

# ELITE SERIES and “OLD STYLE” INSTALLATION



Proper installation of your SmartBark siding is crucial to ensure longevity and to achieve the most beautiful result for your home or project. Please read the following guide in its entirety.

## TOOLS:

1. Miter Saw
2. Table Saw
3. Power Drill
4. Tape Measure
5. Level
6. Chalk Line
7. Caulking Gun
8. Pen
9. Stud Finder

## MATERIALS:

1. SmartBark
2. Exterior Screws-colored decking screws with the desired length to extend into wood substrate
3. Clear Caulk 100% Silicone
4. Optional Specified coating - Sherwin Williams: BP siding series or Resilience series FLAT Finish

**SAFETY EQUIPMENT:** Always wear safety glasses for eye protection. Wearing a dust mask and protective covering as with normal construction activity is recommended.

**FASTENERS** Finishing Nails Screws ADHESIVE Construction Adhesive (compatible with Polyurethane) Caulk or other adhesive.

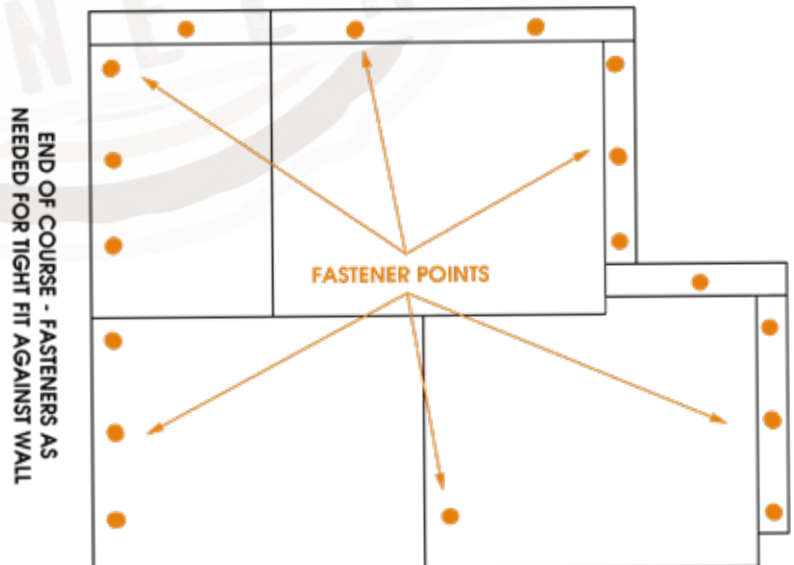
*NOTE: At the thickest measurement the Elite Chestnut panel is 3.5 inches thick. This will require adjustment to casings and trim determined by your Contractor. One suggestion would be to do a shadow box window trim for a clean beautiful trim.*

SmartBark comes in three versions; **Vapor Lock- Elite, Vapor Lock “Old Style”, and Slim Pro Series.** Vapor Lock shakes do not require roofing underlayment between each course and are attached to the substrate primarily by screwing through the top and right - hand, hidden attachment flange and down the left flange area as needed.

## VAPORLOCK INFORMATION:

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VaporLock shakes require approved house wrap barrier, overlap and tilt are built into the shake, and the shakes fit together in only one fashion, always working from left to right. Screws are primarily fastened through the hidden attachment flange on the top and bottom of every shake. The VaporLock channel on the bottom of every shake will fit tightly into the course below. Facial screws can be applied down the left “no flange area” as needed for added strength.



STARTING COURSE - ONE FASTENER ON BOTTOM LEFT OF EACH SHAKE

## BEGIN WITH WALL PREP:

Substrate must be rigid plywood or approved OSB covered with an approved house wrap barrier that will offer water resistance and breathability.

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**Step 1.** Begin installation with a full panel at the bottom, far left of the wall. Fasten shake with screws through the indentations on the hidden attachment flange. There will be two indentations on the top flange and three on the right flange.

**Step 2.** Continue fastening across the row fitting each shake tight against the shake to the left.

**Step 3.** At the beginning and end of each course and at the bottom of starting courses, fasten the shake with 2 to 3 additional screws through the face, in the valley of the bark pattern, as needed to achieve a tight fit against the wall.

**Step 4.** Strike a chalk line to check that your course is level and begin installing the second course of bark shakes from the far left, beginning with a partial shake. Be careful to stagger seams between shakes so they do not line up with the course below.

