

EverNew®

Composite Decking

STEP-BY-STEP

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR

EVERNEW® PT COMPOSITE DECKING

Virtually maintenance free | 25-year performance warranty

EverNew® PT composite decking is installed with the same skills and tools as natural wood, but there are some small yet important differences that must be maintained. Familiarize yourself before installation.

HELPFUL HINTS

Read end tag labels on product and these instructions thoroughly before beginning the assembly.

- Use carbide-tipped multi-purpose blade for cutting (minimum of 40 tooth blade recommended).
- Do not lay composite components on abrasive surfaces.
- If any components are missing or defective, please call us at: **800-380-5323**.

CertainTeed

IMPORTANT:

**ALWAYS WEAR SAFETY
GLASSES WHEN CUTTING AND
DRILLING DECKING PRODUCTS.**

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

TOOLS REQUIRED

EverNew PT composite decking is easily installed with the same tools used for lumber. Carbide-tipped blades and bits are recommended for best results.

TIP

Make sure you have all the pieces you need to complete the job.

IMPORTANT

DECKING STORAGE PRIOR TO INSTALLATION

Prior to installation material should be stored on a flat surface, supported every 24" and covered if original packaging is removed.

RECOMMENDED APPLICATIONS

EverNew PT composite decking is intended for residential installations on sun decks, pool decks, docks, boardwalks, ocean walks and similar applications. CertainTeed cannot anticipate every possible installation and recommends that you consult an engineer, architect and/or building code official in your area to make sure that your design meets all locally applicable codes.

Note: EverNew PT deck boards are reversible.

Important: EverNew PT composite decking must be installed on structural deck framing and properly gapped to allow for expansion, contraction and drainage. Do not attach planks directly to any solid surface or water-tight system such as sheathing, waterproof membranes, concrete, roof systems or patios. A minimum of six inches of continuous net free area under the deck surface is required for adequate ventilation on all decking applications. Install porch and deck material so air can circulate between adjacent members, to promote drainage and drying. Failure to follow these requirements voids warranty.

Note on Static: Dry and windy environments may create a temporary condition of static electricity, which will vary depending on climate and age of deck.

Note for optimum decking appearance:

When dealing with butt joints or multi-chromatic colors, it is suggested you lay out or "rack" 10 or so rows of decking boards across the joists so that you can ensure butt joints are properly staggered and color variations are either randomly dispersed throughout or arranged in the desired pattern. Racking not only allows you to preview how the deck will look installed, but it also provides easy access to decking boards as you work.

DECKING INSTALLATION

GETTING STARTED

Careful planning of the finished deck layout will result in better-looking finished projects.

1. Joist location plays an important role in the safety of the deck itself, but may also affect the ease, method and price of your railing system.

2. Before starting, read the instructions of both the decking and railing systems planned for the project.
3. Remember that prefabricated rail systems often assemble faster than wood railing, but they are less flexible and do not assemble in the same way as wood rail systems. To enjoy

the maximum benefit of prefabricated rail systems, it is important to construct the deck framing with the specific rail system in mind.

4. Thoroughly reading all instructions first will make for easier installations. Failure to do so may result in more difficult installations and may void warranty.

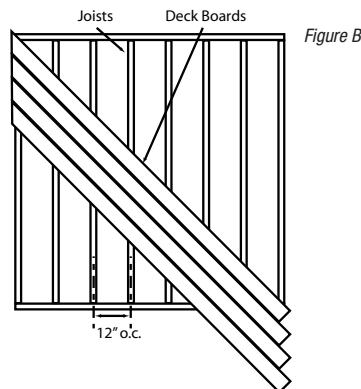
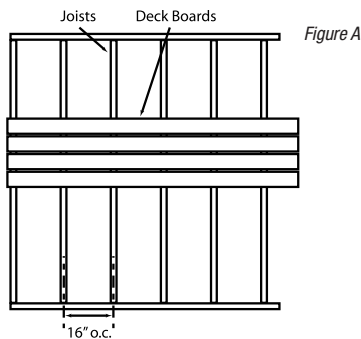
JOISTS

Joists used in deck frame construction should be 2"x 8" or larger.

When installing deck boards perpendicular to the joists in residential applications, spacing is 16" on-center (Figure A). When the decking is to be laid diagonally (not to exceed 45°), reduce the on-center joist spacing by 4" (Figure B). Stair stringers should not exceed 12" on-center. Allow 1/8" between stair treads and risers. Leave 3/16" space between stair treads. For special situations, or when in doubt, consult your local building inspection department.

