



# ThurmaPure™

## DECKING INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

### ThurmaPure™ Decking Installation Instructions

ThurmaPure™ Decking must be installed over level joists spaced no more than 16 inches on center. For stair treads or any commercial application, joists must be spaced no more than 12 inches on center. In all cases, follow the lesser of the above spacing or your local building code requirements.

Decking boards should span at least three joists whenever possible. Terminating board ends must land on joist centers. When installing boards end-to-end, the ends of adjacent boards must lie on separate joists. This provides enough space for fasteners at each board end without placing them too close to the edge, which helps prevent cracking or splitting.

ThurmaPure™ Decking must be installed at least 4 inches above the ground to allow sufficient airflow and moisture evaporation. The ground surface below the deck should promote good drainage and prevent water pooling. All sides of the deck must remain open to ensure airflow beneath the entire deck surface. When installing against a structure, maintain a minimum gap of  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch between the structure and the deck (or its substructure).

Apply deck joist flashing tape (or equivalent) on top of the joists before installing the decking boards. This helps prevent moisture transfer from the wood joists to the ThurmaPure™ Decking and reduces the risk of substructure rot.

Leave a minimum gap of  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch between adjacent ThurmaPure™ Decking boards. This spacing promotes moisture drainage, airflow, and allows for natural expansion and contraction due to weather changes.

### Fastening ThurmaPure™ Decking

**Pre-grooved ThurmaPure™ Decking (Hidden Fastening):** Use clips specifically manufactured and designed for wood decking applications. The clip screw should enter the clip at an angle, pass through the bottom/groove of the decking board, and then into the joist below.

- Use a separate clip for each board end at butt joints.
- Board ends must not share a clip.
- Clips must not straddle end joints.

**Note:** Composite decking clips generally lack the holding power needed for real wood decking, which expands and contracts more than composites.

**Non-grooved ThurmaPure™ Decking (Face Fastening):** Use exterior-rated (stainless steel preferred) 2.5–3.0 inch, #8 or #10 self-tapping screws (Type 17 or similar). Drive screws so the head sits flush with the wood surface to prevent water intrusion.

**For nails:** Pre-drill holes and use 12D or 16D exterior-rated spiral shank nails. Ensure nail heads sit flush with the surface.



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## **Fastener Placement Rules (Face Fastening):**

- Do not install fasteners within ¾ inch of any board edge.
- Do not install fasteners within 1 inch of the end of any board. These clearances help prevent cracking and splitting.

## **Cutting ThurmaPure™ Decking**

Higher-powered saws generally produce cleaner cuts. A miter saw works well. For a 7¼-inch circular saw, use a new 36–40 tooth carbide-tipped blade for best results. Blades with fewer teeth may produce a coarser cut.

## **ThurmaPure™ Maintenance & Care**

**Color Consistency:** The ThurmaPure modification process creates a rich, darker color compared to untreated wood. A key benefit is that this color is consistent throughout the entire thickness of the board.

Color and grain variation between boards (and sometimes within the same board) is normal for natural wood products. Some species show more variation than others. ThurmaPure™ sorts finished products into general color tone ranges so you can select the tone that best matches your preference. Natural wood is not ideal for projects requiring perfectly uniform appearance.

- Most ThurmaPure™ products come four-side factory oiled. The factory oil and color will begin to fade gradually after installation. Fade rate depends on UV exposure, water, and debris. Regular maintenance is required to preserve the original color. Important: Keep the deck surface clear of leaves, needles, pollen, and debris. These can accelerate oil deterioration, shorten maintenance intervals, and trap moisture that may lead to mold.
- Most ThurmaPure™ products exposed to direct sunlight will need re-oiling/sealing approximately once per year, though frequency may vary based on climate and exposure. Missing maintenance may cause the wood to silver or grey. Many homeowners prefer this weathered “reclaimed barn wood” look, which does not affect the wood’s rot and decay resistance.
- If your ThurmaPure™ product has silvered or greyed and you want to restore the original rich color: Lightly sand the surface and apply a quality UV-protective oil-based sealant. Two or more coats absorb best and provide better protection with longer intervals between maintenance. For an oil that closely matches the original factory finish, contact us with your product type and manufacture date.
- **Cleaning:** Wash the surface with a gentle wood cleaner and a soft spray from a garden hose. Always test the cleaner and water pressure on a small, inconspicuous area first to ensure it does not remove oil or discolor the wood.

## **ThurmaPure™ Checking & Distortion**

“Checking” (small surface or internal cracks) is a natural result of wood expanding and contracting with weather changes. Most significant checking in ThurmaPure™ products occurs during the





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modification process (when moisture content is reduced to near zero). We remove heavily checked boards during quality control.

Minor checking after installation is normal and not a cause for concern or warranty claim. Contact us immediately if you experience significant cracking.

ThurmaPure™ modified wood is significantly more resistant to warping, cupping, and bending than untreated wood. However, it is not completely immune in harsh exterior conditions with large temperature and humidity swings. To minimize distortion, follow these installation instructions--especially providing good airflow beneath the boards. If you experience minor distortion despite proper installation and airflow, contact us for assistance.

## **Acclimatization**

ThurmaPure™ wood products have very low moisture content and expand/contract far less than regular wood. Still, they do respond slightly to seasonal changes. We recommend allowing the material to acclimatize on your project site (protected from direct sun and rain) for at least 1–2 weeks before installation. This helps the wood reach equilibrium moisture content for your local climate and reduces movement after installation.