

**Parkside Timber produces some of the most durable and well manufactured Hardwood Timber decking. All of Parkside products are produced to Australian Standards as a minimum.**

When purchasing and installing Parkside Decking, it is important to check the installation area, before determining the best practices required for installation. Below are a number of factors that customers need to consider when installing decking boards.

Timber naturally absorbs and releases moisture depending on it's environment, therefore timber performs its best when installed in covered, dry and consistent moisture areas.

Ventilation is very important when installing a deck. Parkside recommend their decking boards to be installed 400mm above ground, and adequate ventilation to be provided both above and below their decks.

It is an extreme risk area, when decking is installed closer than 400mm to the ground, Parkside will not guarantee a consistent performance of any timber product in this environment.

Harsh or extreme weather environments can also negatively influence a timber deck. These extreme conditions include but are not limited to - excessive rain, hot sun, significant winds and any other extreme weather conditions.

Due to timber's nature, these extreme environments will almost always cause timber to expand, contract and potentially cup/warp. Parkside suggests that 65-86mm decking be used in wet and close to ground applications as these will perform better than wider decking boards in these environments.

Please assess your installation area first, and understand your deck environment, and realise timber will naturally react to its environment.



**PARKSIDE**  
TIMBER

## On Site Handling

Parkside Decking is packaged with plastic wrapping designed to protect the product during transportation only. Upon delivery of the product, it should be stored in a cool, dry, area away or well covered (tarp) from the elements, and stored at least 100mm off ground by timber gluts.

Parkside does not recommend the storage of its decking product outside exposed to weather as this may affect its integrity before installation.

## Decking Installation

Parkside Decking is a product designed to be installed onto bearers and joists and the standards for these products is outlined in the Australian Standard 1684: Residential Timber - Framed Construction and AS1720: Timber structures - Design Methods.

These design methods are based around the installation of the product in a residential application, not a commercial application, therefore any commercial application may require additional design support and a change to the installation requirements.

## Installation Preparation

Industry standards indicate a 10% waste factor to be considered when measuring the required decking. The surface below the timber deck should be clear of weeds, other debris and most certainly moisture pooling. Good site preparation is essential to ensure the integrity of your deck. It is a Parkside requirement that you gain suitable ventilation and drainage beneath the deck that prevents the pooling and build-up.

## Installation Methods and Requirements

Parkside Decking installation methods are rigorous and need to be adhered to, to ensure the integrity of the timber is maintained and the life span of the decks maximised.

Before the installation of the decking boards, Parkside recommends all sides of the board be coated and sealed with an Oil based protectant.

In addition to this, end sealing is also required. Parkside recommends timber decks be placed 400mm above ground and will not warrantee any close to ground decks.

In this process Parkside requires –

- Boards to be checked before installation to ensure their integrity has not been compromised during delivery or site storage, warping and fungi grow should be assessed before installation.
- Adequate ventilation to be provided to the underside of the deck. Insufficient ventilation typically leads to warping and other timber irregularities.
- Good surface drainage so water does not pond below
- Where possible access is made available to support the maintenance of the timber deck.
- Residential joist span recommendation is 450mm centre to centre joist span
- 3-5mm gap between boards for decking boards.
- Avoid cutting and shaving metal objects on a timber deck as this will often result in metal shavings on a deck and black spotting to occur on a deck.

## For Extreme Conditions

Parkside does not recommend their timber boards to be placed below 400mm from the ground or extreme conditions previously mentioned, but there are a number of practices you can use to assist the performance of timber in this application:

- Excellent drainage to prevent water/moisture pooling
- The use of a plastic membrane on the surface below the deck to assist drainage and the prevention of pooling of moisture.

# PARKSIDE DECKING INSTALLATION GUIDE

## For Extreme Conditions

- 8mm gap between decking boards for residential decks that are installed below 400mm above ground.
- Parkside Recommends the use of narrow decking boards only in low to ground and extreme situations - 65mm and 86mm wide decking boards.
- Refer to Timber Queensland's Technical Data Sheet 13 for more advice [www.parksidetimber.com.au/pdf/13-residential-timber-decks.pdf](http://www.parksidetimber.com.au/pdf/13-residential-timber-decks.pdf)

## Fixings

Before fixing and for maximum serviceability and protection against weathering, Parkside Decking should be fully sealed as per specifications previously mentioned. All bolts, screws, framing anchors and other hardware are required to be hot tip galvanised or stainless steel. Electroplated fasteners are not suitable due to the early breakdown of the plating. The table below demonstrates the nail size for fixing the deck.

Each board 65mm - 86mm and over should be fixed at every joint crossing with two screws or nails. Nails or screws should be located at least 12mm from the board edges. With wider boards, it is best practice to use three screws for installation and avoid nailing wide boards.

Due to the density of Parkside's decking products, Parkside recommends predrilling before installing screws or nails. When bullet head nails are used they should be driven flush with the surface. Do not punch and fill. Fixings within 1m of a pool or moist area should be stainless steel or monel metal.

Product	Parkside Decking products (all species)
Grade	Standard and Better or Select Grade
Thickness	19mm
Max Joist Span	450mm
Nailing Requirements	50 x 2.8 Galv Bullet Head or 50 x 2.8 Galv Dome Head Machine Driven

Please note it is important to regularly check and maintain fixings to ensure the performance of the decking structure.

## Coating and Oil Recommendations

As previously mentioned any application of coatings should be applied in accordance with the manufactures recommendations. In addition to this, Parkside recommend oil based products with mould inhibitors, preferably light coloured pigments, and the oil contains as a minimum -

- 10% copper naphthenate in a light organic solvent
- 20% zinc naphthenate in a light organic solvent
- All sides of the board covered before installation
- End sealing when boards are cut, pre-installation

## Maintenance of a Parkside Deck

The long-term performance and integrity of a Parkside Deck is dependent on the consistent maintenance and care. Regular and effective maintenance is key especially when the product is exposed to weather or harsh conditions.

Typically we recommend maintaining a decking every 6 - 12 months, however the frequency of maintenance is dependent on the type and quality of product used and the weather exposure of the deck. For highly exposed decks, maintenance might be required more regularly than every 6 months. Please follow the maintenance guide of the coating manufacturer.

Before recoating, the deck, and gaps between the boards should be thoroughly cleaned, especially over the joist areas (areas where debris may build). Recoating should be carried out in accordance with the coating manufacturer's recommendations.

Parkside suggests that the storage of pot plants and landscape structures direct on a deck is avoided. It is recommended these items are placed in drip dry trays and in good ventilation areas. Where possible decks should be broom/blower cleaned rather than by hosing.

## Bushfire Area Information

Please note other installation factors may need to be considered including the construction of timber decks in a bushfire prone area (AS3959) and Dead and Live Load requirements (AS1170).

Some Parkside species are Bal 29 rated, and suitable for Bushfire prone areas. Parkside recommends the use of Parkside Spotted Gum decking in these areas. Parkside also recommend before installation that all local council requirements are understood and adhered to during installation.

## Installing around Pools or near Sea Water

If installing Parkside decking around pools or near sea water, it is important to note the following things -

- Timber boards need to be well coated all 4 sides before installation. To help minimise cupping.
- Moisture uptake by timber is likely when installing within 1.5 metres of a pool or near sea water.
- Fixings should be assessed and well maintained. Check fixing manufactures guides for details.



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THIS DOCUMENT SUPERSEDES ALL PREVIOUS VERSIONS

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