a bead of sealant the length of the cladding before interlocking and screwing in the next plank. Repeat this process for all vertical cladding installations.

### Corners & Auxiliary profiles

Atkar Group have a variety of colour matched corners and auxiliary profiles available to suit various applications. See Figure 9 for typical corner details – top hats need to be between 150mm – 300mm from corner edge.

Contact Atkar to discuss other available profiles to suit your project requirements. Corner & auxiliary profiles are not stocked items so need to be ordered with your battens or claddings.

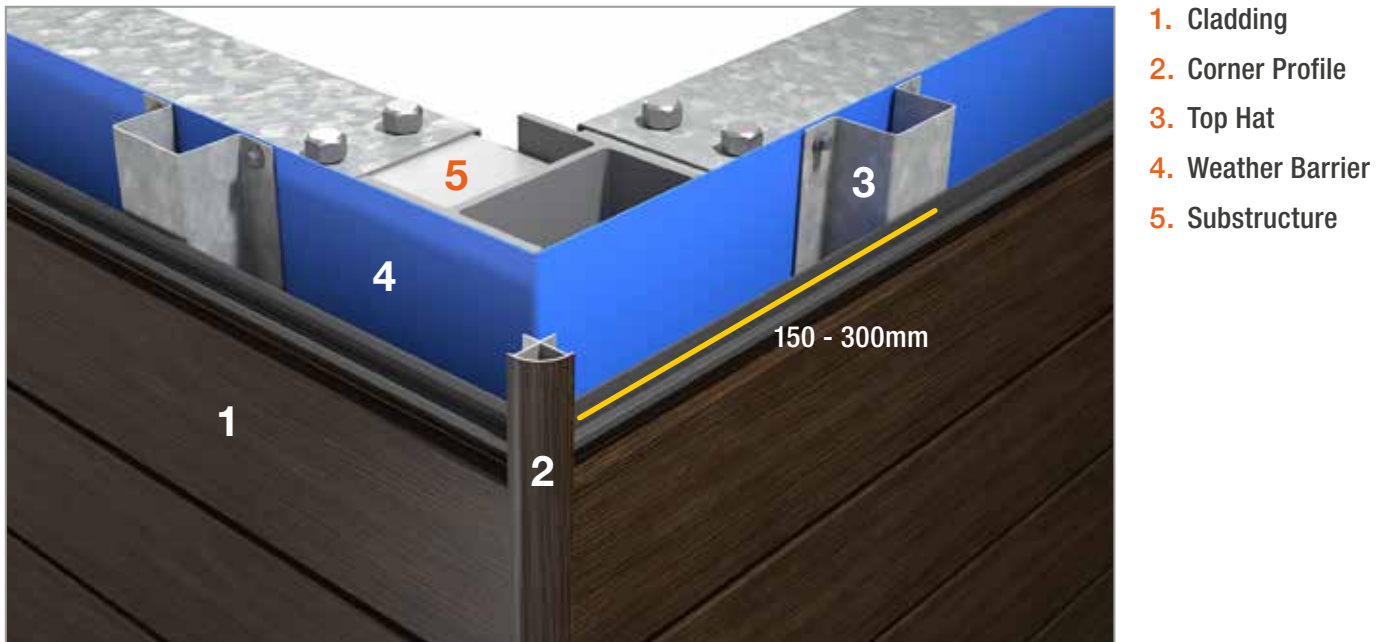


Figure 9: Typical corner detail

## NOTES

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### **Disclaimer**

The information in this document is a guide only. It is intended for use by builders, cladding installers and other contractors who may be involved with the installation of the DesignerWood Aluminium.

If you are an installer ensure that you follow the design and preparation requirements and materials as set out by the designer. If you are a specifier or a responsible party for the project, please ensure the information in this manual is appropriate for the application you are planning.

As all project conditions are unique, there are likely to be variations to how this product is used, which can affect the use and quality of the products, as such no warranty is given or implied with respect to such situations.

Atkar Group's policy is one of continuous improvement. We therefore reserve the right to alter specifications at any time and without notice. Colours and textures may vary according to light and weather conditions. Owing to this and limitations of the printing process, colours in this brochure may vary.

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