

Ultra Decking



INSTALLATION GUIDE

COMPOSITE DECKING v2.0

IMPORTANT:
Read All Sections Before You Start



■ **Tools/Calculate your area**

- Timber/Plastic Joists & Posts
- Number of boards require
- Wastage

■ **Area chosen**

■ **Receiving your boards & storing**

■ **Installing composite decking**

- Installing on soft ground
- Installing on a roof
- Using composite decking clips
- Ultra clip

■ **Key focuses**

- Joist spacing
- Expansions gaps
- Drainage

■ **Finishing pieces**

- Installing bullnose boards
- Installing a picture frame

■ **Maintenance & Care**

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Plunge Saw

Safety Glasses
Dust Mask

Knee Pads

Jig Saw

Drill

Spirit Level
Tape MeasureL Screwdriver
S Screwdriver
Rubber MalletPower
Saw**TOOLS:****Calculate your area**

Calculating your area correctly is important as this can save time and money, having serviced thousands of customers Ultra Decking has learned from good practice and bad. One common error customers tend to make is calculating the amount of materials required. When this happens, it holds up the project costing time and money, where receiving materials can take some time and cost extra taking your project over your budget. When calculating your boards our best practice is using the following formulas. We start with joists and posts.

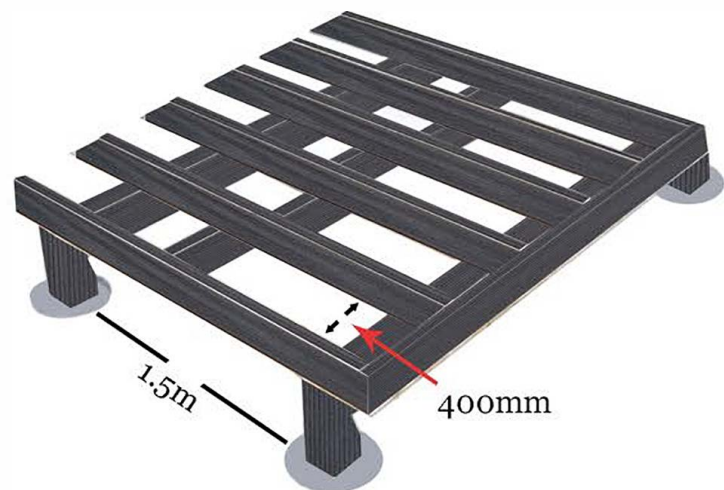
Timber/Plastic Joists & Posts.

Calculating your composite or timber posts is all dependant on your project size. Posts should be placed every 1.5m for a secure frame. Joist centres on all composite materials should be 300mm for a hollow core and 400mm for a solid core as a maximum. Many fitters and customers will extend to 450 / 500mm joist centres to save time and labour costs, In turn reducing the overall cost of installation.

The reason all composite providers advise a 300/400mm joist centres (depending on hollow or solid profile), is all test reports via Intertek and SGS are completed at a 300/400mm joist centres. Most if not all composite materials are secured by a warranty if installed at 300/400mm joist centres. Fitters and customers have installed joists at 450/500mm on a solid core profile and to our knowledge there have been no reported issues to date. However, if you do choose to use 450/500mm joist centres then please be aware that you could experience slight or some issues during the latter stages of the materials life span.

Posts are primarily used on soft ground and placed every 1.5m to put this into practice if your area is 4.5m x 4.5m, then post should be placed every 1.5m around the perimeter and across the joist to provide adequate support.

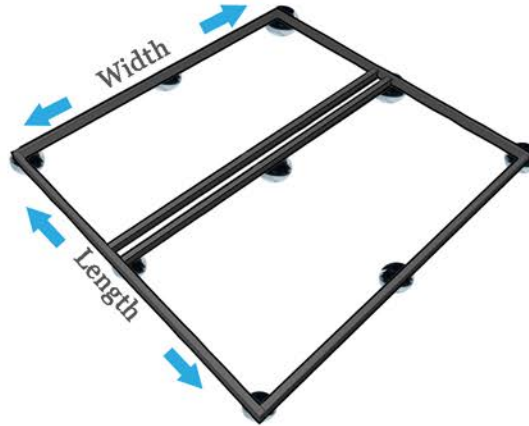
So, on these dimensions you will require 8 joists around the perimeter of the length and the width.



