

# Ekodeck® Decking

Maxiboard / Installation Guide









## INSTALLATION GUIDE

## Read this first

Being a composite product, Ekodeck Decking behaves and has different characteristics to timber. To achieve a safe and long lasting Ekodeck Decking installation, it is important to read the following guide in full.

# Warnings

- 1. Ekodeck Decking is a pre-finished product, use care when storing, handling and installing to avoid damage.
- 2. It is the sole responsibility of the homeowner, contractor or the installer to determine the specific requirements, effectiveness, suitability and safety with regard to any application or use of Ekodeck products.
- 3. Ekodeck Decking is not designed to be a freestanding product. It must be installed safely and correctly fixed down to a substructure.
- 4. The substructure must comply with all the relevant regulations and aspects of the Building Code of Australia.
- 5. Ekodeck Decking should not:
  - A. Be used in a substructure application
  - B. Be applied directly to a solid surface such as concrete
  - C. Have a cantilever greater than 50mm
- Any single piece of Ekodeck Decking must be installed over at least 2 spans (i.e. 3 joists) to keep within the structural load bearing limits of its design.
- 7. Ekodeck Decking must have sufficient gaps provided between boards and at joins and edges to allow for proper thermal movement and ventilation.

#### Safety

Always use proper protective clothing and safety equipment.

Ekodeck Decking boards are heavier than traditional timber. Always exercise precaution and care when lifting.

## Storage & handling

Ekodeck Decking boards must be:

- Supported at least every 600mm on a level plane.
- Laid flat especially during transportation and never at an angle.
- Never be dropped or 'dumped' when unloading.
- Stored on a flat, dry surface.
- Covered until it is time to use them for installation.





#### Natural variances & colour

Ekodeck Decking is made by combining reclaimed timber with a mix of new and recycled plastics. It is designed to have a variation of colour and tone from one board/batch to another.



It is necessary to lay out your boards to ensure you have an even mix of both light and dark tones across the deck prior to cutting or installing to avoid large blocks of single tones. Boards cannot be exchanged or returned after they have been cut. If you do not accept the colour/finish of the board, do not cut or install it.



Ekodeck Decking boards are subject to normal manufacturing variations and tolerances. Reasonable variances in board dimensions are not considered a product fault and due care should be taken when installing to allow for these.



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# Slip rating

Ekodeck Decking boards are supplied with a certified anti-slip rating as per AS4586:2013. Over time, dependent on traffic, environment and other external factors, the surface may wear. It is the responsibility of the owner to periodically test the boards to ensure anti-slip rating requirements are being met.

## Surface protection

It is recommended to use surface protection on furniture and objects to avoid scratching or marking.

# Pressure washing

When using a pressure washer, ensure you wash the deck in a consistent manner to avoid stripes or swirls. We recommend using a fan spray nozzle, no more than 2000psi. Be sure to maintain a minimum distance of 30cm from the decking to avoid damage.

# Gaps & spans

	Uniformly Distributed Actions	Concentrated Actions	Centre-to-centre joist spacing
Residential*	1.5kPa	1.8kN	450mm
Residential stairs & landings*	2.0kPa	2.7kN 400mm	
Commercial*	2.0kPa	2.7kN	400mm
Min. ground clearance (with adequ	40mm		
Min. ground clearance (without ad	90mm		
Min. side-to-side gap	Auto-spaced by clip		
Recommended end gap	Refer to Expansion Gaps table		
Edge Boards	Should be fully supported		

<sup>\*</sup>As per AS/NZS 1170.1. Visit ekodeck.com.au for engineering and compliance certificates and for more information on spans, loads and Residential and Commercial applications.

# Ventilation

The clearance from the ground must be no less than 40mm with drainage and 90mm without drainage.

However, if any part of the NCC or Section 6.2 of the ABCB Housing Provisions specify a greater distance for certain conditions, the specified clearance must be adhered to accordingly.

# Cutting

For best results, use hardwood blades. When using a drop saw we recommend a 60-80 tooth blade for cutting.

Where possible, delay any trimming of length until all boards are fully fastened and trim at the same time to achieve a uniform length for all boards across your deck.



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# Thermal expansion & contraction

Ekodeck expands and contracts in length with changes in temperature. This is normal behaviour of any wood plastic composite and is not a product fault.

It is most important to take this into consideration during installation of your Ekodeck Decking.

# **Expansion** gaps

Bo ler (m

It is important to take Thermal Expansion & Contraction into account when gapping your boards.

4mm

Ambient temperature during installation (°C)

The below table can be used as a guide when discerning the appropriate gap (in mm) to leave at each end of your board, depending on board length and ambient temperature during installation.

		Ambient temperature during installation (C)			
		10°C	20°C	30°C	40°C
oard _ ngth n) -	1m	3mm	2mm	2mm	2mm
	1.5m	4mm	3mm	2mm	2mm
	2m	4mm	4mm	2mm	2mm
	2.25m	6mm	4mm	3mm	2mm

6mm

6mm

## Guidelines to best manage gaps

2.7m

• During installation, if the board is warm to the touch or has been sitting in full sun (i.e. hotter than ambient temperature) we advise to reduce the end gap.

2mm

- Ensure you leave a sufficient gap to solid structures, posts or walls to allow for expansion/contraction of Ekodeck and avoid damage to the boards or surroundings.
- Allow the boards to acclimatise to your site conditions. This allows your Ekodeck to adapt to the ambient heat typical of your location
- For each section of decking, leave your boards overlength. Delay any edge/length trimming until after installation, then trim to length using a circular saw and straight edge to ensure all boards are the same length. This is best done after the boards have settled. (i.e. The following day after installation)

# Fastening boards

Predrill boards using a 6mm drill bit, a minimum of 35mm from the edge of the board.

Countersink the bpoard prior to fastening.

Fasten using two 15g x 75mm stainless steel bugle-head batten screws at every joist/supporting member.



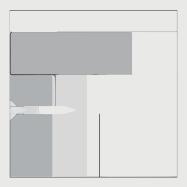
e.g. If temperature during installation is 20°C, the recommended end gap for a 2m board is 2mm

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# Fascia fixing options

See below for how to fix your fascia board. Fascias should be fastened every 600mm.

Face-fix



# Cleaning

It is necessary to clean your deck immediately after installation and periodically as you see fit:

- 1. Scrub the deck with hot water and dishwashing liquid using a stiff decking brush.
- 2. Rinse your deck a pressure washer is recommended

Cleaning requirements will vary depending on product use, surrounding environment and weather exposure. We recommend a General Clean is performed at least annually.

For more information, see our Care & Maintenance guide.

# Weathering

 ${\sf Ekodeck} \ {\sf is} \ {\sf a} \ {\sf colour-fast} \ {\sf and} \ {\sf UV-stabilised} \ {\sf product} \ {\sf that} \ {\sf will} \ {\sf not} \ {\sf lose} \ {\sf its} \ {\sf colour}.$ 

Like any outdoor building material, there may be a slight colour shift upon initial exposure to UV. This may be noticeable in areas where pots, mats or other furniture has been left for extended periods of time. This is to be expected and is not a product fault.

