

# PermaTimber®

## The perfect DIY deck



## Decking Install Guide

Congratulations on your new deck!

Please ensure you follow these instructions carefully when installing your PermaTimber® deck.

You can view the installation video by scanning the QR code or heading to

[www.permatimber.com.au](http://www.permatimber.com.au)

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# PermaTimber®



# Installation Guidelines

With correct installation, PermaTimber® Decking will provide years and years of enjoyment. Please read these instructions before installing your deck and refer to them during installation.

Thanks to its special combination of reclaimed hardwoods and recycled plastics, PermaTimber® Decking is a long lasting, low maintenance outdoor living product.

PermaTimber® Decking maintains a natural wood look and feel, yet can far outlast all natural timbers with an ability to handle even the toughest of conditions.

Due to the natural wood elements in PermaTimber®, it has some unique behavioural characteristics (expansion/contraction) that must be considered when installing.

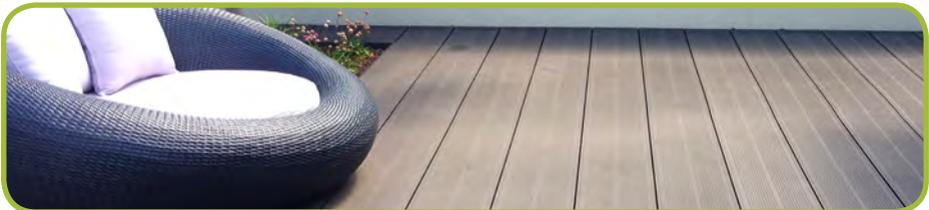
PermaTimber® contains natural timber elements. As you would

be aware, timber has different natural appearances and to ensure PermaTimber® does indeed look like timber, it may also experience similar variation in colour, tone and grain.

As a result of this Perma Composites® may have natural variation in each decking board and in some instances slight variation between sample and final colour.

The customer / installer is responsible for inspecting each decking board for colour, finish, size and other issues prior to installation.

Perma Composites® warranty information can be found at [www.permatimber.com.au](http://www.permatimber.com.au)



## Important Information

All instructions must be followed to ensure proper installation. Failure to follow all instructions may void warranty. Perma Composites® suggests using an experienced installer when building your deck.

# Subframe Information

PermaTimber® Decking can be installed on Treated Pine, PermaTimber® Composite Bearers or Metal Sub Frames.



PermaTimber® Decking can be installed onto **any new or existing subframe**, provided the existing frame is of sound strength, meets the recommended spans and is in good condition. When designing your subframe, be sure to note the following;

- ✓ PermaTimber® can supply composite bearers. Please contact us for stockists and information.
- ✓ All perimeter edges of your PermaTimber® Deck are to be supported by joists. There is to be no overhang of boards
- ✓ If a cut out is required to allow for any existing structures, this is to be supported around all edges of the cutout.
- ✓ All bearers run perpendicular to the decking boards.
- ✓ It is recommended an allowance is made for a 3-4mm fall (per metre) in your subframe going away from any adjoining structures to allow water to easily run off.
- ✓ Do not install directly onto a solid surface or watertight flooring such as concrete, pavers, bricks or tiles. Airflow and drainage beneath the area is crucial to its longevity. A min 100mm clearance is required underneath decking boards.
- ✓ If laying a commercial deck, please consult Perma Composites® to ensure spans, product & design is suitable prior to laying.

# Subframe Information



PermaTimber® fixings MUST be used to install your deck or you may risk voiding your warranty.

Please Note: Face fixing through PermaTimber® Decking is not recommended and may void your warranty.

Once your subframe is complete, you will need to measure out the fit of the decking boards to determine if any end pieces will require trimming. If there are intricate cuts to be made we suggest you consult a professional installer or chat to a PermaTimber® consultant.

We don't recommend cutting any pieces of decking below 45mm widths.