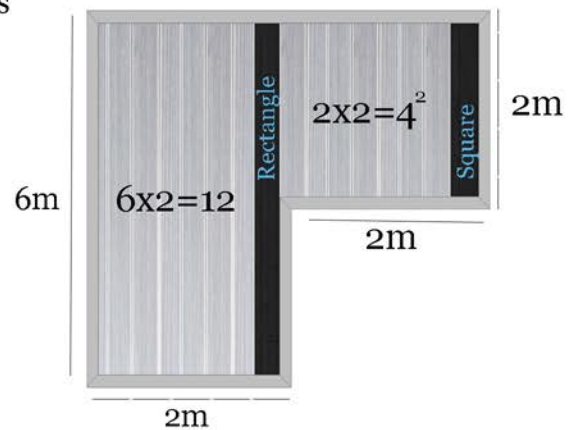
Don't forget the inner of your frame, you will require a further post in the inner centre to ensure stability.

Number of boards required

Calculating your boards, we first need to measure the area in which we are fitting the boards. To calculate your area, you will need to measure the length and the width of the area in which you would like to fit.



If you have an L shape area or two parts our best practise is to break these down into square and rectangles and separate into two or three different areas



Ultra-Decking provide many different types of boards please see below dimensions of our top selling boards:

Signature Collection Solid Core
4800mm 138mm 23mm square metre value 0.663



Calculate your area

Using the length and width multiply them to calculate the square metre value of your area, using the square metre value of the boards for example

Your area is 4 by 4 multiply these together = 16 and totals 16 sqm

Using the above square value of the board in this example we use the signature collection solid core value of 0.663, so $16 / 0.663 = 24.1327$

When you do not get a singular number, you always round up, so our value of boards is in this calculation 24.1327 we round up 25 boards is required.

To double check your numbers we can use another formula

Using measurements of mm, you will first decide in which direction you are running the boards, once decided you will take the width of the boards and divide by the width of the project for example:

You're running the width of your project by 4000mm (4m) then divide by the boards width 138mm + 6mm spacing clips = 144mm = $27.77 = 28$

Then $28 \times 4m = 112$ liner metres

112 liner metres / 4.8m 23.33 = 24 boards required.

Our best practise is using sqm value of the board as this is very easy quickly calculate, please note if dimension are same equal dimensions as 4 by 4 please use both methods to ensure all calculations are correct.

Wastage/Design

Calculating wastage can save money on materials, deliveries, and installation, as mistake can happen and mis calculations can occur in any project, our best practise depends on design of installation.

If your design is a square or rectangle then please add 5%, if you are laying the boards diagonally across then please add 15% wastage.

If you have a circle or oval shape, please add 15%. If your area is an L shape then please add 10%, following these rules you will ensure your project runs to time scale and helps protect against any mistakes or miscalculations

Area chosen

Before starting installation is important to understand and make sure the area in which you're planning to install your project doesn't require planning permission. The ground and area is suitable, consider how much labour may be required and if there maybe any drainage issues and how water will drain away. Considering these points will help your project run smoother, support saving costs and prevent any future issues.



Receiving your boards & storing

Now you have calculated your project, chosen your boards and accessories and purchased all your materials and now have either yourself or a fitter installing.

Before receiving your goods it's important to remember the size and weight of these products, a common mistake is underestimating the huge size and weight to composite materials.

Ensure an able individual is there to help unload or load your new purchase.

When unloading or loading materials its important to keep a straight back and bend from your knees.

