

PORTLAND COMPOSITE DECKING

Whiteriver

decks for living

QUICK GUIDE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ FULL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE STARTING. DOWNLOAD AT WWW.WRG.IE

Planning, Location and Design

It is important to look at the area you are going to build the deck and consider the suitability of the location, it is important that the area picked is free draining. When designing your deck you must allow for water to drain freely off the deck. There needs to be a fall of between 2% and 5% along the board length built into your plans.

Site conditions, Drainage and Ventilation

The site should be free draining, all topsoil/subsoil should be removed and replaced with at least 200mm of clean stone as the soil will retain a high level of moisture if it is left under your deck. Ventilation and drainage are very important for the underside of the deck.

Substructure

The layout of the substructure is important to get correct, please ensure the structure has recommended falls built into it. It is important to fully support the substructure and advice should be taken from an engineer if there are any doubts or concerns about this. The joists should be spaced at 400mm centres for residential and 300mm centres for commercial.

Fitting the boards

Expansion provision is one of the most important items to consider with composite decking as it will naturally expand and contract. Allow 5mm between board ends and 10mm around perimeter edges. Starter clips should be used for the starter row. Each board should have a locking clip with teeth fixed to it close to the mid point.

Each normal fixing centre should have a regular clip. If you need to screw fix through the composite a pilot hole must be drilled first which is slightly wider to allow for the composite to expand.



Standard Clip



Starter / End Clip



Locking Clip

FITTING HANDRAIL

Please see full instructions for guidelines, it is very important that the substructure is strong enough to support the rails.

Please spend time to read the full instructions which can be downloaded from our website.



NOTE:

When installing the Square Cap or Round Cap please glue each inside corner before placing the Cap into the slot to ensure a strong long lasting hold.



KEY POINTS ON HOW TO FIT YOUR COMPOSITE DECKING CORRECTLY.

To help you avoid installation errors, we have highlighted potential issues that can occur if installation guidelines are not followed correctly. Please take time to read these points as they will help you understand the importance of following the installation guidelines.

What happens if I leave soil under my deck area ?

The soil will retain a lot of moisture and this will affect your decks performance. You need to remove all clay and stone in the area below your deck and also ensure its free draining. If your deck is being raised by more than 1m and the area is being left completely open underneath the ground type is less important.

What happens if water pools under my deck ?

Similar to the reasons mentioned above for soil, it will have a negative affect on your substructure and deck boards performance. If in a balcony area it may be a sign that there may be a blocked drain.

What happens if I fit my deck flat with no fall ?

If you fit your deck flat the water will not be able to drain off your deck boards easily and your deck will remain wet for much longer periods after it rains. This will cause your deck to catch more dirt and will also encourage over time mould growth to develop.

What happens if I fit my deck with north facing orientation?

Your deck will get much less sun light and will be more prone to being damp and wet for longer. If you are fitting in a northly area your deck will require more regular cleaning.

What happens if I don't provide ventilation under my deck ?

The area under your deck will become damp and this may cause your substructure to rot or corrode over time, the decking will also expand and contract a lot more as the excess moisture will pass into the decking boards. Your substructure therefore needs ventilation for 2 reasons.

We hope the above helps you understand why getting your deck installation correct is the key to you having a great outdoor area to enjoy.

What happens if I don't leave expansion gap of 5mm at board ends or 10mm around perimeter walls ?

Composite decking will expand and contract as the climate changes. If there is no room for the boards to expand, they will push against each other or the wall and eventually they will develop cracks.

What Happens if I don't use one locking clip per board that is provided in the installation kit?

The boards may gradually slide along the normal clips and leave a big gap at one end. The teeth on the locking clip help control the boards movement, it is vital that one clip with teeth catches each board close to its mid-point.

What happens if I screwfix other items through the deck boards ?

This will create a pressure point and the boards may crack over time as there may not be enough expansion room. Handrail systems should always be fixed to the substructure and not through the deck boards.

What happens if I don't clean my Deck ?

Your deck will remain fine in the short term but over time the deck will collect dirt and pollen and eventually as the deck gets dirtier there will be some green or black mould growth. Your deck never needs to be painted or sealed but it is important to how a cleaning programme.

Please ensure to read the directions overleaf and visit our website to download full installation instructions which should be read fully.



Scan to view or visit
www.wrg.ie

ULTRASHIELD COMPOSITE DECKING

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