MAXIMUM SPANS (centre to centre)		
<u>Decking</u>	<u>Residential Use</u>	<u>Commercial Use</u>
PermaTimber® 146	450mm	400mm
PermaTimber® 225HD	750mm	600mm
PermaTimber® 295	600mm	500mm

The above noted spans must not be exceeded. Failure to adhere to spans may increase the risk of board failure.

# Expansion Gaps

Thanks to its special combination of recycled materials, PermaTimber® Decking will expand and contract along its length by up to 2mm per metre over a 40 degree Celsius temperature change.

Ordinarily this does not cause any problems, provided special attention is given at the time of installation. Take note of the ambient temperature at the time of installation, and adjust butt joints accordingly as per the table.

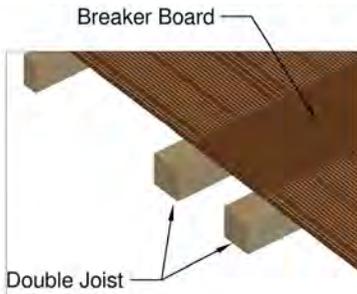
The effects of expansion can be reduced by cutting the PermaTimber® Decking boards to shorter lengths prior to installing, such as 2700mm (half original length) or by using breaker boards.

Note: When constructing your PermaTimber® Deck, be sure to always let the ends of the boards overhang the end of your last joist. Then cut all of the PermaTimber® Decking boards at the same time along the outside edge.

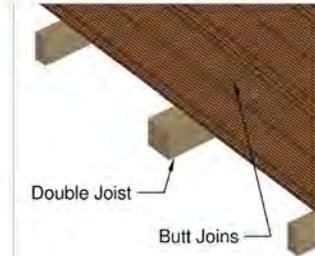
Gapping Requirements	
Ambient Temp (°C)	Gap Size (mm)
45	0
40	1
35	2
30	3
25	4
20	5
15	6
10	7
5	8
0	9

# Board Joining Methods

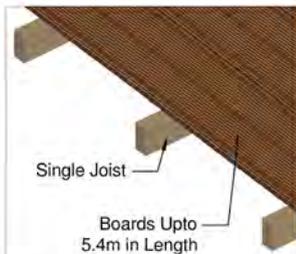
1. Breaker Boards are suggested on decks over 5.4m in length



2. Butt Joints  
This method is only recommended for boards no longer than 3 metres.  
To avoid uneven gapping we suggest staggering the PermaTimber Decking Boards



3. Full Boards  
Can be used on decks of 5.4m in length  
and Under



## Butt Joints

Butt joints should only be used on boards that are less than 3 metres in length. (ie if butt joints are your preferred method of installation, cut all 5.4 metre boards in half or shorter than 3 metre lengths).

Butt joints must always occur over a double joist. Staggering butt joints is the best way to manage any effects from expansion and contraction.

Breaker boards are the recommended method of installation in larger decks.

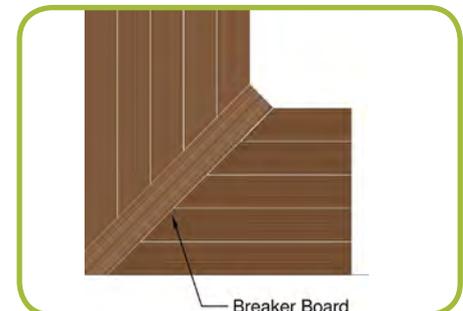
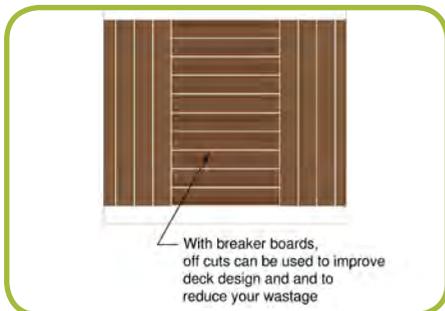
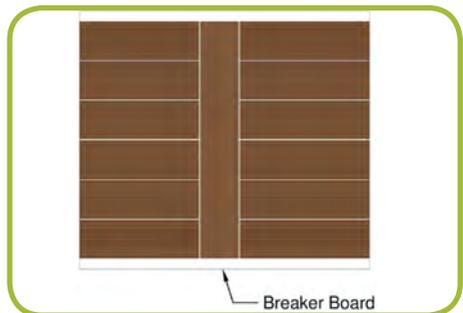
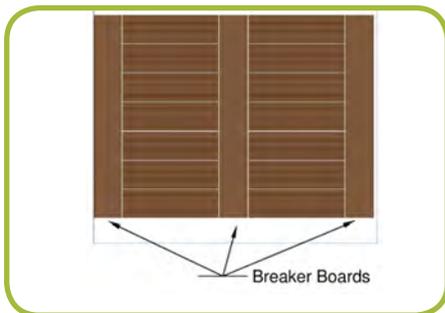
# Breaker Boards

