Proper Fasteners for Western Red Cedar

Congratulations on choosing the Premier Panel™.
The Premier Panel™ is a major breakthrough in shingle panel design and technology. The Premier Panel™ features an advanced two-ply “Cedar on Cedar” shingle panel design. 100% Real Wood – 100% Real Cedar. There is no substitute!

Western Red Cedar – The Premier Siding Choice.
Western Red Cedar is one of the world’s premier quality woods noted for its appearance, light weight, insulation value and dimensional stability. Properly installed and finished, it will give years of trouble-free service and will give your home a character and distinction that other sidings cannot match.

Wood has been an important building material for centuries. Its characteristics like shrinking and swelling slightly in response to the moisture content of the air are well known and building techniques have evolved to mitigate their effects. Please read this information thoroughly - it contains much useful information on fasteners to make your relationship with Western Red Cedar a long and happy one.

The proper fasteners for Western Red Cedar -- Stainless or Galvanized?
Stainless steel nails are the best choice. Premier Forest Products, Inc. recommends using only corrosion-resistant stainless steel ring shank nails with a 9/32” textured head. Ring shank siding nails have thin shanks and blunt points to reduce splitting while providing greater holding power. No. 304 stainless is recommended for general siding applications and No. 316 for seacoast exposures. Galvanized staples are not recommended under any circumstances, as they are typically electro-galvanized, deteriorate rapidly, do not provide adequate holding power and can react adversely with the natural preservative oils present in cedar resulting in unsightly stains and streaks.

Are other galvanized nails and staples recommended in Western Red Cedar applications?
NO! Electroplated, mechanical galvanized and untreated steel nails and staples are not recommended on any Western Red Cedar application. These types of nails and staples can rust, disintegrate, do not provide adequate holding power and react adversely with the natural preservative oils present in Western Red Cedar resulting in stains and streaks. Copper nails also react with Western Red Cedar and should not be used.

Is the Size of the Nail Important?
The size of the nail you use is very important. Good building practice is to use nails long enough to go through underlying materials, such as sheathing and insulation board. Today, siding is typically applied directly to the house sheathing, which is commonly 1/2” thick. Premier Forest Products, Inc. recommends that the fasteners extend 1/2” beyond the sheathing. (Caution: Fasteners that extend further than 1/2” beyond the sheathing can interfere with plumbing, wiring, etc.) When installing the Premier Panel™ directly to 1/2” sheathing, a 2” nail is needed. In the event that the Premier Panel™ is installed directly through both the sheathing and into the studs, a 2 3/4” nail is needed so the nail will penetrate at least 1 1/4” into solid wood (studs).

Can “Hot Dipped Galvanized” nails be used on Western Red Cedar?
Premier Forest Products, Inc. recommends using only corrosion-resistant stainless steel ring shank nails with a 9/32” textured head.
Fasteners Available Through Premier
Premier offers a full line of stainless steel fasteners for the Premier Panel™ and Accessories. Visit our website or call for more information.

Member Associations & Quality Assurance
Established in 1967, Premier Forest Products Inc. is a member of the Western Red Cedar Lumber Association, Cedar Shake and Shingle Bureau, North America Wholesale Lumber Association, Forest Products Society and Temperate Forest Foundation. Premier Forest Products Inc. is also a member of the International Code Council a professional association dedicated to protecting the health, safety and welfare of the public by making buildings safer.

For More Information:
Visit www.PremierForestProducts.com for more information on the Premier Panel™.

Other Technical Bulletins
Features and Benefits of the Premier Panel™
Technical Bulletin #101

Guide to Finishing Western Red Cedar
Technical Bulletin #103

Installation Instructions for the Premier Panel™
Technical Bulletin #104

Premier Panel™ Accessories
Technical Bulletin #105

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