



Altus Windows

A local, trusted family company since 1984

Full replacement of windows, doors, soffits, fascias, bargeboards, cladding and guttering with uPVC

10 Arnold Road Stoke Golding Nuneaton Warwickshire CV136JG T: 01455 212105 E: sarah@altuswindows.co.uk W: www.altuswindows.co.uk

PRODUCT INFORMATION GUIDE

Rafter ends

When the existing fascia is removed, we normally find that the rafter ends have considerable damage caused by the removal of the large nails used to support the old fascia. In addition it is not uncommon to find that a small amount of rot has started to take hold on the very ends. To make sure that we are securing the uPVC to sound and level wood, we cut the rotten part of the rafter away and install new chemically treated timber to the end of every rafter. This is done as part of our standard job. **NOT RECOMMENDED** It is fairly common practice for fascia installers to use their uPVC off cuts to do this job, but it is not recommended as the centre of the board is foam based and a secure fixing cannot be made.

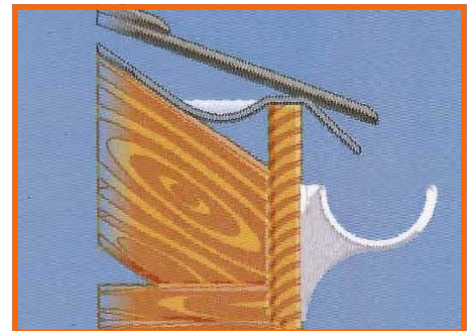


Re-felting

When carrying out a fascia installation we remove the tiles (in most instances) whilst these are off we will replace the perished felt. We remove the first tile baton, then cut away the damaged bituminous felt. When this is complete, new felt is inserted up to the second tile baton, we then install a new tanalised lath to replace the baton we removed. To stop the felt "ponding" (see diagram) we install a sarking board which fits under the felt between the new lath and the top of the new fascia, this supports the felt and stops ponding (Not possible under slate/rosemary tiles). The replacement felt is made of a synthetic breathable nylon based material.

Ponding

Ponding is basically unsupported felt, sagging down behind the fascia. In the event of water getting through the tiles (this occurs in certain weather conditions) your house is protected by felt, however when the water makes its way down to the bottom of the roof, it cannot get over the fascia as the felt is sagging down below it. The water will then travel horizontally until it finds the end of the felt. This effect is what causes the end rafters to rot first.



Alternatives

There are several cheaper, less labour intensive ways of replacing the felt, the most common is inserting the replacement product up to this first tile baton, this doesn't involve removing additional rows of tiles and replacing the timber tile baton, the downside to this is that it will sag between the rafters and you only have the fitters word that the felt isn't perished further back. The felt is nearly always perished by about six inches, this does not give you the recommended overlap of seven inches between felt layers as the distance between the top of the fascia and the first tile baton will be no greater than ten inches (not to mention isolated rips and holes). Another common system is uPVC eaves trays which are quick to install and will stop ponding, but once again, it will not go far enough back, to be of any real use. Nine times out of ten it will need to be used in addition to a tiles off re-battening felting job.



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Venting

It is recommended that some form of eaves ventilation is included when replacing fascias and soffits (in most cases). This is a building regulation. Our favoured method, if the size of the fascia permits it are 'over fascia vents' these are attached to the top of the fascia and allow the air to travel freely in and out of the eaves, they are totally unseen from any angle and are not a target for insects or birds. They are designed to prevent ingress of insects.

Vented Soffits

In the event of the fascia being too small to accommodate over fascia vents we will install vented soffit, this will do the job its designed for, but does have a tendency to get dirty and does become a target for insects, mainly spiders/webs.

Circular Vents

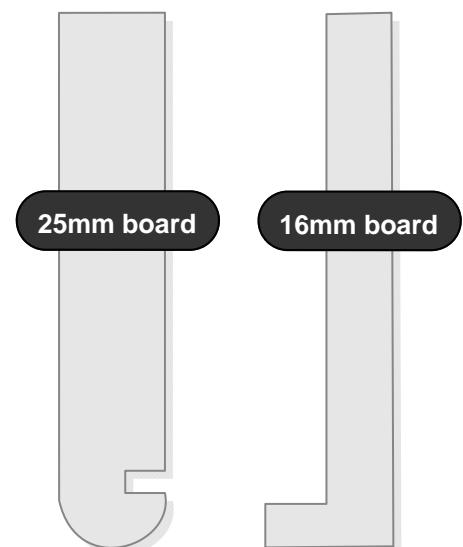
These are designed as a retro solution. To comply with Building Regulations they need to be installed every twelve inches.

