



# dassoXTR Fused Bamboo® RainClad Siding Installation Guidelines

*check [dassoXTR.com](http://dassoXTR.com) for the most current version*

**Important:** Failure to read and adhere to these installation guidelines could void the manufacturer's warranty. These installation guidelines are based on the manufacturer's experience with normal applications and are not intended to cover every installation or building code requirement, detail or variation. If questions arise concerning the product or its suitability for a particular use, contact your architect or engineer. Any unapproved deviation from these procedures and local building codes shall be solely at the risk of the installer. The project architect, engineer, or designer is also responsible for designing a proper building envelope for moisture control. Uncertainty or ambiguity should always be discussed with the local building department.

## dassoXTR Fused Bamboo®

For best results, dassoXTR should be kept out of direct sunlight and should not be exposed to inclement weather before installation. dassoXTR can be installed right away; there is no need to wait for the material to acclimate to its surroundings.

When the dassoXTR material arrives on the jobsite, keep it off the ground by placing a few pieces of lumber underneath the packaging. Cover material with a tarp to protect it from weather and sunlight before installation. Like hardwood, Fused Bamboo is photosensitive and tarping the material will protect the material from pre-installation UV light color change caused by the sun. When exposed, the unexposed areas, like under banding straps, will darken to match the already exposed areas, but by tarping you prevent having to explain this temporary appearance.

## Product Performance

dassoXTR is manufactured and inspected to ensure the highest-quality. However, Fused Bamboo is a natural product and is subject to normal variations inherent in natural products. Fused Bamboo, like wood, is subject to "weathering"—color changes due to exposure to sunlight, rain, snow, and continuous natural cycles. With the proper application of sealers and finishes, the effects of weather and time can be limited on Fused Bamboo.

## Safety and Installation Tips

Drilling, sawing, sanding, and machining bamboo/wood generates wood dust. Avoid inhaling wood dust by wearing a dust mask. [Visit dassoXTR.com](http://dassoXTR.com) for MSDS information.

When drilling dassoXTR, always use high-quality drill bits. When you are drilling into the face, we recommend using a countersink bit with a positive stop. This will ensure a consistent depth for all the screws.

dassoXTR can be routed or planed with high-speed steel or carbide cutters. When required, only sand in the direction of the grain—i.e. belt sander. Never use an orbital sander.

**Cross cut ends:** Use a cross cut end sealer as part of the normal installation production to help prevent splitting and checking at the ends of the boards. We recommend that all boards be end sealed as soon as reasonably possible after cutting, using a clear, water-resistant wax. Anchorseal from UC Coatings is one of the most well-known end sealer products, although there are others available.

**NOTE:** Failure to end seal the boards at the time of installation will void any claims made against the warranty.

## Rain Screen Design Basics

Consult your local building code and architects or designer for specific requirements. It is suggested that dassoXTR Fused Bamboo siding be install as a pressure-equalized rain screen wall system—even in areas that do not experience frequent wind-driven rain and areas susceptible to high winds. The rain screen design is accomplished by either installing suitable vertical furring strips (“batten”) between the moisture barrier and siding material or attaching fastening clips directly to the sheathing wraps. The cavity facilitates drainage of water from the space between the moisture barrier and backside of the siding and it facilitates drying of the siding and moisture barrier. Furring strip attachment: For 1 by 2 inches furring strips, tack strips in place and use siding nails that are 3/4 inch longer than would be required if there were no strips (to maintain the minimally required siding nail penetration into the studs). For thicker furring strips, an engineered attachment is recommended. A 1/2" by 1-1/2" furring strip will work perfectly with our sheathing clips, which provide a 3/4" air pocket between the moisture barrier sheathing and siding material.



