

## NichiProducts<sup>™</sup>Care and Maintenance

This document is intended as a homeowner quick reference guide for the basic maintenance and care of NichiProducts. Because Nichiha fiber cement products are very durable, proper installation following all requirements will help ensure a minimum amount of maintenance issues. Detailed installation information is available via nichiha.com/resources/installation or 1.86.NICHIHA.1.

**Paint:** All unfinished (pre-primed) products must be painted within 12 months of installation. Exterior grade 100% acrylic latex paints are recommended. Follow the paint manufacturer's instructions for use, care, and future repainting. Do not use stain or oil based paints.

**Field Cut Edges:** All exposed field cut edges, such as outside edges, field cut butt joints, cuts around doors and windows, or bottom ends of corners and window trim, must be coated with primer, paint, or sealant.

**Dents/Chips/Scratches:** Any minor surface damage to NichiProducts must be patched with exterior grade cementitious patching or putty. Follow the product instructions.

**Sealant:** Use an exterior grade high-quality sealant (caulk) that complies with either ASTM C-834 or ASTM C-920 for all gaps that require sealant. When replacing caulk in the future, carefully remove the old caulk first and then follow the manufacturer's instructions and Nichiha's requirements.

**Cleaning:** Wash down exterior surfaces at least every 12 months to remove any dirt and debris. DO NOT use high-pressure power washers which may damage fiber cement. A mild household detergent and soft bristle brush or cloth may be used if needed. Rinse with clean water from a standard garden hose. For mildew removal, consult your paint manufacturer's instructions prior to the use of commercial mold and mildew cleaners.

Gutters: Ensure that gutters and downspouts are kept clear to prevent overflow onto or behind the siding.

**Vegetation:** A one foot clearance between plants/vegetation and the siding is recommended. Prune back plants that are too close to or touching the building.

**Ground Clearance:** Ensure the minimum required ground clearance of 6" is maintained by preventing build up of decorative mulch, stone, etc.

Loose Product or Replacement: See detailed installation instructions for fastener and fastening requirements.