A breaker board is simply a normal PermaTimber® decking board installed at 90 degrees to other boards.

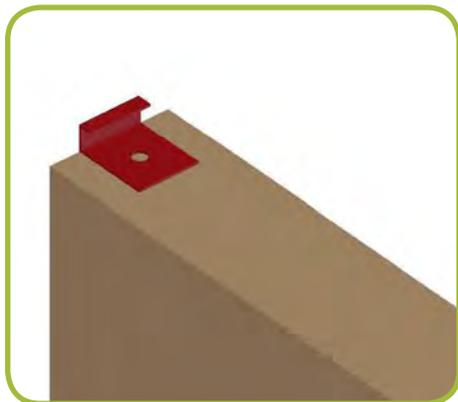
Running full boards with butt joints may result in gaps of over 10mm once boards have cooled and contracted. Breaker boards are an effective way to reduce this issue and is the preferred method of installation for PermaTimbe® Decking. Breaker boards can enhance your deck design, minimise wastage and eliminate expansion issues.

If the breaker board required is longer than 5.4 metres, it is recommended to divide the length evenly between 2 or more boards, ensuring breaker boards are no longer than 3 metres. Please ensure breaker boards are supported by double joists on either side, and held down by start / stop or anti-creep clips.

See examples of different breaker board configurations below.



# Installation Steps 1-3



## STEP ONE

Begin laying your deck from the outside of the deck, working towards the wall or house.

If the deck is against the wall or house, use a fixing clip against the house /wall to provide the correct spacing.

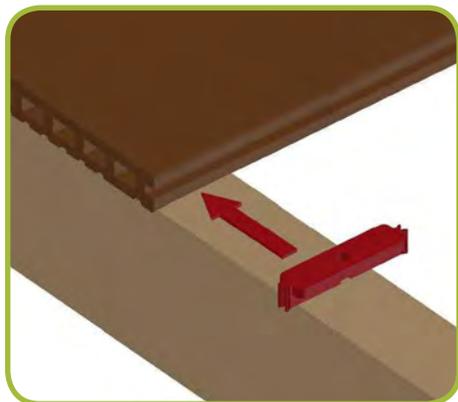
First, set your start/stop clips up at the end of each joist. Begin by screwing in a Start/Stop clip to the joist. This will hold your decking boards in position.



## STEP TWO

Slide the first board in against the Start/Stop clips.

Ensure that the clips are positioned into the manufactured grooves of the decking board.



## STEP THREE

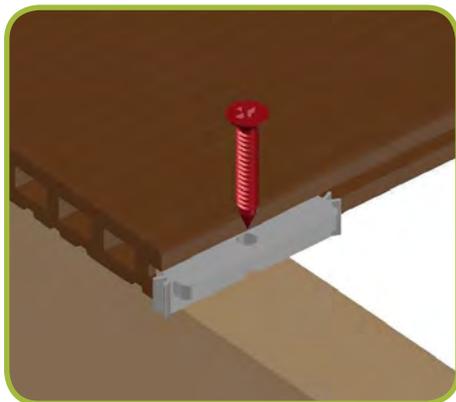
Now install your first Fixing Clip.

On each joist, insert a fixing clip so that it is positioned within the groove on the decking board and the screw is threaded into the clip only.