When installing heavy loads atop your decking project, a hot tub, for example, it is important to also understand the requirements of the manufacturer, as they may have specific framing and support requirements for their warranty purposes.

Residential Joist Spacing



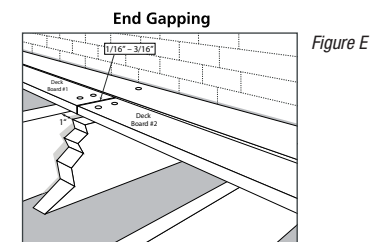
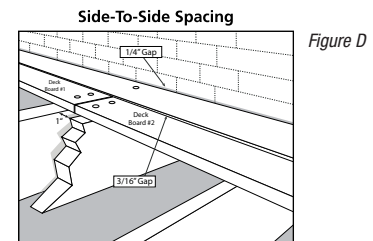
BOARD SPACING

All decking materials, whether wood, composite or metal, undergo some degree of linear expansion with the changes of weather and the season. To compensate for the effects of contraction and expansion, the following installation standards must be maintained:

- 3/16" side to side spacing between the boards (Figure D).
- 1/4" gap between the deck board and any solid structure such as a wall or post (Figure D).
- Between board ends: 3/16" below 45°F, 1/8" 45°–85°F, lightly butt (1/16") over 85°F

Adhering to these spacing parameters will:

- Promote proper drainage and ventilation.
- Aid in the removal of organic debris.
- Meet board spacing requirements of the EverNew warranty.

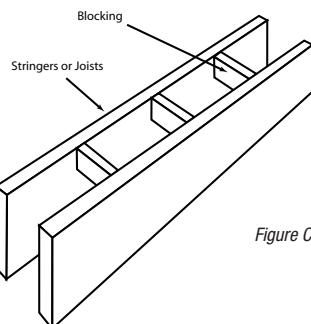


VENTILATION

To prevent excessive water absorption, an unobstructed air flow of at least 6 inches is required below the deck surface. Flat areas where standing water may gather should be addressed by grading or improved drainage. For decks with limited ventilation, add flow-through vents at various locations around rim joist.

When installing blocking for more intricate decking patterns, remember that solid blocking (blocking laid on the flat) will inhibit water flow and result in buildup of organic materials over time, which will make cleaning more difficult. For best results when blocking is required, it should be installed ladder style (Figure C).

Blocking



DECKING INSTALLATION

FASTENERS

The use of stainless steel fasteners is strongly recommended. Approved coated fasteners may also be used, but their performance may not be as good as stainless steel. Plain, galvanized surface fasteners are not recommended.

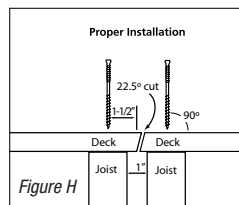
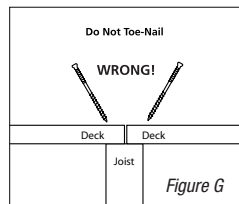
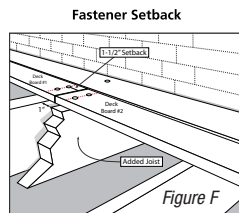
Fasteners recommended for use with EverNew PT decking include stainless steel composite fasteners. CertainTeed does not endorse or represent specific third party products. Other fasteners specifically designed for wood composite decking should be tested in an inconspicuous area first, as they may result in an unacceptable appearance. If hidden fasteners are desired, Phantom Hidden Deck Fasteners available from CertainTeed are designed to fit the EverNew PT grooved deck board for quick and easy installation, while providing a smooth, unmarred look.

The use of traditional flat or bugle head deck screws is not recommended for EverNew PT decking and will likely result in mushrooming. Other fasteners not specifically designed for wood composite decking are not recommended. Hidden fastener systems other than Phantom Hidden Fasteners are not recommended, and their use will void the product warranty.

Requirements

Do not fasten within 1-1/2" of the end of a board or 1" from the side of the board. It is

necessary to pre-drill end of board screw holes to prevent immediate or eventual end splitting (Figure F). Pre-drilling all holes, which will add time to the project, is not necessary, but it will result in better-looking finished projects. Pre-drilling will greatly reduce the chance of any mushrooming. DO NOT over-tighten fasteners. Over tightening will induce cracking at board ends.



