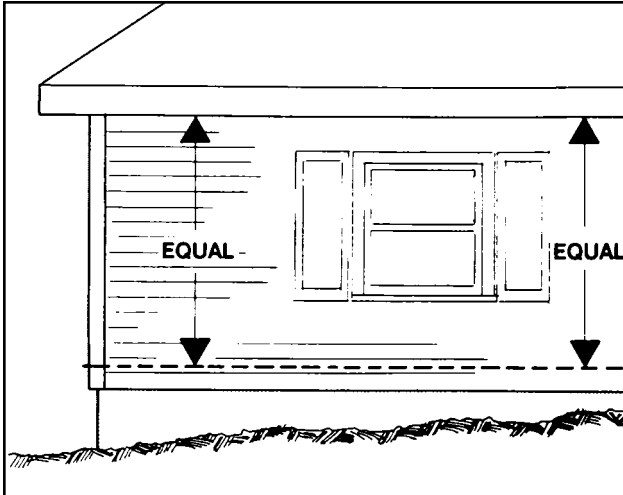
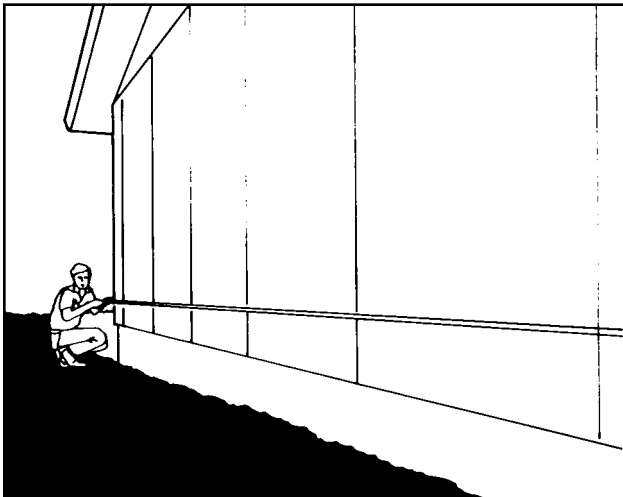


Chalk Lines

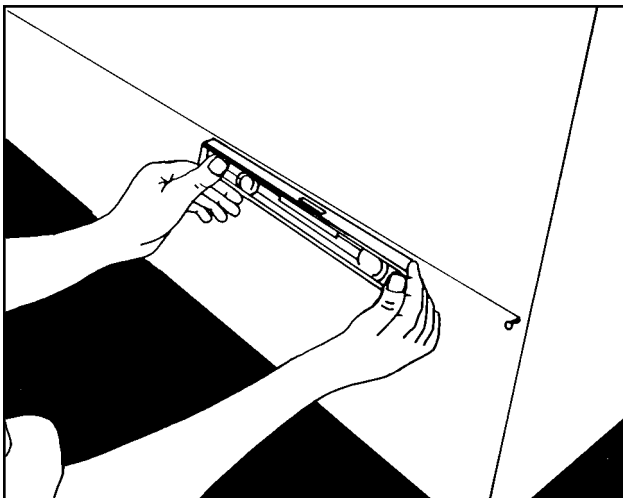


Straight Line

The key element in a successful siding installation is establishing a straight reference line upon which to start the first course of siding. The suggested procedure is to measure equal distances downward from the eaves and/or windows. This insures that the siding appears parallel with the eaves, soffit, and windows, regardless of any actual settling of the house from true level.



Find the lowest corner of the house. Partly drive a nail about 10 inches above the lowest corner, or enough to clear the height of a full siding panel. Stretch a taut chalk line from this corner to similar nail installed at other corner. Re-set this line based upon measuring down from points of equal dimension from eaves or windows. Repeat this procedure on all sides of the house until the chalk lines meet at all corners. Before snapping chalk lines, check for straightness. Be alert to sag in the middle, particularly if line is more than 20 feet long. If preferred, lines may be left in place while installing the starter strip, as long as they are checked periodically for excess sag.



Level

If the house is reasonably level, an alternative is to use a level to set the chalk line approximately 2 inches (Or the width of the starter strip) from the lowest point of the old siding, and locate the top of the starter strip to that line. Be careful when using a standard carpenter's level because the progressive measurements may increase the possibility of error. The level should be at least 2 feet long, and preferably longer. Take level reading at center of chalk line for best results.