Do not carry more than you can handle and carry boards from the edges

Do not drag or slide the boards as this can create scratches

Ensure you place the boards down lightly and safety, composite boards are strong and durable but not indestructible

Store boards in a safe dry room in which you can access the boards easily

Allow the boards time to acclimatise to your location and settings

Its also important to cover the boards or keep them covered before installing, as composite materials will see some colour change its important to ensure this happens evenly, keeping the boards covered will ensure this will happen.

Please check your goods are all in good condition and all items are delivered which have been ordered, as there are some suppliers that require a 24-to-48-hour period for this to be reported or once signed this is an acceptance of all materials that have been ordered.

Please also note that composite decking and materials expand and contract in all directions and curving of the boards is normal and can be resolved during installation.

If you store your composite decking boards outside, please use a non-translucent material to cover the composite decking boards. This is to ensure that the product maintains a clean surface. Store all products flat and level and above the ground at 300mm intervals.

Ensure that you place the battens you use to support the composite decking boards no more than 500mm apart. This is to ensure that the composite decking boards do not bow.



Installing composite decking

Now we are ready to install your boards we will take a look at the most common types of installation,

Installing on concrete/ground level

Installing a ground level deck is in our view, a little more complex and the reason we say this, is there is a lot that could go wrong in the future, if not laid correctly or the area is correctly checked. One of the first things you will want to do is check that no parts of concrete are holding water in any areas and any cracks are checked and resolved.

Next is drainage and air flow, if you are using timber you will want to ensure posts are anchored to the concrete and remember the issue with using timber on ground level decks is moisture, that will eventually rot and decrease the life span of decking sub structure.

Installing on soft ground

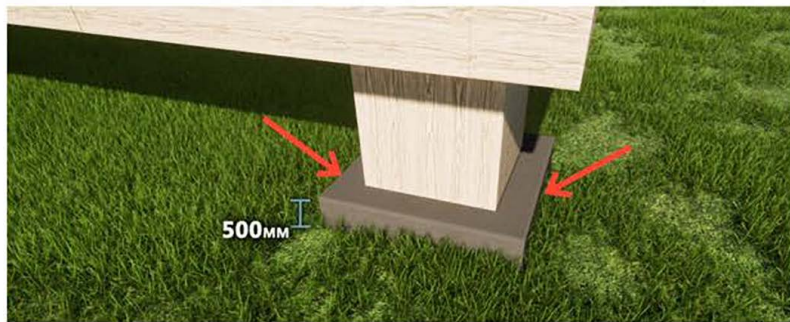
When installing composite decking on soft ground, which is one of the most common challenges, you will need to run checks on the ground ensuring water is not holding in any areas.

You will then need to remove any turf from the area and add gravel to support water drainage.

Once this has been completed you will simply add weed control membrane to stop any plant growth below your decking area.

Posts will need to be concreted 500mm into the ground and its advisable your decking area is raised by 300mm to support drainage and good air flow when installed on soft ground.

Its advisable that your subframe is higher than any surrounding areas to support good drainage and its advisable to incorporate a 50mm per metre triangle slope.



Installing on a roof

Installing composite decking, on any outdoor product or a roof, you will need to research local building regulations and discuss with a professional to ensure sub structure and installing is supported and well built.

In relation to the installation of composite decking over the years, a popular choice has been pedestals to help support the sub frame and composite decking boards.

When you are using a roof to add a decking area, you must ensure you have drainage where water can drain easily from your roof area and good air flow is a must, to help prolong the subframe and decking boards life span.

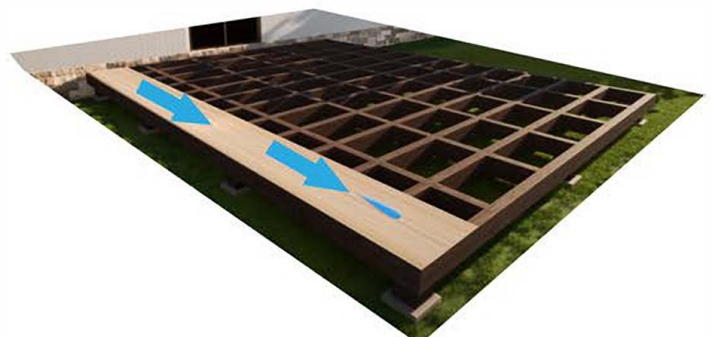
Pedestals are light weight and require no drilling at all, this is a simple easy to use product with a no attachable solution to your roof area.

