

DECKING INSTALLATION

The following serves as a guideline on how to install Rhino Wood for decking applications. Should these instructions not be adhered to Rhino Wood cannot guarantee that your decking will perform as expected.

GENERAL INFORMATION/INTRO

Base construction for decking needs to be done in keeping with and in accordance to good building practices, standards and regulations. A fully treated CCA sub-structure is recommended. Class 4 treated timber should always be used when in contact with the ground. Galvanized steel or aluminum may be used as an alternative to Class 4 timber and the same standards of good building practices apply.

It is important to ensure good drainage and ventilation beneath the structure to avoid pooling of water and unnecessary moisture collection. A Rhino Wood deck must be installed with adequate ventilation below the deck to allow a free flow of hot and cold air from below the decking surface. We recommend a maximum joist spacing of 450mm CC apart for 20mm thick material, and a maximum of 600mm CC joist spacing for 27mm thick material.

If the deck is low to the ground >600mm and the ground does not drain fast enough, the evaporating moisture rises and is trapped underneath the deck. When the bottom of the boards, especially hardwoods, dry more slowly than the top of the board which has free air flow and sunlight, the boards will swell and cup.

The best prevention is to allow ventilation by spreading a healthy layer of coarse gravel over a plastic membrane that allows the water to run away and then dry.

Skirting the lower sections of the deck also enables moisture to be trapped under the deck. This will again create two different atmospheres on the boards, resulting in cupping.

Use narrow boards such as the 100mm width in areas where ventilation and moisture could be a problem, as this, although not a guarantee, will reduce the risk of swelling and cupping.

MOUNTING/FIXING

Screw fixing

Due to the hardness of Rhino Wood decking timber, it is essential to pre-drill prior to fixing the decking boards down onto the substructure. Screwing down boards without pre-drilling a pilot hole MAY result in the boards cracking. It is recommended to use stainless steel screws as they will last as long as the decking and sub-structure

We highly recommend that a pilot hole be drilled, no more than half a millimeter smaller than the diameter of the fixing screw. If the pilot hole is too small it MAY result in the boards being forced apart, especially towards the board ends.

* You may also want to consider using the 135mm x 27mm Heavy Duty Rhino Wood deck board for secret fixing applications as it is suitable for the side grooving necessary for some secret fixing applications.

JOINING OR BUTT JOINING

When butt joining the timber, we recommend using a double joist on the butt join, in order to have enough surface area to fix the boards correctly to the sub-structure. When installing with screws, it is recommended that the spacing be a minimum of 20mm from the edge of the boards.

DIFFERENT RHINO WOOD FINISHES

We typically offer three different types of finishes:

Smooth

Rhino Wood finishes to a smooth clean finish that will surface weather to a grey patina over time.

Brushed

Our most popular finish due to the unique modified nature of Rhino Wood is brushing. This textured finish adds to the visual appeal of the boards and is also the option to select if you want a no-slip surface.

Reeded

Rhino Wood Boards can be reeded on request.

TESTS & CERTIFICATIONS

Rhino Wood has been tested for a number of performance characteristics both locally and abroad including dimensional stability, durability, weather resistance and termite damage.

Rhino Wood's improved characteristics are the result of extensive study and research into timber modification. The test and certifications provide proof of Rhino Wood's claim that it represents a revolution in wood modification. Please view the tests conducted to date by various institutions by clicking on this link: http://www.rhinowood.co.za/tests_and_certifications/

Rhino Wood will continue to conduct tests on its products into the future and will publish all test results on this page. If there is a test you would like conducted or you require any further information please contact scott@rhinowood.co.za