

Replacing an existing nail fin window installed in a siding application with Krestmark Vinyl Replacement Series 220

Installing Krestmark Vinyl Replacement windows in a siding opening is often the easiest type of installation. However it still takes time and attention to detail to ensure a proper job. **Remember your replacement Krestmark window can be ordered with integral nail fin like new construction windows.**

These are suggestions based on generally accepted practices. Replacement situations can vary due to the assortment of sidings, wall construction, wall thickness, interior finishes and existing windows. These may have to be altered for your particular replacement project, the main concerns are:

- a. For the unit to be plumb, level and square.*
- b. Proper flashing and weather penetration prevention must be followed.*
- c. Replacing windows can be a more advanced "Do It Yourself" project. Do not hesitate to contact a professional.*

Before removing existing window it is important to do the following:

- 1. Measure the window opening to verify you purchased the correct size window**
 - 2. Measure the window itself to verify it will fit into the opening. The window should be approximately ¼" less in width and ¼ to ½" less in height**
- Remove exterior trim around the existing window. With the trim removed choose between loosening up the siding far enough back to allow access to the window nail fin or cut back the siding 3" to reveal the nail fin and allow room for flashing tape on the re-install. (Follow AAMA approved flashing techniques)
 - Cut the window loose from any sealant on the inside and exterior and pry the nail fin loose from the wall. The window comes out as a complete unit
 - Install the new window **"with nail fin"** back into opening. **The interior sheetrock may have to be trimmed back since the vinyl replacement window may be wider.** It is best to keep window closed and locked during installation until checking operation. Install plumb, level and square place shims around sides to hold in place, check for proper operation. Make adjustments and secure, the window is secured through the nail fin.
 - **Once secured properly seal the unit using a high quality flashing tape following AAMA new construction flashing guidelines to ensure water penetration into the wall will not occur in the future.** Replace siding and exterior trim making sure to properly seal against weather at all steps and contact to window.
 - If installing **"non fin"** replacement window, **prior to installation the opening must be prepped by cutting back the interior sheetrock and the use of flashing tape especially at the sill area to ensure a water tight installation.** Insert the window, shim in place, make sure it is plumb, level and square. Check for smooth operation, adjust if necessary and secure through jamb at shims. Use high quality sealant and or flashing tape to fill all exterior gaps. Use non rot fillers and exterior trim, seal and replace siding. On the interior trim out to meet existing wall with your choice of vinyl accessory trim pieces, sheetrock, wood or wood moulding and casing.