

**100%
NATURAL BEAUTY
JUST AS NATURE INTENDED**



Kayu® International, Inc. was founded in 1994 and is one of the world's largest serving Direct Importers of the finest Tropical Hardwood for the U.S. and Canadian markets; providing decades of High Quality Hardwood, Dependable Service at Affordable Prices.

Fundamental Guidelines

We've outlined some fundamental guidelines to assist you with the process of installing your siding, being mindful that many construction / installation details often vary from build to build.

All wood is subject to expansion and contraction as the moisture in the environment surrounding the wood changes. KAYU® hardwood is skillfully kiln-dried, board to board, resulting in highly consistent moisture content. Shrinkage is very limited, unlike air-dried boards.



Legendary Performance™



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Legendary Performance™



**KAYU®-EXTERIOR SIDING
TONGUE & GROOVE™
INSTALLATION FUNDAMENTALS**

**The Look of a New Generation, The Feel of Tradition
Build with KAYU®**

100% NATURAL BEAUTY

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First impressions are an Important Part of Business.
Commercial Building Front Entrance - Under Construction

Maximum Allowable Siding Spans for Exterior Siding:

KAYU®-Exterior Siding™	
Nominal Size	100 PSF on Center
1 x 4	16" on center
1 x 6	16" on center
5/4 x 4	24" on center
5/4 x 6	24" on center

We recommend narrower spans, for a sturdier Hardwood siding.

DISCLAIMER

KAYU® hardwood products are carefully selected species and manufactured to ensure the finest quality. However, all natural wood is subject to some minor expansion and contraction as the moisture in the environment surrounding the wood changes through the seasons. Careful attention to our installation instructions will be important to long term performance and enjoyment.

STORAGE AND HANDLING

- Before installation and finishing, keep your KAYU® hardwood boards clean, dry and out of direct sunlight. Acclimate to your project site by dry-storing 2 weeks prior to installation. Do not store siding directly on the ground. Be sure the bottom boards are well ventilated by placing the boards at least 12" off the ground and on top of blocks. Do not cover siding material with plastic or tarp during the acclimation period, this will trap moisture and cause stability issues. Place a sheet of plywood on the top of the boards to protect against water. Do not store the wood in an enclosed area (this includes warehouses, garages). Keep material dry until installation.
- Do not cut Metal anywhere near KAYU® Hardwood during the installation process, avoiding MPCC (Metallic Particle Corrosion Contamination).

SEALING /FINISHING

- Prior to installation, **seal siding with a high-quality penetrating oil sealer on all four sides.** Sealing only one side will create uneven moisture flow which increases the likelihood of cupping.
- In order to bring back the original color, a periodic cleaning and a new coat of finish will be necessary. The rate at which maintenance is needed; depends largely on; the degree of exposure to direct sunlight, climatic conditions, preference of color and the frequency at which any preservative treatments are applied. Once a year is the standard guideline for maintenance.
- Similar to other exterior wood products, with time, KAYU® Hardwoods will gradually fade to a silver-gray patina color. In this state, maintenance on your siding will be as low as any other product on the market.

KAYU® DRYING

- KAYU® siding is skillfully kiln-dried for consistent application, board to board, using a highly sophisticated process of computer and operator controlled heat and humidity to adjust and regulate the drying of the wood. Excessive moisture will cause the boards to expand slightly. Unlike air dried boards, shrinkage is very limited. Please refer to our website resource pdf. about why kiln drying is far superior to air-dried.
- KAYU® siding does not shrink or expand end to end (unlike composite siding), therefore neatly trim ends and butt together.

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VENTILATION AND AIR FLOW

- Building codes are constantly changing and they can vary by state, county, city, town, and/or district. Contact your local Building Inspection Department to ensure compliance of boards installation.
- **Allowing adequate ventilation is extremely important** for proper air flow to reduce the potential for cupping and surface checking. **In high moisture areas, it is imperative to leave an expansion space;** allowing the wood to expand and contract. In high moisture areas **do not** install the siding too tight, leave a **1/16" expansion gap between each board.**
- **For maximum long term siding stability:**
 - **Sheathing/House Wrap.** Using a breathable building paper, apply wrap to the wall as per specifications. All sidings may leak to some extent and wrapping stops moisture from getting into the framing or insulation; damaging the internal linings, or seeping lower into the building.

FASTENING

Tongue and groove siding can be installed horizontally or vertically.

- **For horizontal application,** start at the bottom and work up with the groove edges facing downwards. Siding up to 6" wide can be blind nailed with one siding nail per bearing toe-nailed through the base of each tongue. can be nailed directly to every stud or to furring strips. Wider siding should be face nailed using two nails per board. Nails must penetrate 1-1/4" into solid wood stud.
- **For vertical application,** start at one corner with grooved edge toward the adjacent wall. Use a construction lever to ensure that the first board is level. Siding is nailed to horizontal blocking lines installed to furring strips. As with horizontal installation, boards up to 6" can be blind nailed and wider boards should be face nailed.



SAFETY

- Safety should be one of your main concerns when installing flooring. We recommend wearing protective eye-wear, dust masks and gloves during installation. When using a saw, always cut away from your body. Check with your local department of Building and Safety before you start a project and/or have safety concerns.