

TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE

Decking should be supported every 24”.

Boards should be stored on a level surface with support every 24”. Material should be covered when stored outside.

CUTTING AND MACHINING

Carbide tip cutting tools are recommended. Due to the unique cell structure, the board is less abrasive to saw blades, drill bits, and router bits. Blades with low teeth count per inch will reduce heat build-up. Finish blades can be used when blade is allowed to cool between cuts. When drilling composite boards, lift the drill periodically to remove shavings.

FASTENERS

To create the ideal surface appearance on the deck, use of composite decking screws is recommended. Screws should be clearly labeled as “composite decking screws”. Caution: Standard exterior screws will deliver the same fastening performance, but tend to cause mushrooming, leaving the deck with a less than desirable finish.

Hidden fastening systems such as Tiger Claw® and Shadoe® Track are also suggested for use with Decades™ Composite Decking. These hidden fastening systems eliminate the appearance of the screw head from the surface of the deck.

Two fasteners should be used at every joist. To accommodate the attachment of the fasteners at board ends and at butt joints a supporting joist or cleat needs to attach to the stringer, ledger board or rim joist.

Note: While screws can be used without pre-drilling, it is recommended to pre-drill holes that are 1 inch or less from the end of the board.

Screws should be at least ¾” of an inch from the end.

BOARD ORIENTATION

All deck boards should be oriented in the same direction. Use the product code printed every four feet on the side of the boards as a guide.

STAIR TREAD

Stair treads should be cut out of composite deck boards. Each tread is face fastened on joist spans no greater than 12” apart.

Overhang for stair treads must not exceed 4”.

Tiger Claw® is a registered trademark of Tiger Claw, Inc. Shadoe® Track is a registered trademark of Shadoe Track.

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Installation Guide

GAPPING

Since composite decking expands and contracts with the temperature, gaps are important to allow for proper drainage, joist shrinkage, and thermal expansion and contraction.

Recommended Gaps

Installation Temp.	Side-to-Side	End-to-End	Solid Abutment
Less than 40°F	3/16"	1/4"	5/8"
40°F to 60°F	3/16"	3/16"	1/2"
60°F to 80°F	1/8"	1/8"	3/8"
80°F to 100°F	3/32"	3/32"	1/4"

JOIST SPANNING

The maximum center to center spans are shown in the following table. The composite decking product must be installed over a minimum of three joists.

Center-to-Center Spans For Perpendicular Attachment

Board Size	Commercial Decks, Docks, Boardwalks, and Playgrounds, 200 PSF	
	Residential Decks 100 PSF	
5/4 x 6	16"	12"
2 x 4	20"	16"
2 x 6	24"	16"

Joist Span Adjustment (for attachment at angles less than 90°)

Board Size	Commercial Decks, Docks, Boardwalks, and Playgrounds, 200 PSF					
	Residential Decks 100 PSF					
Angle of Attachment	60°	45°	30°	60°	45°	30°
5/4 x 6	14"	12"	8"	10"	8"	6"
2 x 4	18"	16"	10"	14"	12"	8"
2 x 6	22"	20"	12"	14"	12"	8"

Composite decking is not a structural product and should not be used for that purpose.

Compliance with all applicable local, state and federal building codes remains the responsibility of the user.

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