



*Leading Edge Soffit Venting Systems*

**How to  
Install  
Decomesh  
Undereave  
Venting**

**DECOMESH Undereave Vent** was developed to eliminate the need to rescreen the necessary soffit attic vent, found on most homes. This do-it-yourself installation booklet will show you how to eliminate rescreening and protect your home. **DECOMESH Undereave Vent** adds beauty and value to your home at a very reasonable cost.

Here are tips and instructions on how to install **DECOMESH Undereave Vent**. Take time to read these simple instructions. They will save you time, effort and result in a neater, more professional installation.

## MATERIALS SELECTION

Select the right size and right amount for your home. **DECOMESH Undereave Vent** comes in two colors (white and brown) and three widths (2 1/2", 4 1/2", 6"). To determine correct width, measure across vent opening on the soffit. (fig. 1) Next, measure total linear feet of vent needed. (fig. 2) **DECOMESH Undereave Vent** comes in 8 foot lengths. Divide total linear footage by eight, giving you the number of vent panels needed to do the job.

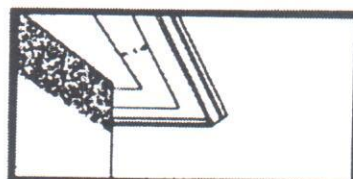


figure 1

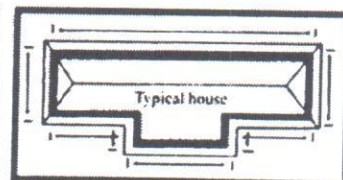


figure 2

## PREPARATIONS

There is no need to remove structurally sound soffits. All loose soffit boards should be refastened with nails. Any corroded or seriously damaged soffit boards should be replaced. Give all new wood and paint peeling soffit a fresh coat of paint. Old screen should not be removed until just prior to installation of **DECOMESH Undereave Vent**. This will temporarily prevent access of the attic to birds, rodents and other pests.

## TOOLS NEEDED

The basic tools you will need include; a carpenters square, pencil, tin snips, or metal scissors, utility knife, tape measure, a pair of ladders or scaffolding and a good latex chalk and chalking gun. Safety goggles or other protective eye wear is recommended to protect your eyes from falling attic debris during removal of old screening.

Tools for fastening depend on fastening method. Hammer and aluminum nails, or air powered staple gun, or aluminum screws and screw driver/gun.

## INSTALLATION

Old screening should be removed as you install DECOMESH Undereave Vent. (fig. 3)

There are several methods of installing DECOMESH Undereave Vent. Here are two of the most popular methods. Read thoroughly to decide which method would be best for you.

### METHOD 1

Installation begins at a corner. Using a carpenters square, mark and trim a short  $45^\circ$  angle on the vent. (fig. 4) The opposite end of the vent panel is bowed as shown. (fig. 5) Next, center the aluminum vent panel over the vent opening in the soffit. Make sure the corner end covers the entire vent opening of the perpendicular vent. (fig. 6)

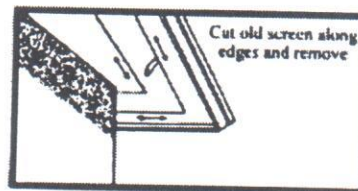


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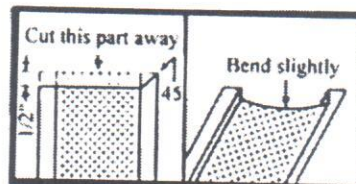


figure 4

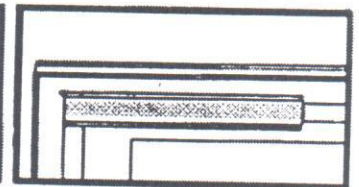


figure 5

### METHOD 2

Another method, concerning the starting and finishing of corners, is to simply butt the end of one panel with the side of the perpendicular vent. (fig. 7) You will have to close the open end of the vent, prior to installation. This can be done by trimming  $3/8$ " of the sides and flanges away. Bend the small tab up to close off the end. (fig. 8)

The methods described above are for starting and finishing the corners.

If you have no corners or adjoining vents, run the Undereave vent panel all the way to the fascia or wall. (fig. 9) This will lend itself to a neater appearance.

This booklet describes most normal installations, where the soffit is vented near the center. Different vent designs may require other methods of installing DECOMESH Undereave Vent.



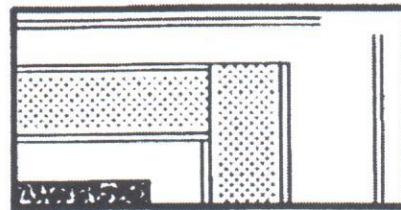


figure 7

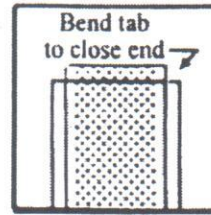


figure 6

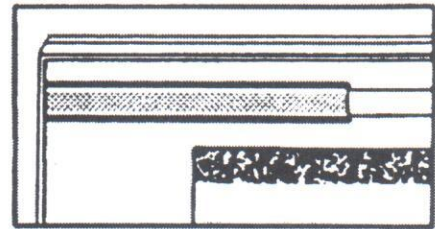


figure 8

## GENERAL INSTALLATION

Have your helper hold the vent in place. Space fasteners about 10" to 12" apart.

