

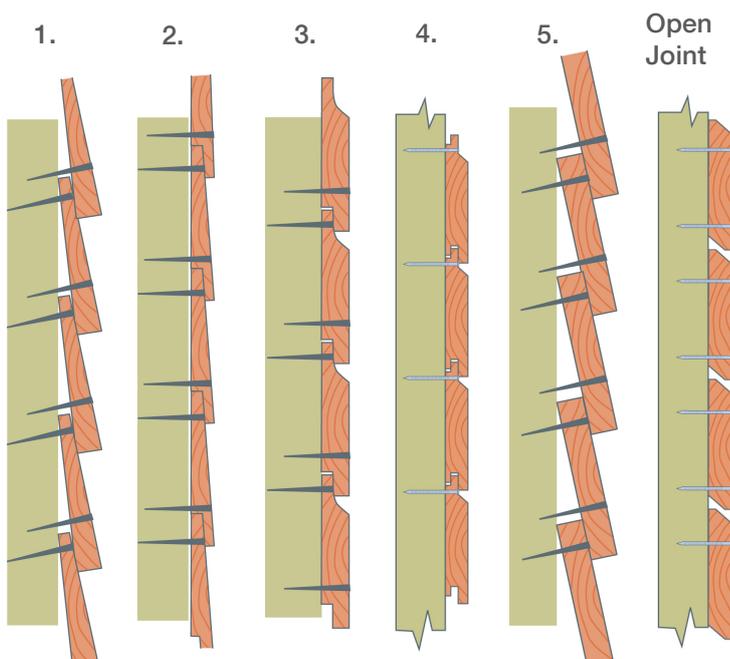
## 4: Fixing horizontal cladding

Information and drawings courtesy of the Timber Decking and Cladding Association. Drawings are indicative only and not to scale. For further information visit [www.timbercladding.org](http://www.timbercladding.org)

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Use the table for design detail recommendations for boards up to 145mm wide.  
All dimensions are minimum.

Board style	Overlap	Expansion gap	Thickness
1. Feather Edge	25mm	-	Wide edge 16-19mm; narrow 6-9mm
2. Rebated	15mm	3mm	16-19mm
3. Shiplap	15mm	3mm	16-19mm
4. Tongue & Grooved	10mm tongue	3mm	18-22mm
5. Solid Square Edge	25mm	-	16mm



Install T&G boards with the tongue uppermost.

Only specify T&G boards that have been manufactured for external cladding applications, with a minimum tongue size of 10mm (ideally 12mm) for boards up to 95mm wide.

For open jointed cladding, the gap between boards should be no more than 10mm to prevent UV degradation of breather membrane material.

Specify a gap between boards of at least 3mm when installing horizontal profiles to allow for movement.

Boards should have a moisture content of from 16 to 19%.

If you are nailing through the face of the timber, ensure the nail sits flush with the surface. Figure 4 show optional 'secret fixing'. When 'secret fixing', nail or screw at an angle to avoid splitting the tongue.

For most softwoods, use small headed annular ring-shank nails. Larger heads are used for low-density species such as Western Red Cedar to avoid the nails being pulled through.

Higher density softwoods, such as Siberian larch and Douglas fir and hardwoods should be drilled and screwed to avoid splitting. For high tannin species, such as oak, use stainless steel fixings to avoid staining. If you are using green timber, such as oak, drill oversize fixing points and use washers to allow for movement.

Nails and screws should be a minimum two and a half times the board's thickness.