

DECKING FIXING GUIDELINES (EXCLUDING COMPOSITE DECKING)

RECOMMENDED FIXING GUIDELINES FOR TIMBER DECKING



This guide will help you when choosing the type of fixings to use, where to place the fixings and other practical recommendations – depending on the type of deck board you are using.





STEP 1. SPACING BETWEEN JOISTS

When spacing your joist structure, the maximum gap between joists (from centre to centre) should be no more than 400mm.

NOTE: SPACING RECOMMENDED IS FOR DOMESTIC OR LIGHT COMMERCIAL USE, IF IN ANY DOUBT SEEK FURTHER PROFESSIONAL HELP

STEP 2. MINIMUM GAP AROUND PERIMETER

When decking up to buildings or door sills, install the joist structure and deck boards so they are clear of the building by at least 10mm and always below the damp course. This will allow for any expansion.

STEP 3. AVOID WATER POOLING

This is down to your planning and preparation of the joist perimeter structure. Using a simple spacer acts as an effective guide and a 2mm fall in gradient of the joist in every metre is sufficient to ensure the rain water runs away and prevents any pooling, reducing maintenance too.

NOTE: THE FALL SHOULD RUN IN LINE WITH THE GROOVES ON THE DECK BOARDS TO AID RUN OFF.

STEP 4. DECK BOARD FIXINGS

4.5 x 63mm stainless steel or coated deck screws.

STEP 5. PILOT HOLES

Drilling a pilot hole before screwing down is recommended, alternatively use a self-countersinking screw.

STEP 6. FIXING DOWN TIMBER DECK BOARDS

Fix the boards down securely with two fixings per joist. Screws will provide a more secure fixing than nails. To avoid the potential for the timber to split:

- A. Position the fixing at least 15mm from end of deck board.
- B. Position the fixing at least 20mm from the edge of the deck board.

STEP 8. JOINING TWO BOARDS IN A RUN

When joining two cut deck boards together in a run, fix with screws 15mm from the end of each board, at an angle to ensure secure fixing into the joists below.

NOTE: WHERE MORE THAN TWO BOARDS ARE FIXED IN A RUN, A MINIMUM 6mm GAP IS REQUIRED FOR ALL OUR TIMBER BOARDS.

STEP 9. PROTECTING YOUR TIMBER DECK

Ensure any cut timber or drilled holes are treated with a suitable, high-quality timber preservative. A thorough coat of treatment only takes a moment and will prolong the life of the deck. This procedure is often a condition reflected in the product's guarantee, so is worth following.

INSTALLATION SUMMARY FOR TIMBER DECKING

Max. joist centres: 400

Spacing between boards: 5-6mm

Gap around perimeter: 10mm

Fall: 2 in 1000mm

Fixing type: 4.5 x 63mm

Stainless Steel or coated deck screws

Pilot holes: yes

Fixing points: Minimum 15mm from end and minimum 20mm from edge

Fixing detail: 2 per joist through face of board

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View our decking installation video online: [metsawood.com/uk/tools/installation-videos](https://www.metsawood.com/uk/tools/installation-videos)

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