



## Installation Instructions

### New Construction Window with Integral Nail Fin

***IMPORTANT - READ ALL THE INSTRUCTIONS IN ENTIRITY BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH THE INSTALLATION OF PRODUCT.***

***Follow all local building codes and practices during installation. Elevate Windows and Doors LLC is not responsible for water or air leakage resulting in damage surrounding the exterior window at the head, sill, jamb, or otherwise due to faulty installation practices. All products are subject to quality control prior to shipment. Poor performance due to improper installation may void the warranty and is not the responsibility of Elevate Windows and Doors LLC. These instructions are based on best practices in accordance with industry standards, including ASTM E2112, ASTM D779, AAMA 711 and AAMA 2400.***

#### **Tools:**

hand drill  
Philips head screwdriver  
flat head screwdriver  
silicone gun  
utility knife  
standard leveling tool  
pry bar tool

#### **Safety Wear:**

hard hat  
safety glasses  
safety gloves  
safety boots per OSHA requirements

#### **Hardware:**

Sealant  
4" minimum flashing tape  
Fasteners

*Type and number as required by code.*

*Minimum fastener type should be sufficient to affix the frame and penetrate rough framing by 1" or more.*

## **Installation Steps (Please read all before installing)**

- 1) **Preparing the Rough Opening:** Ensure the rough opening is plumb, level, and square within 1/8" tolerance. Using the call out size of the window I.E a 3060, the rough opening needs to be 36" wide by 72" tall. This gives a 1/2" play in height and width, providing a 1/4" cavity (air gap) around the window.
- 2) **Preparing the Weather-Resistant Barrier (WRB):** Make sure to follow the WRB instructions for installation at all openings. A modified "I-cut" in the WRB is the most used method. This consists of horizontal cuts at the head and sill, a vertical cut in the middle, and 45° slits at the head corners. Fold the head flap up and the jamb flaps inward and secure temporarily with tape. The sill flashing should wrap into the rough opening and extend 2" past the nail flange on the exterior. It should also go up the jambs a minimum of 6". Ensure the installation instructions of the WRB product in use are followed.
- 3) **Preparing the Sill:** there are a few ways this can be done. Method 1 – Material (A furring strip for example) could be added to the innermost plane of the sill to create a back dam. Method 2 – A sill pan or sill pan flashing could be used to create a back and end dam. Method 3 – The use of a low expansion foam or backer rod and sealant combination the air gap to create the back and end dams. Using one of these 3 methods will ensure any moisture that may accumulate here will weep out the sill of the window. When doing this check with the AOR (Architect of Record) and follow the project specifications on the air gap.
- 4) **Preparing the Window:** Remove all shipping material from the window. Ensure the window is closed and locked, with lock and keeper devices properly engaged, prior to installing the unit in the rough opening. A recommended installation method includes applying a continuous bead of 3/8" or greater of exterior-grade adhesive sealant on the nailing fin surface (head and jambs only) that will come to rest on the rough opening, effectively sealing the opening. The sill can be left fully open, or a discontinuous bead of sealant can be applied, ensuring gaps are present to allow for proper drainage. Alternative installation methods may be used, provided the rough opening is properly prepared and meets all applicable code requirements. Refer to AAMA 2400-10 for additional installation standards.
- 5) **Setting the Window in the Rough opening:** Set the window, sill end first into the rough opening, then ensure all sides have contact with the rough opening. Finish setting the window in the rough opening by centering the window in the rough opening by using shims. Shims used at the sill should be roughly 2 inches from any jamb and roughly 2 inches on either side of any mullion. This is the same for shims used at the jambs where millions are installed. Once the window is centered, locate the top center of the window on the exterior and secure the unit with the recommended fasteners. Check for level, Square, and Plumb at this stage of installation. If all measurements are within range of industry standards (Refer to ASTM E1155 for guidance), unlock and check the operation of all operable sashes. If the operation is proper and smooth proceed to the next step. If any measurement is not within industry standards continue to shore up and square the unit with shims. **Please Note: Shimming while any sash is open or over shimmiing during installation could result in bowing or crowning which may prevent the window from operating properly.** Once all shimmiing and shoring is

completed check the operation of all operable sashes and ensure all sashes and locks are in the closed position before securing the window to the rough opening.

- 6) **Fastening the Window:** Place fasteners using the nail holes provided. In each direction from all corners there shall be a fastener within 10 inches, but no closer than 4 inches to prevent frame distortion or fracture of joint seals. (12" max of separation between fasteners.) Once the unit is fully secured to the rough opening, operate all operable sashes to ensure proper and smooth operation.
- 7) **Flashing the Window or Integrating the Window with the WRB:** Ensure the self-adhered flashing being used will bond to and is cohesive to the WRB being used. (It is best to use like products across the board.) The flashing shall be 4 inches wide minimum. Starting at one jamb, apply flashing over the nail flange and extending 2 inches above and below the head and sill nail flange. Use the J-roller to ensure proper cohesion of the flashing tape to the WRB and the nail flange. Repeat this process with the other jamb. Once both jambs are flashed, flash the head ensuring the flashing tape extends 2 inches past the jamb flashing. Again, using the J-roller to confirm cohesion. Finally, fold down the WRB over the head flashing and use WRB tape to secure the WRB to the head flashing. **Please note that any product used during installation of an Elevate product may have its own installation instructions that should be followed. In any case where the instructions do not coincide with one another, it is best to request an RFI from the AOR (Architect of Record).**

## **CAUTION**

**ANY EVIDENCE OF PREVIOUS WATER INTRUSION MUST BE  
CORRECTED PRIOR TO THE INSTALLATION OF A NEW UNIT.**

**DO NOT BLOCK OR SEAL ANY WEEP HOLES FOUND ON THE WINDOW UNIT.  
NEARLY ALL WEEP HOLES ARE FOUND IN THE SILL OF THE WINDOW ON THE  
EXTERIOR OF THE UNIT AND AIDS IN THE PROPER DRAINAGE OF THE UNIT.**

**SPRAY OR CAN INSULATION FOAM SHOULD CONFORM TO AAMA 812-04  
ANY DAMAGE OR FRAME BOWING (SILL, JAMB, HEAD OR OTHERWISE) AS A  
RESULT OF INCORRECT OR OVERLY EXPANDING FOAM WILL VOID WARRANTY.**

**STUCCO OR LIKE EXTERIOR WALL SURFACING MUST BE DESIGNED OR  
ENGINEERED WITH PROPER FENESTRATION DRAINAGE IN MIND.**



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