

COMPOSITE DECKING INSTALLATION GUIDE

Storage & Handling:

Balconette's Composite Decking boards should always be stored on a flat surface or level bearers max 400mm apart. Boards should be stacked face-to-face, not back-to-face. Do not drag the boards off the pallet or over each other, as it may cause surface abrasion or marking. Pallets of the boards should only be moved if safely strapped to the pallet. Take care when handling pallets. Wear gloves and long sleeves when handling the boards. Take care when lifting the boards as they may be heavier weight than hollow extrusions due to their thickness and length. We advise two people to carry the boards.

Colours:

To recreate the aesthetics of natural products, we intentionally add secondary toning colours. There may be variance in the same board or from board to board in colour tone. This may mean that samples cut from boards may vary from the general colour of the boarding. With our range of colours, you can choose what is best for you. As with all products, the darker colours will feel warmer in sunny exposed locations. The lighter colours are normally used in such locations. Whilst every care is taken to ensure consistency some colour variation from batch to batch may occur. To avoid this, we recommend that you order all you need in one delivery. If you do have different batches it is best to mix the batches to blend the colours. As with most things constantly exposed to ultra violet light and exposed weather, colours will tone slightly in time, this is normal for decking. On delivery if you find the colour unacceptable or believe them to be defective in any way, do not install the boards.

Joist Spacing:

Joist spacing of 400mm is recommended for normal residential and light commercial use. On heavy commercial, bridges, balconies, moorings, doorways and steps use 300mm spacing. If you need to cut the board down along the length, then reduce the joist centres accordingly. A minimum of 3 joists are required for any cut boards. For laying 45° to the joist, then bring the joist centres to 300mm for residential and 240mm for commercial applications.

Fascia boards, Steps and Edges:

We recommend that our purpose made edging profile is fitted to all steps and perimeters of the deck. They have been made with extra Lastane for the ultimate resilient tough performance on these areas's to prevent excessive wear. They are available in either a Bullnosed or Ribbed profile. The Fascia boards and Edgings come in rigid as standard. Ensure that the edging is supported on a joist by a minimum of 25mm. It is advisable to trim the ends to butt tightly when fitting both edging and fascias. For the best visual effect stagger the edging and fascia joints so they are not in line with each other. We also can manufacture both styles of edgings in an Ultra-Flexible material for curved designs. These can be curved to follow a maximum convex diameter of 3 metres. These Ultra-Flexible profiles need to be warmed to at least room temperature before bending. When fixing, start from the end and work along fixing at 300mm intervals as you go. Pilot drill the holes on the Ultra Flexible. This material will not conceal the fixings, leaving some fixing heads partially visible.

Care- Factory Sealed:

All boards are surface sealed in the factory to ensure they arrive in premium condition. A phenomenon occurs where initially rainwater forms in globules. This is entirely normal for the first few weeks then will settle down in time as the elements break down this temporary surface seal.

Cleaning:

Balconette's Composite Decking boards are manufactured with a non porous material, therefore resisting both algae growth and stains. Fats and oils should be removed with a mild household detergent and cloth. Do not use any kind of solvents, chemicals, abrasive cleaners, stains or any concentrated cleaners on the boards. There is no need to pressure wash as dirt does not become ingrained, the surface texture is non porous, any dirt and grime may be simply washed off with soapy water and brushed with a broom before rinsing off. Just like internal flooring.

Marking:

Time has shown that the Lastane surface whilst resistant to normal wear and tear, sharp objects such as unprotected table or chair legs, spiked shoes or metal planter bases may leave marks if dragged across the surface.

Winter ice and snow:

A light application of granulated white salt can be used to keep your decking ice-free. Do not use rock salt which contains clay and grit, which can be abrasive. A spring clean with soapy water and a soft broom is advisable when winter is over.