PVC Guttering/Downpipes

We have a wide choice of shapes, colours and sizes to choose from. We will calculate the area with the pitch of the roof and set the fall of the gutter to suit. We will also recommend, where possible we fit 25mm (1 inch) thick fascia board, as shown in the diagram. It has a uPVC skin on both the inner and outer face of the board, this enables it to support a guttering system without the need to screw the gutter through the fascia and into the rafter end. It is far more rigid than a standard 16/20mm single skinned fascia board and does not bow under the pressure of expansion and contraction.

Fascia Board

Where possible we fit 25mm (1 inch) thick fascia board, as shown in the diagram. It has a uPVC skin on both the inner and outer face of the board, this enables it to support a guttering system without the need to screw the gutter through the fascia and into the rafter end. It is far more rigid than a standard 16/20mm single skinned fascia board and does not bow under the pressure of expansion and contraction.





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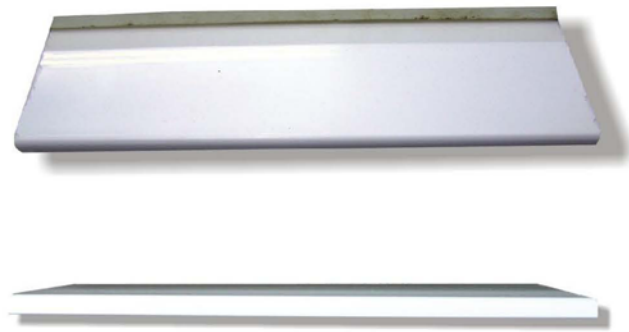
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Soffits

We always fit solid uPVC soffits unless we have been specifically asked to fit the slatted effect system. As depicted in the pictures, the solid soffits are made in the same way as the double skinned fascia board. It is rigid, impact resistant and will not warp under the forces of expansion and contraction.

Slatted Soffits

Slatted soffit is widely used, this is mainly because it is a quarter of the cost of the equivalent solid soffit. It is mainly made of re-cycled uPVC, and has very little structural integrity. It is known in the trade as 'hollow soffit'.



Branded Fixings

We only use 'polytop' stainless steel fixings, they hold the original patents for pvc headed fixings and are made in Leicester. There are many imported, much cheaper products available but these are sometimes made of a lower grade stainless steel and the uPVC heads are not UV stable.



City & Guilds Accreditation

Because the replacement of fascia and soffit is not subject to building control, it is very difficult to know what is the right or wrong thing to do, especially as different companies will recommend different solutions to the same situation. The City & Guilds qualification ensures that any person who has accreditation has been examined and surpasses the level required to prove that they are competent and able to install uPVC fascia products in line with 'best building practice'. To add to this level of staff competence we have an inhouse ongoing training program that constantly updates our fitting methods with new and improved techniques.





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SERVICE AND INSTALLATION



Prior to installation the customer's roofline around the porch was starting to deteriorate and required preservative annually.



Altus installers remove the old guttering.



If necessary, two rows of tiles are carefully removed. Altus installers check for damaged tiles and advise the customer.



Worn and rotten timber fascias and soffits are removed along with all existing roofline to ensure there is no damage to the property.



The roofline had only provided limited protection to the roof and a bird's nest was discovered. Installers remove debris from the roof.



The rafter ends are thoroughly checked for rotten timber before any new material is installed.



A new treated timber fascia support is attached to the rafters to ensure that uPVC is completely straight when installed.



The uPVC fascia board is fixed using stainless steel nails. These do not rust and have colour matched heads and virtually invisible.



The Over Fascia Ventilation and Eaves Protection is put into position. The customer will not have to worry about rotten rafters or pools of water collecting in the roof.



The tiles are put carefully back into place. The bird comb, which is positioned under the tile, will prevent any birds or other vermin making your roof their home.



The installers use a spirit level to guarantee an adequate slant on the gutter. The fall on the gutter will allow rainwater to flow smoothly into downpipes.



After the gutter brackets are fixed to the fascia board using stainless steel screws, the gutter is clipped in to the brackets.



The down pipe is attached to the gutter outlet.



With brown roofline, Altus installers even paint visible overflow pipes to make sure the job is fully finished.



Finally, the bargeboard is fixed to the side of the porch.



Altus installers clean up after themselves and take all of the old fascias and guttering away with them. Your home will be left as the installers found it.