



## LeisureDeck Installation and Information Sheet

### Important

*6-10mm Holes must be drilled in the underside of each Board in each cavity to allow moisture to escape. Holes should be drilled at each end of the board as well as in the middle*

### Transport

Composite decking needs to be transported flat – it can't be tied on an angle for example on a Ute. Also needs to be on edge (the narrow edge horizontal and the flat edge vertical).

### Storage and Handling

Leisuredeck should be stored flat, on edge, off the ground and under shelter away from direct sunlight. The boards require nine to ten supports along the length of the board.

### Temperature / Expansion and Contraction

The decking expands and contracts lengthways due to the temperature changes during the day. BEFORE CUTTING, the temperature of each board should be assessed. Hot boards will shrink and cool boards will expand. The boards should be laid out in the area they will be installed and allowed to acclimatize. If installing on a hot day expansion gaps should be kept to a minimum, installation on a cold day requires up to a 3mm gap for each 5.85m length of board. The shorter the board the less the decking will expand.

To reduce the effects of movement of long boards over 4m The PREFERRED METHOD OF INSTALLATION is

- 1) A picture frame design to encase the boards
- 2) A breaker board at right angles to the deck boards instead of staggered joins
- 3) Fix the Board to the joist one end of each long board to allow expansion at the other end, this can be done by predrilling and fixing a screw at 45degree angle through the groove of the board.

### Orientation / Direction of Boards

Lay the boards at the same orientation as they are removed from the pack. If a board is turned and laid in the opposite direction from the others there may be a texture or colour change which becomes apparent after the weathering process.

### Safety & Tools

usual safety precautions used when working with wood should be applied when working with Leisuredeck . Leisuredeck can be drilled, sawn, fastened and routed with normal wood working tools. Counter sinking of any screws or nails is NOT recommended.

## Planning

LeisureDeck requires joists at 400 or 450 centres (see details above). Ground Clearance - over damp ground with little ventilation 300mm is required. However it can be used over sealed substrates such as concrete or a waterproof membrane with as little as 50mm ground clearance. Overhang on the ends or sides of the deck should be no more than 50mm. Using LeisureDeck concealed fixings ensures the required 5mm space between boards. End spacing's should relate to the length of the board, the heat of the day and the aspect of the deck site. See expansion/contraction details above. If using the preferred design of picture frame and or breaker boards, extra joist dwangs will be required. If your deck is situated on a second story and it will be exposed to strong winds, applying wind break cloth over the joists, before installing the deck can reduce the effects of any wind noise later. If attaching a balustrade through the decking into the substructure, we suggest use of our solid profile under the balustrade.

## Fixing

If working parallel to the building leave a 5mm gap between the building and the first board. Secure the inside edge of the first board and the outside edge of the last board. A large head nail or screw can be used through the surface of this first board, pre-drilling first. Leave the heads slightly proud and DO NOT COUNTERSINK. Continue to fix the boards using the concealed fixing plug and screw on each joist. For ease of installation, don't over tighten the fixing screw as this can make the next board difficult to slide into place. You can tighten the screw later if required. Large head nails or screws may be used along with the adhesive. Any screws or nails should be located no less than 25mm from the edge or end of the board. Nails or screws can also be fitted at an angle through the edge channel. We recommend silicone bronze for the brown colour boards and stainless steel for grey boards.

## Fixing Base Boards

When using nails or screws on the deck boards or base boards, pre drill first and use large head nails. Leave the head slightly proud rather than countersunk. This allows the decking to expand and contract under the nail or screw head. The groove can be ripped the existing decking and used as a base board.

## Breaker Boards

Recommended for large decks of 8 to 10 metres or more. These boards run at a 90degree angle to the deck boards and need to be screwed to the extra joists below.

## Staggered Butt Joints

For use on smaller decks, staggered butt joints can be secured with a screw through the groove of the board at a 45 degree angle...this will allow the boards to expand and contract at the other end and keep the joints stable.

End cap finish

End caps are available to finish square cut ends of hollow boards. Secure with wood glue. If using end caps five ventilation holes should be drilled on the underside of the board. The holes should be as close as possible to the end of the board without being obstructed by a joist. If the fall of the deck is towards the long edge of the boards, further holes should be drilled along the length of the board, alternating hollow cavities at spaces of 150mm. This allows adequate drainage of any moisture.

**Size:** 146mm x 23mm x 5850mm

**Weight:** 2.72kg per lineal metre (18.63kg per m<sup>2</sup>)

Wide Ridged on one side plain on the other

**Colours:** "Red Brown" & "Mid Grey"



## Care & Maintenance Guide

### General Cleaning

Keep it clean and your Leisuredeck will reward you with years of low maintenance pleasure. General cleaning with a broom or mop will suffice for most situations, however if you want to give it a better clean, a dilute solution of sugar soap and warm water and scrubbing brush can be used.

### Mould & Mildew

If damp leaves are allowed to build up or the deck is in a shaded, damp site, mould or mildew may develop. This can be treated with diluted "wet & forget" following the manufacturer's instructions. To get a faster result Intergrain Reviver or similar oxalic acid based cleaner is another option.

### Stains

Leisuredeck, like wood, is susceptible to stains from BBQ grease, oil, and the tannin in some vegetation. Best results are achieved if the stain is treated immediately with absorbent cloths then apply a degreaser as per the manufacturer's instructions. Follow up with a general clean with sugar soap and warm water.

### Scratches

Scratches can be removed with light sanding using 80-100 grit sandpaper and following the grain of the wood. The colour and texture changes which occur after this will recede with weathering.

### Weathering

Initially the deck will appear to be leaching and water staining. This is a weathering process which takes around three months to settle down. To accelerate this process, scrub the deck down with Intergrain Reviver. After the first summer the colour will have lightened up 10-20% and then will remain stable. Being a recycled product, colour variation of up to 8% from board to board can be expected.

### Protecting

We suggest a mat under your BBQ to protect from grease stains, and plastic protectors under metal furniture of planters to prevent gouging and potential rust stains. Avoid dragging heavy items over the deck as it will scratch. Scratches can be dealt with giving a light sand, following the grain of the wood as described above.

### Testing

Test any treatment, cleaning products or sanding on a spare or obscured piece of decking to check for changes first. After any cleaning, hose off and use an old towel wrapped around your deck scrubber or a rubber scraper to remove the excess water. On a warm day the deck should dry with no water marks relative quickly.