Surface fasteners should always be driven in at a 90 degree angle to the decking surface. Toe nailing/screwing is not recommended (Figure G). Instead, the placement of an additional joist, when needed, is recommended to allow perpendicular installation of surface fasteners (Figure H). Pre-drilling is required in cold temperatures.

Clean, perfectly straight lines of fasteners look better than wobbly lines. Use white chalk, straight boards or string lines as templates for straight lines. DO NOT USE COLORED CHALK. Colored chalk is designed to be permanent and will

stain the decking surface. There is no known way to remove colored chalk from decking. EverNew PT decking may be face fastened. Annual thread, ring shank and spiral shank nails, of sufficient length, have excellent holding power and produce good results. Gun nails may be used but, depending on the gun, the temperature of the decking and other factors such as head type, head size and shank nail geometry, guns may not produce optimal results. Test first. Stainless steel fasteners are recommended.

Screws have superior holding power. Conventional bugle head decking screws produce solid connections but have a tendency to cause mushrooming. The mushrooms may be left as is, flattened or removed (pat down with a rubber mallet) as desired.

Typical Composite Deck Screws



Figure I

For a cleaner look, stainless steel screws with small casing or finish style heads can produce nearly invisible results. Achieving this look is possible with screws designed specifically for composite decks. Available commercially, in home centers and hardware stores, these screws are engineered specifically to work with composite decking and prevent mushrooming, resulting in better-looking finished projects (Figure I).

HIDDEN DECK FASTENERS

Caution: Contains parts with sharp edges. Use proper care.

Installation of First Deck Board

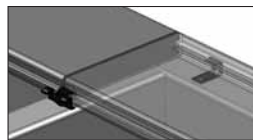
Position the first deck board on the support joists. Leave a 1/4" gap from any permanent structure.

Pre-drill the first deck board with a 1/8" drill along the outside edge of the board at every support joist. To prevent cracking of the board, the holes at the end of the board should be a minimum of 1-1/2" from the end. The holes along the grooved edge of the board should be a minimum of 1" from the edge.

Secure the first deck board by fastening with a minimum #10 x 2-1/4" long stainless steel deck screw in each pre-drilled hole. DO NOT OVER-TIGHTEN THE SCREWS OR USE OPTIONAL END CLIP FASTENERS.

Optional End Clip Fastener

Place End Clip a minimum of 1/4" from wall with a single screw into joist. Repeat at each joist location no more than 16" on center.



Installation of Deck Boards

Slide fastener into side channel of decking board at every support joist.

Step 1

Install screws provided through destination hole into each support joist.

Locate next slotted board against the fastener tabs.

Slightly lift the outer edge of the board and slide over fastener tabs.

Step 2

Be sure fasteners are fully secured into each board to ensure even spacing.

Step 3

Repeat steps until deck is complete.

Installation of Final Deck Board

Position the final deck board on the last set of fasteners. Ensuring a consistent gap between boards, pre-drill the final deck board with a 1/8" drill along the outside edge of the board at every support joist. The holes at the end of the board should be a minimum of 1-1/2" from the end. The holes along the grooved edge of the board should be a minimum of 1" from the edge.

Secure the final deck board by fastening a #10 x 2-1/4" long stainless steel deck screw in each pre-drilled hole. DO NOT OVER-TIGHTEN THE SCREWS. Install the Fiberon-approved Hidden Fasteners up to 50% faster with the Ballistic NailScrew Driver.

DECKING INSTALLATION

WOOD GRAIN PATTERNS

Note that the graining on EverNew PT decking is directional. Different looks can be achieved by laying the decking in the same or alternating directions (Figure J).

The graining pattern repeats along the board length. To ensure you orient the boards to achieve the desired effect, a directional label is affixed to each board showing the direction of the graining. Should this label be misplaced or discarded, you can use a key feature of the graining pattern as a reference. During the planning phase of any deck project, notations about grain direction should be made to achieve the desired effect (Figure J & K).

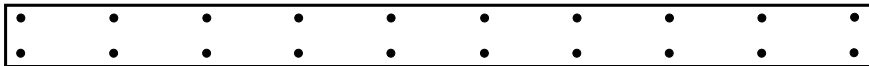


Figure L

EverNew PT requires two fasteners at every joist location (Figure L). While face fastening is allowed on all EverNew decking products, the use of hidden fasteners is highly recommended with EverNew grooved decking to create a smooth, unblemished decking surface. EverNew grooved decking cannot be used as stair treads.

Non-grooved boards are available for stair treads and starting boards at the edges of the deck.