**Step 5.** Continue with additional courses as necessary. Each course should fit tightly into the course below.

**Step 6.** Caulk course ends as necessary for weather- tight fit.

### **ANGLED CUTS:**

Because tilt and the hidden attachment flange are built in to each shake, it is important to cut shakes in a manner that preserves the overall integrity of the shake. If a cutout must be made, the right side of the shake should be cut away, preserving the left side of the shake to be tightly fit against the previously installed shake. Edges that are cut can be painted with specified coating to ensure longevity. Paint numbers are provided below.

### **CORNER TREATMENTS:**

Both inside corners and outside corners require careful consideration to ensure an attractive, weather-tight finish. Corners can be boxed out in standard, wood trim pieces or shakes can be mitered to make a trim-less or wrapped corner. If using trim, paint or stain the trim prior to bark installation and caulk the joint between the bark and trim when installation is complete. Color variation can but rarely occur. If mitering for a trim- less or wrapped corner, alternate from which wall the bark fully extends to the corner. Make sure all corners are weather tight. Barkclad recommends caulking seams as practice.

*Barkclad does not warranty the installation of Smartbark. BarkClad recommends using a licensed and insured Contractor for all SmartBark installations.*

### **Sherwin Williams Paint color**

All Smartbark products with Cut edges can be painted with Smokehouse #7040

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### **COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL NEW CONSTRUCTION**

All studs must be straight and true to avoid bulges or dips in the finished wall. Correct any bowed studs prior to installation if necessary. Sub-wall assembly must be weather tight before applying Smartbark™. Wall sheathing should be weather-resistant, or covered with a weather-resistant barrier such as fanfold insulation, house wrap, or building paper. Independent studies indicate that the combination of a weather resistant barrier plus a house wrap results in improved weather performance. Some building code jurisdictions are currently requiring this protection. Sheathing must be properly fastened to the framing according to building code requirements and/or the sheathing manufacturer's recommendations. Smartbark™ should be applied over a sheathing that provides a smooth, flat, solid, non-expansive, stable surface. Flashing and caulking should be added as needed in such areas that transition from Smartbark™ to other siding products, windows, and doors to control moisture and protect the sub-wall assembly.

### **REMODEL AND EXISTING STRUCTURE PROJECTS**

Secure or remove any loose siding material and replace any rotten wood. Scrape off loose caulk and other build-up that may interfere with the SMARTBARK™ installation. Remove all items such as downspouts, light fixtures, vents, etc. in the area to be covered. Install suitable sheathing, as needed, to provide a smooth, flat, and stable surface for the installation of SMARTBARK™ panels. See above information in the New Construction section for additional instructions on sub wall protection and flashing. **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MASONRY STRUCTURES**  
A smooth, flat, stable surface is required for proper installation of SMARTBARK™. Concrete, cinder or brick walls may need filling unless they are already in a smooth and flat condition. Uneven walls may require furring strips to provide a flat surface. When applying SMARTBARK™ directly to concrete, cinder, or brick walls, the use of concrete screws (such as Tapcon™) is recommended.

### **FYI**

Closed Cell Polyurethane has minimal expansion and contraction, it is recommended to allow acclimation for 24 hours minimum prior to installing.

Never leave cut edges of Smartbark™ exposed as the Polyurethane will discolor with exposure to sunlight. Use recommended Sherwin Williams Resilience or better exterior paint grade to cover cut edges. Recommended color- Smokehouse #7040 for most product lines

Quality colored deck screws or colored steel screws are recommended. Follow the star diagram on install guide for facial screw requirements.

Adhesive is not required for installation. PL Premium Construction Adhesive is recommended if adhesive is used.

Smartbark™ panels can be installed onto any substrate including concrete and brick. Concrete screws and pre-drilled holes are recommended.

4' Metal Starter Strips are needed to begin the first course/row of panels.



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Smartbark™ is made from polyurethane and designed for a quick easy installation requiring fewer steps. It is recommended to use a licensed general contractor and Installers review applicable building codes for specific products and/or geographic areas. Barkclad/ Smartbark guides and material is not intended to provide specific advice, legal or otherwise, on particular products or processes. Readers should consult with their own legal and technical advisors, suppliers, and other appropriate sources including but not limited to product or package labels, technical bulletins and sales literature that contain information about known health and safety risks. Barkclad/ Smartbark™ does not assume any responsibility for the users non-compliance of applicable laws and regulations.