Slide the second board into the first, ensuring the clips slide into position into the grooves.

Fix Clips must be used on each and every bearer, failure to do so may allow the board to flex unnecessarily and will void the warranty.

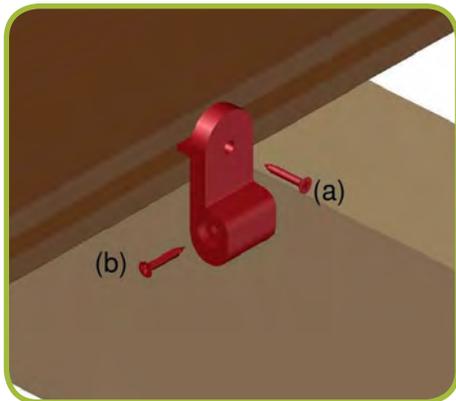
# Installation Steps 4-6



## STEP FOUR

Screw the fixing clip with the supplied screws to the joist using a slow speed on your drill, while applying lateral pressure to the decking boards. The type of fixing screws that you use will be determined by the sub-frame material.

After the board has comfortably slid into place, partially screw the fix clip down. Then slide your next board into place before fully fixing. Be sure to use a slow speed on your drill when fixing.



## STEP FIVE

Anti creep clips prevent the boards from creeping side to side along the joist.

First, align your decking board in its final position. Fix (a) an Anti-Creep clip to the middle of the board, adjacent to a bearer. Then (b) screw the anti creep clip into the bearer to stop any movement. Use one anti creep clip per board on the middle bearer. **Ensure you pre-drill the side of the Decking board prior to installing the anti-creep clip to prevent splitting.**



## STEP SIX

Repeat steps 3 to 5 until finished

Continue this process until your decking area reaches its final stages. For your last board installation please refer to steps 7a and 7b.

# Installation Step 7a

If your deck is **not** framed by a wall on both sides, you can use the following method.

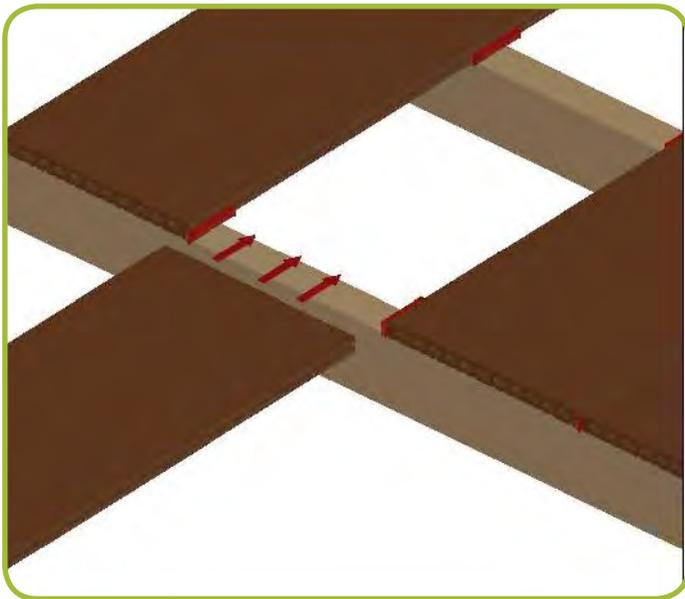
At the end of your deck, fix a Start/Stop Clip to all joists after measuring the correct position.

Leaving the second last board from the edge of the deck out, install the final decking board so that the Start/Stop Clips are positioned within the grooves of the board.

These Start/Stop clips will give a clean finish to the edges of the deck.

Then insert the fix clips to the remaining joists, ensuring the screw makes contact with the subframe to hold them into position and then slide the second last board in from the edge of the deck.

Now you can fully fix the screws.



# Installation Step 7b

If your deck is framed by a wall on either side, you can use the following method.

At the end of your deck, fix a Start/Stop Clip to all joists after measuring the correct position.

