



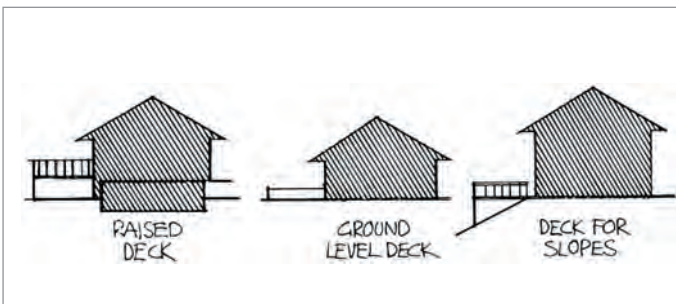
When building a deck, the most important thing that you need to consider is position. Your deck should be practical and where possible make the most of the sun. With careful consideration you

may not have to clear plants, bushes or trees and by avoiding drains, external pipes and plumbing, you will make the project even simpler.

TOOL CHECKLIST

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Power saw | <input type="checkbox"/> Hammer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chisel | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood or metal stakes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Measuring Tape | <input type="checkbox"/> Spirit Level |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Screwdriver | <input type="checkbox"/> String line |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Drill | <input type="checkbox"/> Carpenters square |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spanners or adjustable wrench | <input type="checkbox"/> Shovel |

DECK TYPES



HINTS & TIPS

- Building your deck will be easier if you prepare all tools and materials first. Be sure to take drainage of the site into consideration before you build. Once your deck is up, access will be limited.
- Talk to your Home Timber and Hardware expert for advise on selecting the right timber for the job. The use of correct timber will ensure your deck has a long life.
- Lay Weed Control Mat over the area to prevent weed growth underneath.
- Measuring is easy, materials are expensive. Always use the measure twice cut once rule.
- To get a straight, even edge to your finished decking, let the ends overhang about 50mm, then trim them all together with a saw when the job's completed.
- Remember, when using any power tool, your eyes should always be protected by wearing suitable goggles.
- Depending on the size and construction of your deck you may need the approval of your local Shire or Council before you start.

STEP 1 PREPARATION

Site preparation is important, poor drainage must be avoided as it leads to footing problems and water accumulation. Further undergrowth can be minimised by laying plastic

sheeting or weed mat and covering with crushed rock or pine bark. Both are aesthetically pleasing.

STEP 2 FIX WALL LEDGER

Place marks on house wall at each end, then using masonry nails, a string line and spirit level, check for level. Cut the ledger to length and lift into position. Drill into the house wall

and bolt to the masonry. Check the ledger height, level and position and then secure with the remaining bolts.

STEP 3 PEGGING OUT

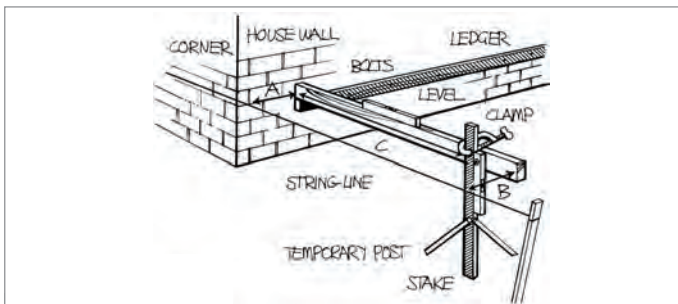


Diagram 01

Run a string line along the side of the house and out to past the intended depth of the deck and secure to a stake. Then place a timber onto the ledger and support the other end with a temporary post at the distance of the corner post (C). Check that distances (A) and (B) are equal and that the timber is level and temporary post is plumb. Place a peg in the ground at the location of the corner and any inter-mediate posts and remove the timbers and dig the holes. Repeat the procedure for the length of the deck (Diagram 1).

STEP 4 POST HOLES & FOOTINGS

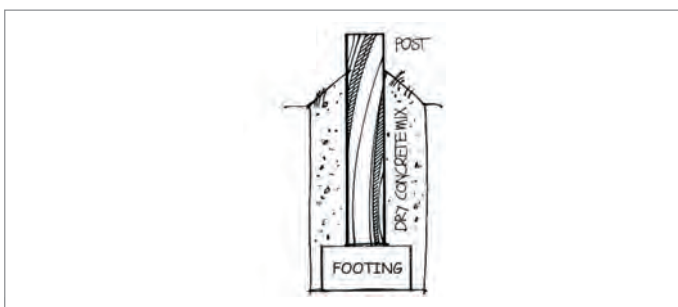


Diagram 02

Dig all post holes to the required specifications and mix and place a concrete footing in the bottom of each hole (Diagram 2). Allow the footing to cure before proceeding.

STEP 5 TRIM THE POSTS

Repeating the procedure in Step 3 (Pegging out), measure from the bottom of the horizontal timber to the footing. Add this measurement to the distance the posts will go above the bearer (deck thickness, railings etc.) and cut the post to

length. Then measure down the post and notch out a section to support the bearer. Stand the post in the hole and brace while checking plumb with a spirit level.

This information is intended as a guide only. Please check with your council for any relevant laws before commencing any work. Always wear personal protection equipment and use tools safely.

