



WHARFDECK *Information Sheet - June 2016*

Wharfdeck is the product name for heavy-section decking produced by Timberzoo in a 135x32mm size in kiln-dried durable Blackbutt timber and Spotted Gum-Ironbark.

KD Blackbutt 135x32mm

KD Spotted Gum-Ironbark 130x30mm

- Recommended spacing of boards is 6-8mm. Set boards at a wider spacing where deck platform aspect is shaded and damp - and where subframe is poorly ventilated with low clearance from ground.
- Use waterproof capping over hardwood or softwood joists. (Plastic, malthoid or galvanized cap).
- We recommend 75-80mm bugle-head galvanized or zinc-nickel screws with a hex/star-drive rebate as the preferred method of fixing. They look good and hold well. Boards require two screws per joist.
- Recommended span centres are 600mm - but 800mm is allowed for residential projects.
- Care must be taken to countersink screwheads to flush or less than 2mm below timber surface to anticipate shrinkage, but not to allow pooling of rainwater.

IMPORTANT

- Screws require pilot-drilling of 5mm or to gauge in **Wharfdeck** - and in joist to a depth of 20mm. Do not attempt to self-tap fixings as this will cause screws to break or fatigue - as well as to deviate from true.

SUITABILITY

- Wide timber boards are more susceptible to surface cupping in an exposed situation. 135mm boards that are only 19mm thick are more prone to surface-cupping than thicker Wharfdeck boards - but suit covered areas and walls.
- **Wharfdeck** is designed to minimize cupping and shrinkage because it has a section size that is balanced and because it is kiln-seasoned.
- Minor movement in surface, some shrinkage of board and fine surface checks should be expected in any decking application. It is the most exposed and demanding application for timber in residential building practice.

OILING FOR DECKS

- Light penetrating oils not subject to fungal attack that can be absorbed by timber are the best treatment for decks. Although **Wharfdeck** cannot absorb heavy applications of oil in a single coat, multiple applications over time are recommended.
- Oil both sides of decking before installing - or the top surface soon after installation.
- Decks should be surface-oiled for protection against weathering - not oiled for colour retention. This should determine your choice of decking oil.
- Use oils rather than coatings and laquers that form a film. These are a poor option chosen primarily for the benefit of new house photography. Film treatments require constant maintenance as they tend to flake off over time, leaving decks ugly and unprotected. Timber wants to grey-off in the outdoors as a natural response to UV light. It will not reduce longevity of the timber if you allow it to do so.
- Decking laquers containing tint (including 'natural' = light honey-brown tint) will often leave dull and difficult-to-remove residues after the gloss has worn off.
- Timberzoo supplies linseed oil-based **Sceneys** and lanolin-based **Deck-Doc** as preferred decking oil brands. We stock Wurth stainless steel decking screws in 80mm for superior fixing.