The pedestals can be simply adjustable to slope or gradient and are very easy to work with.

The last thing a professional will advise, is to drill into your roof and potentially create future issues.

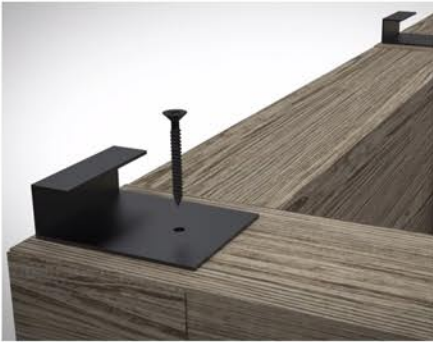
Installing composite decking boards

Composite Decking boards should be positioned in the direction of the gradient, this helps any water to naturally disperse.



Installing composite decking boards/clips

Screw your starter clips into position along with each joist spacing (400mm domestic & 300mm commercial) and slot your first deck board into the starter clips. Tap and fix into position with your rubber mallet.



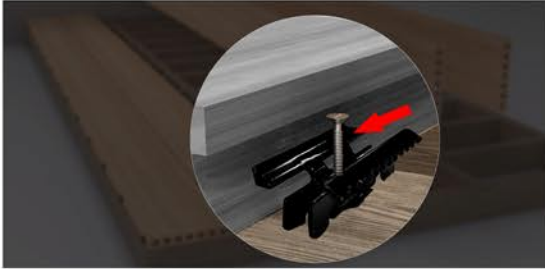
Please remember, it is important to note that you must not screw or nail through the composite decking as this will cause cracking or raised screws over the years. If you are using bullnose boards these must be fitted first upon installation.



- (a) Make sure that the composite decking boards do not overhang the joists by more than 15mm.
- (b) Next place a Ultra clip into the groove of the first board. Screw it into place, do not force or push hard into place and ensure a 3 - 6mm gap is left side to side. You should use one clip on every joist. Take the second piece of the deck and place it into the clips.



Please note when using Ultra clips on our Signature collection that the screw goes into the central hole, one screw is used on each clip



Now place a Ultra clip into the groove of the second board and screw to secure it against the first board, but do not over-tighten or force. Now continue this process using one clip and one screw on every joist. When boards meet end to end, you must allow for expansion space. Depending on the temperature, you should leave a gap of between 6mm and 8mm (note below 10 degree an 8-10mm gap must be left). You should also make sure that any decking boards joining end to end has a double joist underneath and use a clip to secure each end of the decking boards.



When using Ultra clips, the process upon fitting is very similar. Place a Ultra clip into the groove of the first composite decking board and screw it into place but do not screw all the way. You should use one clip on every joist. Now place a clip into the groove of the second board and screw to secure it against the first board, but do not over-tighten or force. Now continue this process using one clip on one screw on every joist. When fitting the last board with a Ultra clip, first measure the width of the final two boards to find where the outer edge of the final board will lie. Using these marks, fit starter clips and slot the last board into place. Now insert the penultimate board and slide down the required number of clips. Screw these clips into place.



Installing composite decking

Once all your boards are fitted, any overhanging you can use a plunge saw to cut the length perfectly in position with one single cut.

Don't forget you may have to cut around any fix objects, manholes, drainpipes or posts with a jigsaw to provide a neat finish (remembering any expansion gaps).

It is important to note that composite decking expands and contracts in all directions and bowing and curving is very normal in composite decking boards.

If a board is bowed or curved, please install at each end first and moving up the length of the board in turn will push the board back into position. It is recommended to check this as you install your composite decking boards. If you leave bowing with your decking boards, over the coming years this can create boards to pull out of position as they expand.