Leaving the second last board from the edge of the deck out, install the final decking board so that the Start/Stop Clips are positioned within the grooves of the board.

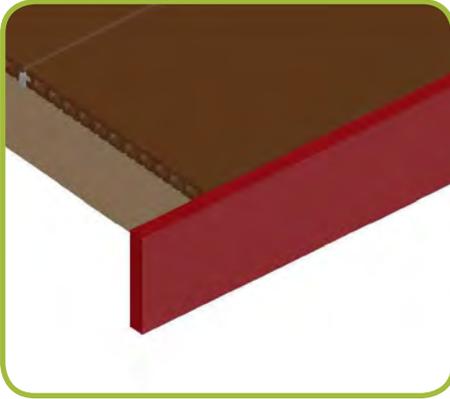
These Start/Stop clips will give a clean finish to the edges of the deck.

Place fixings clips in between the third last and second last boards. Now you can drop your final board into place. In the last groove begin inserting fixings clips and slide them into place using a screwdriver. Be careful not to scratch your boards.

Align the fix clips with your sub frame ensuring you have one for each joist. Once the fix clips and board are in their final positions, you can firmly screw down the fixings.



# Using Finishing Board



PermaTimber® Finishing Boards can be cut down to your preferred width prior to installation and come in a standard of 3600mm long, 300mm wide and 13mm thick. We recommend cutting finishing boards to an 1800mm length (in half).

You have the option to sand the exposed edge of the finishing board before you begin fixing it in place.

For the best results, we highly recommend the following fixing screws:

Grade 316 Stainless Steel, Wafer Head Screw, or equivalent



You can use touch up paint to cover the heads of the screws if you wish.

It is necessary to pre drill a clearance hole in the Finishing Board. Ensure that the pilot hole is 2 to 3mm larger than the gauge of the screw to allow for the expansion and contraction of PermaTimber Finishing Boards.

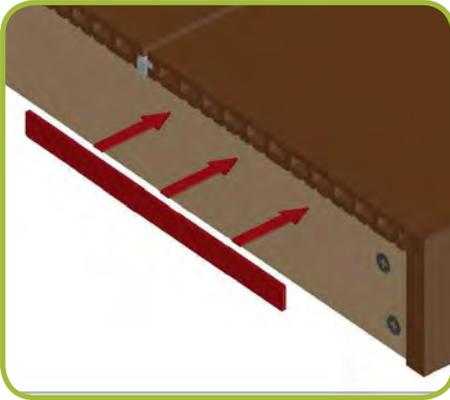
Fix the screws into the Finishing Boards at every 600-800mm at the top and bottom of the board/sub frame.

If you are using the Finishing Boards to hide hollow sections, then ensure you screw into the sub frame and not the decking boards. Screwing into the boards can split them and will void your warranty.



This will give your deck a complete finish, with no fixings being visible from the front, back or sides.

# Using End Caps



PermaTimber® End Caps are an alternative to the PermaTimber Finishing Board. These are to be inserted into the end of each PermaTimber® Decking board.

For added security of the end caps, Perma Composites® suggest to also use a construction adhesive to securely hold caps in. Apply the adhesive to the core of the deck rather than to the end cap.

This will give the deck a clean and solid finish.

## Maintenance

No maintenance is required!

One of the great benefits of all PermaTimber® products is that they don't require any oiling, painting or staining. Simply sit back and enjoy your deck after installation.

### **Scatched your deck?**

Don't stress! Scratches will sand right off so that your deck looks fantastic for life!

If you need to clean your deck simply hose it down and use a brush to remove any stubborn stains. You can also use a light pressure cleaner and some mild detergent.

There is a complete care guide available on our website to detail how best to clean your decking. Visit [www.permatimber.com.au](http://www.permatimber.com.au)

Congratulations - you're done!  
Enjoy your new PermaTimber® deck!





# The PermaTimber® range:



Eco Cladding

QuickBoard ceiling  
& wall lining

Eco Screening

Decking



[www.permatimber.com.au](http://www.permatimber.com.au)