

EPISODE #2019 THE REAL COVERUP

The perfect siding

Siding is to a house as skin is to the human body. Choosing siding deserves careful consideration. Some sidings are good in dry climates, others in wetter climates. Some siding is better in windy conditions. And still others are good in all types of weather conditions. Your house setting is also an important factor. George chose cedar because of the natural and rustic setting of the house. The cost may be a bit more for cedar, but the natural look can't be beat!

There are two kinds of cedar siding

Cedar shakes: A handsplit and resawn shake is sawn smooth on the back face and split with the natural grain of the wood on the exposed face, giving it a rustic appearance

Cedar shingles: A shingle, thinner than a shake, is sawn smooth on both faces for a very neat, uniform finish.

A few other siding options: Vinyl siding; Aluminium siding; Rectangular wood planks; Clapboard, Hardboard; Stucco; and Veneers, just to name a few.

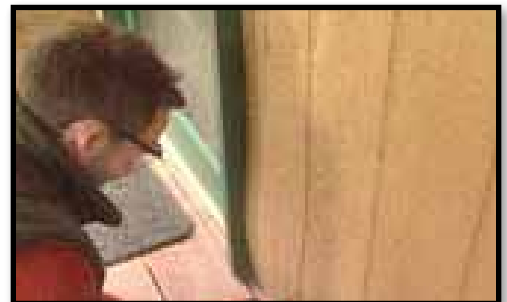
George went with cedar shakes purchased from Pacific Cedar.

Basic Steps to Consider:

- Take off the press board siding. (fig. A)
- Put the press board siding back on!!! George and Leigh attempted to remove the old press board siding, but this turned out to be a complicated option. The press board, it turned out, was installed under the soffit, which would mean taking off the soffit, which would also mean taking off the flashing, and removing the fascia and also the gutters... So, they put the press board siding back on and decided to install the cedar on top.
- The press board had to be screwed down to smooth out warps and bulges. (fig. B)
- Decide on your exposure for the cedar – do you want a lot of overlap, or a little. Do you want non-uniform or uniform overlap? George and Leigh decided on a 10" exposure for each shingle in a uniform overlap. Keep in mind, the less exposure, the more shingles you will need. (fig. C)
- Make a level line around the perimeter of the house. George and Leigh used a laser leveler to accomplish this task (see Tool of the Day). Once a level line was set, they measured off every 10" until they reached the bottom to find their starting point.



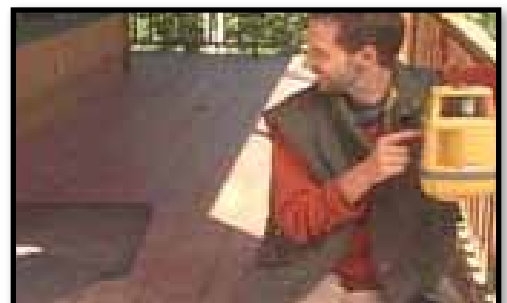
A. Removing the siding.



B. Screwing old siding.



C. Decide on exposure.



D. The laser leveler

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Because shingles overlap, always begin at the bottom and work your way upwards. (fig. D)

- An undercourse needs to be installed under the first course. Keep the undercourse $\frac{1}{2}$ " above the flashing to create a drip edge. Also, keep $\frac{1}{8}$ " between each shingle for expansion. Each shingle gets 2 nails. Make sure to put nails an inch above where next course will run, so the nails will be hidden under the shingles. (fig. E)
Tip: Use a story pole – Leigh marked the exposure lines on a 1x4 starting with the original laser level line. They then used the story board to mark the same measured lines at the other end of the wall, and snapped a chalk like for each course. The lads used a ledger board tacked along the chalk line, which allowed them to install the shingles along the board. (fig. F-G)
- To install shingles under windows, the shingles were cut to size and because the nails are exposed, finishing nails were used. (fig. I)
- Install shingles one row at a time.
- *Tip: Start with one wall, and follow the course around the perimeter so the courses are level on all sides of the house. (fig. J)



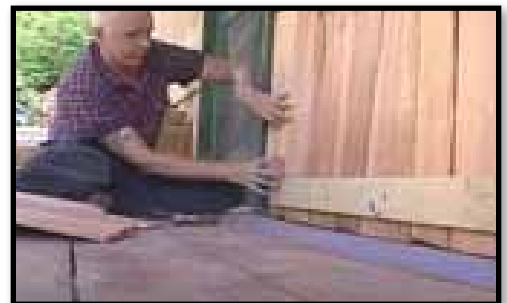
E. Undercourse under the first course



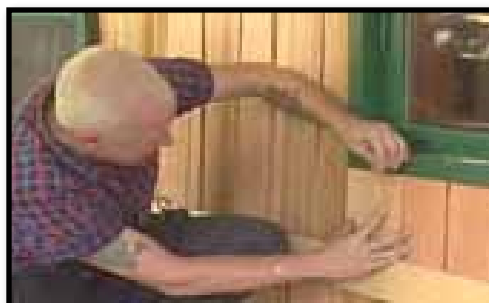
F. Use a story board to mark off each course.



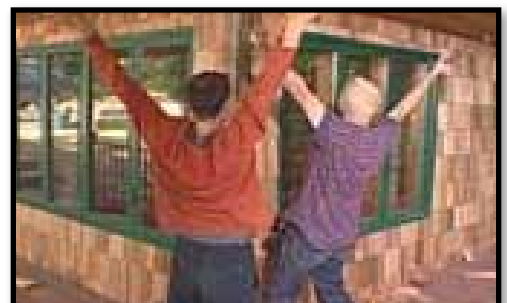
G. Creating a chalk line.



H. Ledger board.



I. Installing under windows.



J. Nice level shingles.