Don't forget to mix and match the boards to allow for a blend of colours and a mix of patterns on wood grain finished boards. You should also stage the joists to create a brick work effect if you so wish.

Using composite decking clips

- ultra clip



is a New & Exclusive clip launched by Ultra Decking specifically built for composite decking boards, the Ultra Clip is manufactured to provide the best of the 6mm plastic clip & 3mm hidden fastener, the clip leaves a 6mm gap side to side leaving room for natural expansion & drainage helping to prolong the boards life span & prevent any possible future issues due to expansion or drainage. Another key advantage to this clip is the ability to access the boards in the future, if you need to lift any of the boards in the middle or the end of your decking area you can do this with ease

Key focuses: Joist spacing

As previously mentioned, joist centre should be at 400mm to ensure durability and longevity of your new composite decking boards and 300mm on commercial projects.

Also note a double joist is required when boards are meeting end to end and must use a clip either side to fix into position.

Expansion gaps

Important note - Don't forget the gaps, a 25mm expansion gap should be left between the deck and any walls or fixed objects, 3mm gap side to side of all deck boards and a 6-8mm gap on any joint butt (8-10mm gap left below 10 degree) with a 4-6mm gap left at the end of the boards or meeting a fascia or angle trim.

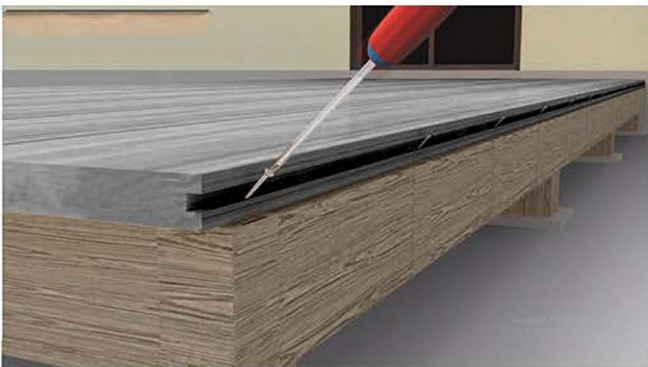
Drainage

Water drainage & good airflow is also important. Therefore, Ultra Decking recommends a raised deck area with at least a 1.5% slope and a raised deck of a minimum of 300mm. If you do choose to complete a ground level deck, it's important to allow a slope and area for the water to drain off easily. Note, please ensure that the drainage between the base is good; otherwise, this would cause long term rot of the joists and deformation of the decking. Water must drain off your decking area, it's important that water must not be holding on your deck as this will create issues in the future. Please check this during and after installation.

Composite Decking boards should be positioned in the direction of the gradient, this helps any water to naturally disperse.

Finishing pieces: Installing the last board

To fit the final board (only when slim metal clips are being used). With the last board in place after securing all other boards, screw through the groove of the last board at a 45-degree angle, securing it to the joist at 300mm intervals, Pre-drill pilot holes in the deck boards 2-4mm wider than the width as the screw shank. Do not over drive screws into the deck boards to avoid the material splitting.



Installing bullnose boards

To fit a bullnose board simply add starter clips into the designated location on the bottom of the board. Then slide the bullnose board into place and push forward to secure in to place with the clip ready for the next board to be laid. You can adjust the spacing of your starter clips to achieve an overhang or flush finish. To fit Ultra Decking onto steps, bullnose boards can be used. Add the decking starting from the bottom step, then place your bullnose boards into place.

Installing a picture frame

Picturing framing composite decking is a great idea for contrast or a design feature. In order complete this you will need to do some prep work before starting installation.

If you do choose to picture frame your new decking area, then you will need to measure the area to ensure support is provided to do this.

You will be required to double joist meeting boards, just like you would for boards meeting end to end.

If you are unable to do this, then you may decide to add blocks to ensure the boards have support and can attach via the clips. If this is your choice of solution, then please remember to secure the blocks safely and securely and also ensure you have factored and resolved any possible water build up that could create an issue in the future.