Wood Grain Orientation During Installation

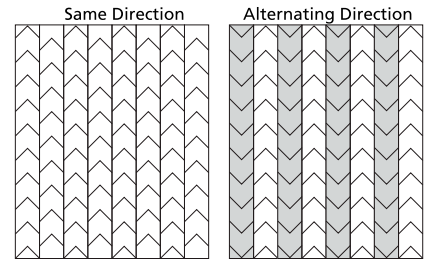


Figure J

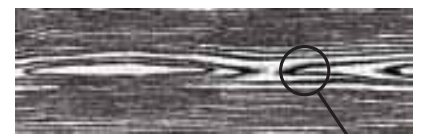


Figure K

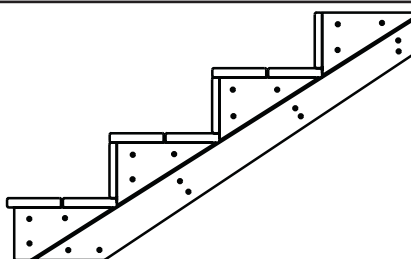
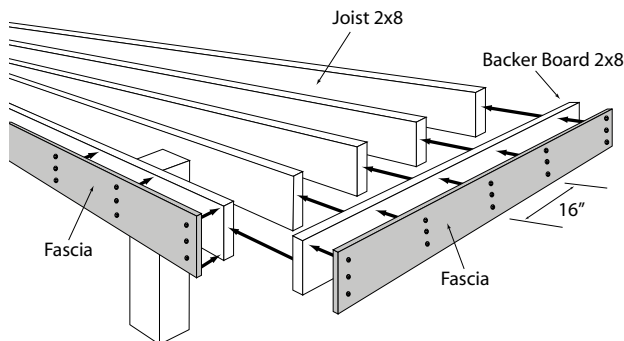
Key feature

FASCIA INSTALLATION

FASCIA FASTENING

Fascia is intended as a non-structural covering for rim joists, stair risers, and stringers and is not suited for decking surfaces or structural applications. Fascia is fastened with a combination of screws and high-quality urethane/acrylic construction adhesive to prevent thermal buckling. Apply a zigzag bead of adhesive to the entire length of the back (smooth side) of the board, within two inches

of the edges and ends. Install all fascia grain side out with grain peaks pointing in the same direction for visual consistency. Screws should be installed at a maximum 16" interval, three screws across the face. Install with no gap between edges and ends in temperatures above 50° F. Leave 1/8" gap between edges and ends in temperatures below 50° F.

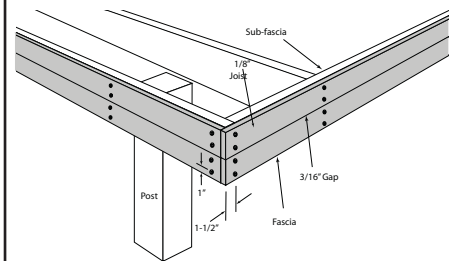


Suggested Stringer Fascia Application

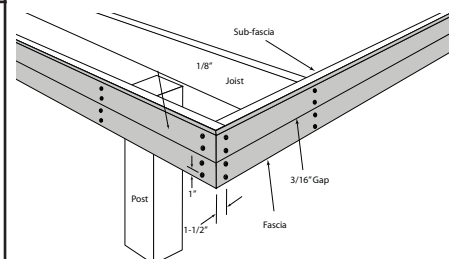
VENTILATION

To prevent excessive water absorption, an unobstructed air flow is required below the deck surfaces. Flat areas where standing water may gather should be addressed by grading or improved drainage. For decks with limited ventilation, add air flow by installing vents at various locations around the rim joist.

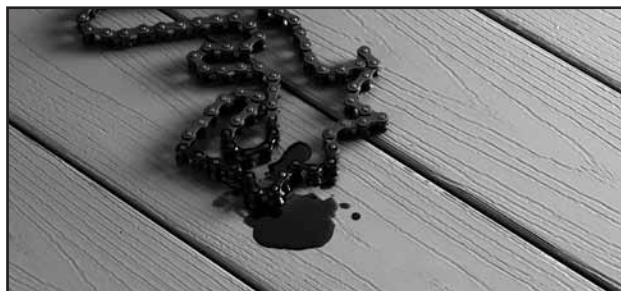
Butt Joint (Figure C)



Angle Joint (Figure D)