When fastening with nails, angle nails slightly inward to prevent damage to the panels edge, and space nails so that the nails are being driven into the roof trusses. (fig. 10)

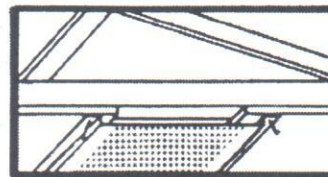


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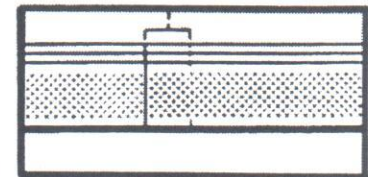


figure 11

When using screws, its a good idea to put holes in the flanges where the screws will go, before you install the panel. When the end to be overlapped is installed, bow the vent panel end as shown in (fig. 5). The next vent panel to be installed should overlap the already installed panel by an inch. Press upward against the slightly bowed end, to form a tight, no gap, overlapping joint. (fig. 11).

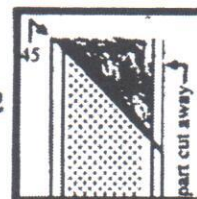


figure 12

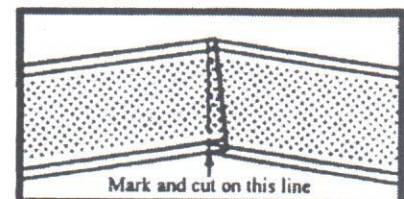


figure 14

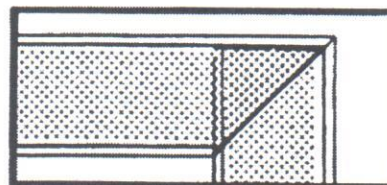


figure 13

## CORNER JOINTS

For making 90° angle joints, use a carpenter's square to mark a 45° angle across the width of the panel. Make the cut as close to the end as possible and on the correct side. (fig. 12) Use tin snips to cut the 45° angle, and carefully reshape the cut edges. Install the angled end over the already installed vent, lining up the inside and outside corners. (fig. 13) Make sure the vent panel is centered over the vent opening. Don't forget to bow the overlapped end to insure a tight joint. (fig. 5). For any other angle, install the first vent panel as described in Method 1. Next place the adjoining vent panel over the corner joint and center it over the vent opening. Next, mark a line from the inside to outside corner. (fig. 14) Cut the angle marked and install as described in method 1.

## GABLED SOFFIT JOINTS

Cut 2" of the sides and flanges away on one end, leaving just the perforated tab. Bend the perforated tab down, so that when the overlapping panel is installed, the tab presses down tightly against the end of the overlapping panel. (fig 15)



figure 15

## FASTENING TECHNIQUES

Aluminum nails work satisfactory, most professional installers use an airpowered staple gun. If a staple gun is used, be sure to use aluminum or stainless steel staples. Staple heads should also be painted to match undereave vent panels.

## FINISHING TOUCHES

After undereave venting is installed use a good latex chalk to seal any gaps. Inspect wood soffit and fascia seams for any cracks or gaps, seal with chalk. If you are planning to texture (stucco roll coat or spray crete) your home, texturing the soffit might be in your plans. After installing DECOMESH Undereave Vent, neatly chalk the edges of the aluminum panels. Next, mask off the center vent holes. After texturing is applied remove masking form venting, and note the custom look.



## FLUSH WITH THE WALL

Installation with this type of vent system, requires a slotted wood 1" x 2". The slotted wood strip is fastened to the top of the wall with concrete nails or regular nails. The new wood is then painted. The inner flange is recessed into the slot. (fig. 16) Overlap and corner joints use the same technique as described in Methods 1 and 2.

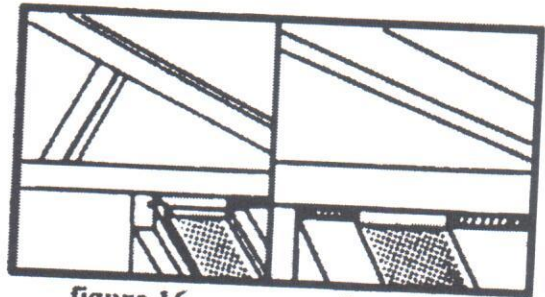


figure 16

figure 17

## NEW CONSTRUCTION

DECOMESH Undereave Vent should be installed prior to installation of wood soffits.

Attach the vent panel to the roof trusses and then install the wood soffit to cover the vent panel flange. This will give you an even soffit surface. (fig. 17)

## OVER WIDE SOFFIT VENTING

DECOMESH Undereave Vent comes in three sizes (2 1/2", 4 1/2" 6' widths). If your soffit vent opening is wider than 6", then the vent panels can be installed side by side. A strip of wood, such as screen molding can be used as a center edge for the overlapping flanges. (fig 18) The same end overlapping and corner joint techniques are used as described in Methods 1 and 2.

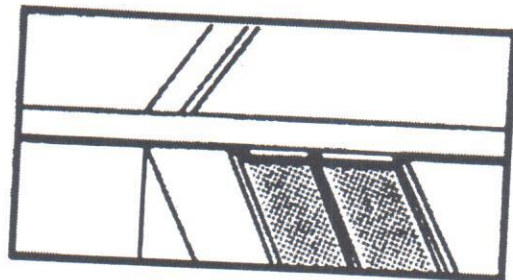


figure 18

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