You will then need to measure your picture frame, in our experience simply place a board down and mark where the picture frame will be meeting at a 45-degree angle.

Cut the boards to size on a 45-degree angle.

When two boards are meeting at a 45-degree angle please ensure you leave gaps for expansions Where boards are meeting to a fix object, please ensure you leave a minimum of 25mm When fixing the boards in which will meet end to the side of picture frame, a double joist or blocking will be require for support.

Leave a 6mm gap for any boards meeting at the end for expansion

Two clips either side to ensure boards are held in a fix postion

Installing fascia & corner trims

When installing fascia & angled corner trims please ensure you leave a gap to allow for expansion at the ends.

When installing angle trims, these can be glued into place using a commercial grade adhesive or secured in to place with suitable screws drilling pilot holes 2-4mm wider, than the screw shank at 300mm intervals, screwing into the timber or composite joists at a 90-degree angle.

MAINTENANCE & CARE

Ultra Decking products are ultra low maintenance, however with a REGULAR cleaning you can help keep your outside space looking beautiful for longer. Please note that although Ultra Decking products will go through a natural colour change over the years of use and service, this in research and customer feedback is not noticeable due to its fade resistant properties. Please note composite decking is not wood and is extremely flexible so curving and bowing is normal and can easily be fixed by installing the board with clips from the middle first and working to the end to straighten the board into position.

Cleaning

With the proper safety precautions Ultra Decking products can be washed with either hot soapy water and a soft bristled brush. You should ensure to spray in the direction of the grain of the boards.

Dirt & Grime

Maintaining a clean, dry surface is the best method for combating dirt, grime and mildew build up, where a periodic cleaning is all that maybe required. Even though Ultra Decking products are formulated to inhibit mildew growth and staining, mildew stains can occur where moisture and dirt or pollen is present.

Spot Stains

Ultra Decking Signature Collection has stain resistant properties and will stand up to most of natural and human drops and spills, we recommend removing any spill within one hour of occurring, like any outdoor project stains can occur if not treated in the correct time or if left for long periods of time.

Scrapes & Scratches

Surface scratches and abrasions can appear and we do not advise that Ultra Decking or any composite decking product is scratch proof and we recommend using rubber feet on any garden furniture to prevent any scratches

Painting & Staining

Ultra Decking does not recommend that any treatments or stains should be applied to Ultra Decking products, due to our shield technology this adds protection against staining and fading over the years of use.

Where can I use Ultra Decking?

The versatile Ultra Decking product range can be used in a variety of locations, both residential and commercial. Most common are external communal areas, balconies, pool sides as well as many more practical uses.

MAINTENANCE & CARE

Will the colour fade over time?

Ultra Decking products will naturally lighten over time, this change in colour is not noticeable in our research and customer feedback, our signature boards are designed with fade resistant properties, but with any outdoor product lightening is expected after years and decades of use.

How slippery does the decking become when it gets wet?

Ultra Decking is designed with slip-resistant properties. Regardless of conditions, our ranges can outperform timber, however, we will recommend extra caution if the decking becomes extremely wet or icy.

How do your products react when exposed to water?

Ultra Decking products are designed to take on very little water. Our ranges have a much lower absorption rate than timber which heavily reduces the likelihood of wet rot over a longer period.

Does the decking require treating?

Ultra Decking products are already coloured so do not require painting at all. Also, due to the plastic content within Ultra Decking products there is no need for any further treatment. This also makes it easy to clean.

Important Information

Customers must contact the delivery team within 24 hours of your order delivery or collection date if you understand any goods are missing or damaged. Any claims for missing or damaged goods after this period will not be valid.

In addition, the measurements and dimensions including the correct number of decking boards, trims, fasteners and clips required to complete any WPC Decking installation is the sole responsibility of the customer.

Advice given by Ultra Decking/Stockist/Fitter/ Supplier on quantities required is for estimation and cost purposes only. Ultra Decking will not accept responsibility for the cost and delivery of additional goods required to complete any WPC Decking installation project, howsoever caused.

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Ultra Decking



Installation guide