CARE AND MAINTENANCE



IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

- Ensure minimum 6" of ventilation under the deck and required spacing between decking boards.
- Improve drainage or grade soil to eliminate standing water under decks.
- Direct downspouts, downspout extensions and splash guards away from decks.
- Position dryer vents away from decks.
- Maintain a deck that is dry and clean.
- Clean your deck as often as needed, at least twice each year.
- Use extreme caution with pressure washers and use at pressures less than 1,500 psi at 12" above deck surface. Pressure washing is not recommended when mold/mildew are present on the deck.
- Keep debris out of gaps between the decking boards so rain showers can remove pollen and organic debris between cleanings.
- Minimize the use of wet mulch up against the deck structure.
- Items stored directly on top of the deck surface, such as flower pots, prohibit water evaporation and can cause some staining on the deck surface.

Ventilation

Make sure there is adequate and unobstructed air flow under the deck to prevent excessive water absorption. Improve drainage or grade flat areas where standing water may gather. For decks with limited ventilation, 6" of clear ventilation is required between bottom of joists and fascia to grade.

Mind the Gap

If the gap between decking boards is less than 3/16", organic debris such as leaves, seeds or pollen can settle on the deck and clog gaps. Water can pool, steeping organic debris that forms a "tea" or tannin which may stain your deck. This organic debris is a strong food source for mold. Keeping the gap clean is the easiest way to keep the deck clean. If gapping becomes clogged, use a garden hose, a spatula, putty knife or similar tool to remove debris.

Clean Your Deck

Clean your deck as often as needed, at least twice each year to remove pollen, organic debris, dirt or stains. Generally, a broom or a blower will work better than a hose for removing scattered organic materials like leaves. For general cleaning, use soap and water or mild household cleaners.

Masonry Construction

Masonry construction performed on the surface of the decking material will cause a haze from the mortar-based products used. This can only be prevented with complete and secure coverage of the decking surface area during the construction phase or installation of the decking after the masonry construction phase. Like gypsum and other minerals, the ability to clean this type of haze will improve dramatically in about a year and usually results in its complete removal. A mild vinegar-based cleaning solution and CLR® (Calcium Lime and Rust Remover) is effective at removing mineral deposits. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions. Do not mix recommended cleaning products together as harmful chemical reactions could occur.

Mold and Mildew

Mold and mildew are common environmental conditions. Molds grow on decaying organic material such as wood, leaf decay and pollen. Tiny and lightweight, mold spores travel easily through the air. Different climates experience varying degrees of these conditions depending on the amount of moisture and heat present.

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS (CONT.)

To thrive, mold and mildew need air, water, elevated temperatures and a food source. There is no way to eliminate all these conditions in the environment. A wide variety of building materials including concrete, wood products, vinyl siding and many others are subject to potential mold growth.

Care and Maintenance: Capped Composite and Capped PVC Decking

To minimize mold on your decking, clean your deck as often as needed, at least twice each year. Climate conditions vary in different regions of the country and may necessitate more periodic cleaning. Removal of leaves, debris, and other organic materials that provide a food source for mold development is important. If mold is present on your deck, use soap and water to clean.

Dirt and Grime

Dislodge accumulated dirt with a broom or by using soap and water and a non-metal scrub brush. Scrubbing in the direction of the grain is best. Thoroughly rinse off with a garden hose.

Skilled professionals may use a pressure washer with wide fan tips, at low pressures under 1,500 psi and at safe distances, 12" above deck. In the wrong hands, your composite deck can be damaged. Exercise extreme caution.

Oil and Grease Stains

Speedy cleanup is best. To clean grease and oil stains that soap and water cannot remove, some all-purpose cleaners, such as Fantastik, will cut through grease and grime. Or use a commercial deck cleaner designed specifically for your type of decking. De-Solv-It Citrus Solution is effective in removing tar, asphalt, oil, grease and chewing gum. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's recommendations and test in an inconspicuous area prior to cleaning the entire deck.

Salt and Calcium Chloride

Build up of salt and calcium chloride from snow and ice removal is easily removed with enough water and perhaps a light scrub. Use a garden hose or sprayer. If using a pressure washer, use at low pressures under 1,500 psi and at safe distances, 12" above deck, to avoid damaging your deck. Never use METAL shovels or sharp edged tools to remove snow and ice on the surface of any CertainTeed decking product.

Rubber Mats

Welcome mats or grill mats with a rubber or latex backing can mark your deck. The marks can be removed, but to avoid them, use colorfast woven rugs.



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