



VixenHill.com

General Instructions



Step #1):

END POSTS - Starting against the house, trim a starting end post (EP-x) to the height between the floor and the header beam. (Dittmar Header Beam Posts include a tenon for pocketing into the header). Scribe then remove siding or stucco behind where the post will be installed (use level). Install the post by first applying caulk to the back side and securing it to the underlayment with at least three screws.



Step #2):

PANELS - Select the appropriate panel and trim each side to the measurements shown on the layout drawing. Push thumbtacks (four), one top, another bottom into the trimmed panel edges to serve as expansion spacers. If using a standard header beam with no panel groove, trim the panel height 1 3/8" LESS THAN the adjoining post height. If using a grooved header beam, trim the panel height to the height between the floor and the header beam.



Step #3):

THRESHOLDS - Temporarily sandwich the trimmed panel into the channels between two posts. Measure the distance between the bottoms of the posts to obtain the cut-length for the threshold. Cut equal amounts off each end of the threshold then apply two edge caulk beads to its bottom. Center it against the post and screw it to the floor through its 1/2" spline. Make sure to measure from the edge of the deck to the edge of the threshold for symmetry.

Step #4):

PANEL CAPS - When panels are installed without the grooved header beam, the panel needs to be trimmed 1 3/8" shorter than the post height. This allows space for the underlying threshold and the panel-cap. Panel caps are NOT required for header beam installations because the panel recesses into the header beam groove and is further secured by the threshold and posts.

Step #5):

Corner Post - Continue installing panels and posts until you reach the corner or another pre-existing post. Existing posts with a header beam will need the channeled end post ripped 1/2" off-center. The larger ripping is attached to the post allowing the last panel to be installed. Finish-nail the remaining strip into place on the outside. Always use stainless fasteners with cedar.



Porch Retrofit Considerations

Retrofit Porch Systems include a split and chamfered panel cap with each wall panel. These are used to fill the gap between the top of the trimmed and installed wall panel, and the header beam. They can be installed as-you-go or as a final step in porch installation. The typical header/trimmed panel gap should be about 5/8". Toe nail the two half's in place using stainless 1 1/2" stainless finish nails. If existing posts and header are Azek wrapped, then use 2" nails where nails are needed. The end posts and/or sometimes joining posts may need to be split in order to install the last panel in a "run" between existing posts. Doors WITHOUT wall panels must be hung between posts using standard door hanging techniques. Threshold, door stop material and a 36" length of cedar 2 x 6 are provided for door installation

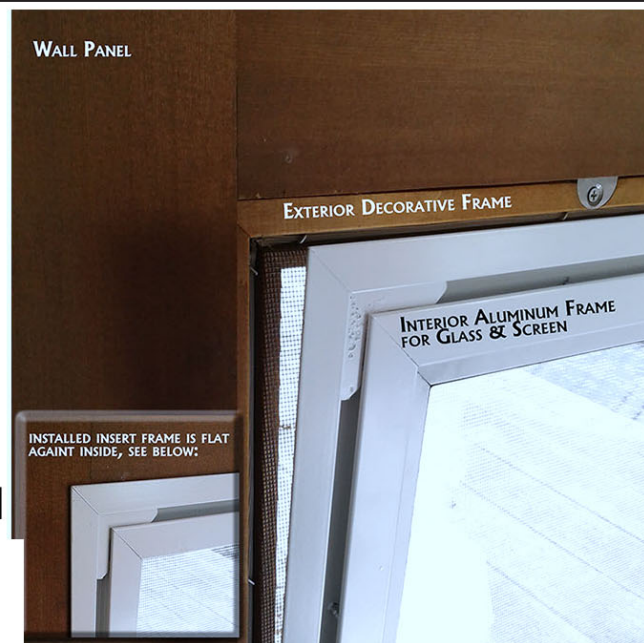
Note: When installing the wall panels and securing them to the posts using the 4" screws through the hole beneath the cross rail, remember to back the screw OUT one counterclockwise turn to allow parts room for expansion and contraction.



Screen Latch
w/screw
(enlarged)

Removable inserts inside an aluminum frame

The first insert option (shown left) is a removable screen or tempered glass insert held in place using screen latches. This option is ideal for an application with decorative wood inserts on the outside or for locations that are not exposed to high winds. Insert the frame into the opening and mark the spot where to drill for the screws. Use two (2) latches each on all four sides.



Permanent Aluminum Frame with removable Inserts

The second insert option (shown right) has a **permanent frame screwed** to either the inside or outside of the panel.

This option is ideal for an application where no decorative wood inserts are installed on the outside and a high-wind load is required. This frame will not move!



FROM THE OUTSIDE INSERT THE SCREEN (OR GLASS) INTO THE FRAME BY SLIDING IT UP AND PULLING IT OUT, SIMPLE AND EASY. NOTE: IF YOU HAVE DECORATIVE INSERTS, THEY HAVE TO BE REMOVED!

