



# THE LANDSCAPE GUYS

LANDSCAPE | GARDEN DESIGN | NATURE PLAY

4/41 Discovery Drive, Bibra Lake WA 6163 T 08 94185602 F 08 94181296

www.thelandscapeguys.com.au E sales@thelandscapeguys.com.au

## DIY COMPOSITE DECKING – PRE-INSTALLATION INFORMATION

**NOTE:** Please read everything before commencing your DIY Composite Decking project.

- Boards are **0.824 square metres**
- Your square metreage divided by 0.824 = minimum number of boards required
- The boards are in **5.8m lengths** so with smaller decks you may not even need any butt joins of boards.
- Boards are **142mm wide** and **22mm thick** and are secured with concealed biscuit fixings so virtually no penetrations are required through the boards.
- You should allow approximately 6mm gap between each board when fixing with our concealed clips.
- The boards are cut with normal woodworking tools so once your frame is up the fixing of the boards is quite a straightforward job. If you require an envelope with mitred corners this will take a little longer and will also require the correct framing.
- Standard Wood Working tools are used to cut and fix BPC decking. Such as a 45-52mm saw with a blade not exceeding 40 teeth. Plus, a speed control power drill with suitable screwdriver bit.
- Plastic biscuit fittings or “clips” screwed between the boards is the standard installation. Allow approximately 14 clips and screws per board.
- We supply stainless steel U clips to start the first board of your deck against a wall.
- If screws need to be used in certain situations, holes will need to be pilot drilled and counter sunk.
- Composite decking will expand and contract in different temperatures and humidity, so you need to allow for this by not butting boards tightly end to end. Always leave at least a 5mm gap to allow for movement in length and thickness.



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## HOW TO INSTALL OUR DIY COMPOSITE DECKING

### Frame up for decking

The framing for your Composite Deck can either be constructed from treated pine or fabricated from light weight steel. The joists to support the boards will need to be at 400mm maximum centres.

You will need to design your frame to suit the direction you wish to lay your boards and should you wish to “envelope” your deck with a border board all round you will need to allow for extra joists to allow for support and fixing.

The size and amount of timbers you need for your frame will depend on how high your deck is being constructed off the ground.

Ideally bearers should be installed to support the joists. The bearers will be secured to steel stirrups into concrete footings.

Alternatively, your decking may be installed on existing concrete or brick paving using our composite keels directly secured into the concrete or pavers.

### Measure and Cut First Board

Measure your first piece of decking board – usually along the side of the house or wall. Cut the board to length with a circular or crosscut mitre saw. If there are any pipes or downpipe to be accommodated through this board, you will need to use a jigsaw to cut out the shapes.

### Lay Out Decking Boards

When you have your deck frame ready it is a good idea to lay out all your boards across the deck to check for any slight colour variations that may occur in your batch of boards and place them accordingly.



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## Ensure Board is Parallel

Set the board in place and measure to ensure that the board is parallel with the outer edge of the deck. If not, you will need to adjust by planing or cutting until parallel.

## Secure Board to House

Secure this first board to the joists with the concealed “end board clips” on the house side of the board and the plastic spacer clips to the joists on the other side of the board.

## Secure Boards together

Now measure and cut the second board then push the board against the clips on the first board to retain that and secure the open side of the board to each joist with more clips and screws. When using screws only, the boards need to be pre-drilled before screwing and the screw head left level with the top of the board for a neat finish.

Continue with other boards. When you are near the edge of the deck you may need to “cut down” or plane the last board to the correct width. The outside boards can also be secured with “end board clips” for a neat finish. Although screws are not required for most installations, it may be prudent or convenient to use them in certain situations.

## Add Fascia Boards

The ends and sides of the boards can now be covered with fascia boards to produce a neat finish. These need to be directly screwed to the timber frame. You have now completed your deck that will give you years of enjoyment with very low maintenance.

Clean up around the work area and **Congratulations!!! Your installation is now complete!**