Parameter	5" Siding	7" Siding
Standard Thickness	3/4" (18mm)	
Nominal Width	6" (137mm)	7" (178mm)
Standard Profile Reveal	5" (127mm)	6.5" (168mm)
Faster Factor, installed 16" o.c.	1.9 Fastener/sq.ft.	1.4 Fastener/sq.ft.
Faster Factor, installed 24" o.c.	1.3 Fastener/sq.ft.	1.0 Fastener/sq.ft.
Coverage per bundle (3 pcs)		

**Note:** Actual usage may vary depending on window openings, doors, butt joints, etc.

For vertical installations of dassoXTR bamboo siding use a system, including horizontal batten that allow drainage if you are going “on-batten”, that meets your local building code and architects or designer specific requirements. All vertical applications must be face screwed.

At the bottom of the wall, the cavity should be open to allow water drainage. However, the opening should be screened to avoid insect entry. At the wall/soffit juncture, the top of the cavity can open into the attic space to provide inlet air ventilation, thereby, eliminating soffit vents and their susceptibility to wind-driven rain entry. If the rain screen cavity vent path is used instead of soffit vents, the depth of the cavity needs to be engineered to ensure that it provides sufficient air flow to ventilate the attic.

- Rain Screen siding assumes the use of a structural I-frame-and-wall-sheathing construction. Some type of moisture barrier or membrane is required.
- Windows, doors and trim should be properly installed before starting the installation of the clips and siding profile. Leave a 1/8 to 1/2" gap at all abutment points to allow for the expansion/contraction of the doors and windows.

- It is imperative that you consider the combined depth of the Rain Screen siding, clip, and or batten when designing window, door and trim specifications.
- Proper ventilation is essential for long-term stability. Rain screen systems must be allowed to drain and dissipate moisture.
- Using dassoXTR clips sets a 3/4" gap, “cavity”, which facilitates drainage of water from the space between the moisture barrier and backside of the siding and it facilitates drying of the siding and moisture barrier.
- Allow a minimum of 1/2" clearance between the roofing and the top edges of the rain screen and trim to allow for adequate ventilation. Flashing and counter flashing should be installed at the intersection of the roof and vertical surfaces, as recommended by the roofing manufacturer.
- dassoXTR Siding should not be installed in contact with the ground at grade level, a concrete slab, deck materials or standing water. Allow a minimum of 1"-2" clearance between the bottom edges of the rain screen and the ground, slab, or deck to allow for adequate ventilation.
- Rain Screen Systems are designed to breathe and as such will allow some level of insect nesting behind the cladding. To reduce potential insect intrusion, install mortar net or screening material behind Rain Screen.

## Fastening

Set elevation lines across the wall surface to ensure that the required level is maintained during installation. When installing, start at the base and move upward in complete rows. Check your alignment and level siding after installation of each row. When fastening the top of the siding, the final/top siding board may need to be ripped to the proper width, pre-drilled and face screwed. Fasteners are available in a variety of sizes and lengths. Requirements will be project and application specific.

For fastener/clip application:

- Use marine-grade stainless steel fasteners designed for use with wood only. On-sheath clip applications can use a 1" long #12 pan head 316-grade stainless steel screw.
- Use two screws per clip when installing on sheathing and one screw when fastening directly to a solid wood batten. Install screws so they lie flat to the clip and the screw head does not interfere with the insertion of the siding into the clip.
- Shimming, when required due to inconsistencies in the wall, we recommend the use of plastic shims behind the clip that are the same coverage area as the clip to maintain a stable surface for the clip. The use of treated lumber is not recommended. XTR shims can be used if they are pre drilled to match the clip holes.
- Always begin Clip application at one end and proceed to the other end.
- Position Siding Clips so that fasteners are centered over batten and or studs except where butt joints occur. Clips should not be placed any greater than 24" on center.
- The fastener for penetrating the batten must be long enough to penetrate the 3/4" 1x2 and sheathing then into the stud.
- Use 1 clip per joint.

## The Cladding

The dassoXTR Rain Screen System utilizes a proprietary "clip-eclipsing" wood profile that conceals the fastener system while allowing maximum air flow and water evaporation. The unique profile also facilitates ease of handling and installation. With no nail or screw heads to detract from the rich, natural beauty of dassoXTR Rain Screen siding, our unique system offers the most appealing looking rain screen and cladding solution available on the market today.