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LP® SmartSide® products are engineered to look beautiful with easier maintenance. A few simple care tips can preserve the attractive appearance of your home for many years to come.

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

- Check for small construction dents and gouges to trim or siding products. Fill indentations with caulk that meets ASTM C920 min. Class 25 requirements, then prime, if required before painting.
- Make sure lawn sprinklers do not spray water directly onto the trim and siding.
- Keep roof surfaces and gutters in good working order so that water is diverted away from the trim and siding products.
- Keep the painted surface free of mold, mildew, and algae.
- Make sure your trim and siding maintain a min. 6 inches (152 mm) of clearance between siding and finish grade (ground cover). Do not allow garden mulch or other debris to build up and compromise the clearance. [Min. 200 mm (8 inch) clearance must be maintained between cladding and finish ground when installing cladding in Canada in accordance with NBC, Section 9.27.2.4.(1) or local building code requirements.]
- Maintain a 1/2 inch per foot (13 mm per 305 mm) slope away from the house for all adjoining surfaces including porches, patios, balconies, driveways, walking surfaces, grade, etc. so that water will drain away effectively.
- Repaint trim and siding before existing paint fails.
 - Local weather conditions will affect the longevity of your paint's performance.
- Replace missing or damaged caulking.
- Make sure all exposed trim or siding wood substrate is properly sealed with paint or caulk.
 - If repainting is required, use a high-quality 100% acrylic exterior paint specially formulated for use on wood and engineered wood substrates. Follow paint manufacturer's requirements.
 - If recaulking is required, use a high quality, non-hardening, paintable sealant meeting ASTM C920, minimum Class 25. Please follow sealant manufacturer's requirements.
- Flashing is essential above all windows, doors, and horizontal trim. Maintain 3/8 inch (10 mm) gap above any drip cap flashing, **do not caulk.**

ANNUAL INSPECTION

Inspections are an essential part of maintenance, perform the following checks once a year:

- Inspect paint for damage to the surface.
 - Pay special attention to the bottom row of siding, under the windows, and any uncaulked gaps; caulk and repaint as necessary.
- Check all joints for cracking or missing caulk, replace as necessary.
- Look for signs of mildew and remove if necessary. Contact paint manufacturer for guidance.
- Inspect flashing and gutters for damage or blockage.
 - Repair any damage found and remove blockages so that water can drain away freely.

CLEANING

- Periodic cleaning is recommended to remove dirt and debris that may build up over time. When cleaning, work a small section at a time, starting from the bottom and working your way up to prevent streaking.
 - First, rinse siding with a garden hose using a low-pressure spray. **Do not use high pressure power washer.**
 - Next, wash the siding using water and mild detergent, apply the solution with a soft brush, cloth, or sponge. **Do not let the solution dry on the siding.**
 - Immediately follow all washing by rinsing with a garden hose, handheld or backpack-style pump sprayer using a low-pressure spray. Make sure to rinse soap completely.
 - Spot clean and rinse missed areas as needed.
 - **Never use harsh or harmful chemicals that can damage the paint or the siding.**