STEP 6 FIX BEARERS AND FLOOR JOISTS

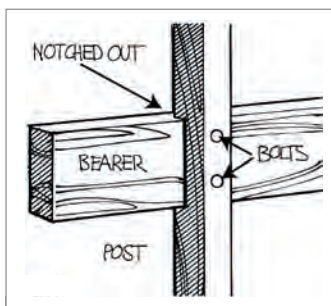


Diagram 03

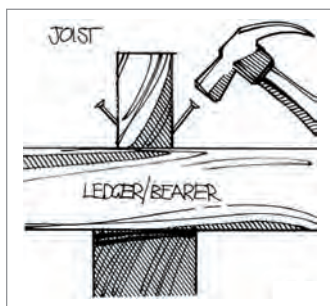


Diagram 04

Cut the bearer to length, locate it in the notched section of the post (*Diagram 3*) and temporarily clamp it into place. Drill through the bearer and post. Bolt the bearer to the post and check height and level using a spirit level. Cut the floor joists to length and place the first on both ledger and bearer. Starting at the ledger end, skew nail through both sides of the joist (*Diagram 4*). Check that the structure is square and place a spirit level on the joist to check there is no fall before fixing the remaining joists. Finally fit the metal brackets. Fix the post holes by compacting a dry concrete mix 50mm at a time (*Diagram 3*).

STEP 7 ON WITH THE DECK

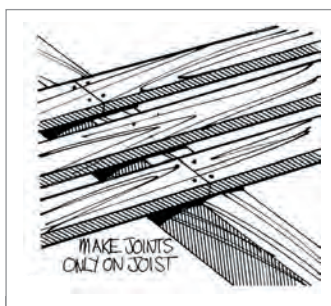


Diagram 05

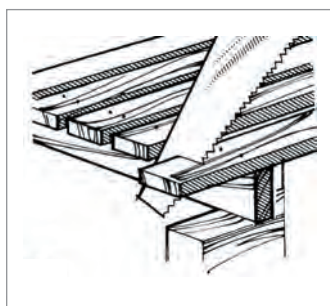


Diagram 06

Start laying the deck from the house and working outward, fixing with two nails at each joist. Boards should only abut at joists (*Diagram 5*) and ends should have a slight overhang to permit trimming, producing a clean finish to the deck (*Diagram 6*).

STEP 8 BUILDING THE STEPS

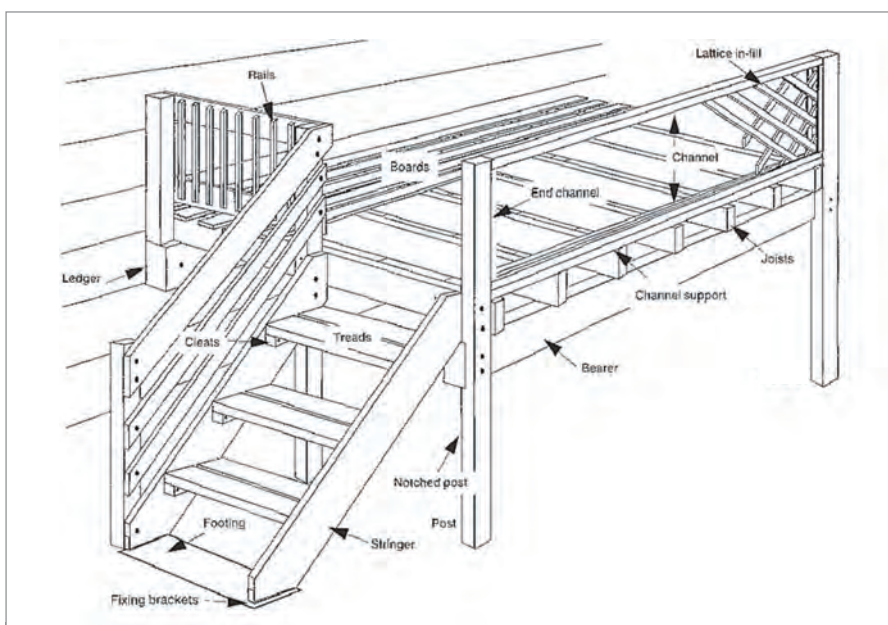


Diagram 07

Cut stringers to length, then cut each end to the appropriate angle and using an adjustable set square, mark the locations of the cleats. Then nail the cleats to the stringers. Fix the stringer foot brackets to the foundation and place and bolt both the stringers to the deck and then the brackets. Finally fit the stair treads, skew nailing into both cleats and stringers (*Diagram 7*).

This information is intended as a guide only. Please check with your council for any relevant laws before commencing any work. Always wear personal protection equipment and use tools safely.

STEP 9 FIX THE RAILINGS

If using railings, cut them to length, clamp into position and drill and bolt to the posts. Then mark the position of the uprights and screw them to each railing (*Diagram 7*). If you intend to use an in-fill style of railing, cut the bottom channel

to length and fit it between the two posts, then fit the post channel sections. Next cut the in-fill to size and sit it into the channel and place the top channel onto it and secure the posts (*Diagram 7*).

STEP 10 FINISHING

Remove all temporary braces, string lines and stakes. Sand where necessary and give any stained or painted surfaces a second coat.

This information is intended as a guide only. Please check with your council for any relevant laws before commencing any work. Always wear personal protection equipment and use tools safely.