

10 Things to Check Before Installing or Repairing Siding

- Clearance from grade – Keep siding at least 6" above soil or sidewalks.
- Flashing slope – Ensure all horizontal flashings slope away from the wall.
- Membrane tie-in – Waterproofing should connect continuously between foundation and wall.
- Proper overlap – Lap housewrap/membranes as per manufacturer (typically min. 6").
- Sealed penetrations – Windows, doors, and pipes should be flashed and sealed.
- Backer rod & sealant – Always use backer rod behind caulking for flexibility.
- Ventilation gap – Provide drainage/ventilation behind siding (furring or strapping).
- Sidewalk/patio slope – Ensure adjacent concrete slopes away from the building.
- Manufacturer guidelines – Follow specific Hardie (or equivalent) install manual.
- Final inspection – Before covering, check details align with drawings/specs.