

## Ekodeck® Screening Installation Guide



No oiling, staining  
or sealing



UV Stabilised -  
Won't fade to grey



Won't splinter,  
cup or twist

# INSTALLATION GUIDE

Being a composite product, Ekodeck Screening behaves and has different characteristics to timber. To achieve a safe and long lasting Ekodeck Screening installation, it is important to read the following guide in full.

Ekodeck Screening is a pre-finished product. Use care when storing, handling and installing to avoid damage.

This installation guide is intended to be viewed along with the Ekodeck Screening installation videos found on our website [www.ekodeck.com.au](http://www.ekodeck.com.au) or by scanning the QR code on the right.



Install either side

## WARNINGS

1. It is the sole responsibility of the homeowner, contractor or the installer to determine the specific requirements, effectiveness, suitability and safety in regard to any application or use of Ekodeck Screening products.
2. Ekodeck Screening is not designed to be a freestanding product. It must be installed safely and correctly to fixed posts.
3. The posts must comply with all the relevant regulations and aspects of the Building Code of Australia. All posts must be securely anchored to the ground (not floating).
4. Ekodeck Screening must be mechanically fastened to each post. Any single piece of Ekodeck Screening must be installed over at least 2 spans (i.e. 3 posts).
5. Ekodeck Screening should not:
  - Be used as a structural or load bearing member.
  - Be used in any potentially stressed situation such as a security or safety balustrade or decking.
  - Be applied directly to a solid surface such as concrete or brick walls.
  - Be installed in a horizontal plane

## HEALTH & SAFETY

Always use proper protective clothing and safety equipment when cutting and drilling.



Use hardwood blades



Carry this side up

## GAPS & SPANS

Centre-to-centre joist spacing (max)	900mm
Min. ground clearance	- 50mm
Min. side-to-side gap	2mm
Min. end gap	1-3mm*
Min. distance from edge for fastening	15mm
Pre-drill	Required

\*Gap distances vary depending on temperature during installation. Read section 'Expansion Gaps' to discern appropriate gapping for your project.

## CUTTING

For best results use hardwood blades.

When using a drop saw we recommend a 60-80 tooth blade for cutting.

## THERMAL EXPANSION & CONTRACTION

Ekodeck Screening expands and contracts in length with changes in temperature.

This is normal behaviour of any wood plastic composite and is not a product fault.

It is most important to take this into proper consideration during installation of your Ekodeck Screening.

The amount of expansion and contraction you experience is dependent on several factors including:

- **Climate:** Installing in the peak of summer or winter or large changes in temperature between day and night.
- **Screening position:** If the screening is in direct sun light or part shade etc.
- **Board length:** The longer the boards, the more it will expand and contract.
- **Fully fastened boards:** You will notice less movement in the boards once they are fully installed/fastened to the posts.

## EXPANSION GAPS

It is important to take Thermal Expansion & Contraction into account when gapping your boards.

Ekodeck Screening expands along its length, not in its width.

If you are installing in the peak of summer or a hot day for your location, leave a tight (1mm) gap.

If you are installing in the peak of winter or a cool day for your location, the required (3mm) gap should be left to give the boards room to expand.

In moderate temperatures, we recommend leaving a gap somewhere in between to allow for the expansion and contraction of the screening.

## GENERAL INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

- Allow the boards to acclimatise to your site conditions. This allows your Ekodeck Screening to adapt to the ambient heat typical of your location.
- Delay any edge/length trimming until after installation and trim at the same time.

## THERMAL DEFLECTION

Due to the nature of polymers this product may exhibit a slight thermal deflection between posts, which may occur within 3-6 months after installation.

This can be caused by heat exposure to one side of a board as opposed to the other.

The extent to which this occurs is dependent on several factors including climate and the direction which the screening is facing the sun.

This phenomenon is not considered a product fault.

## INSTALLATION & FASTENING

### FIXING EKODECK SCREENING TO TIMBER POSTS

Stainless steel 8g x 40mm screws.

Pre-drilling and countersinking the boards is imperative.

Drilling an oversize pilot hole larger than the screw is recommended to allow for the increased movement caused by expansion and contraction.

*Nailing is not recommended.*

### FIXING EKODECK SCREENING TO STEEL POSTS

High quality 8g x 30mm button head screws that are appropriate for steel.

Drilling an oversize pilot hole larger than the shank of the screw is recommended to allow for the increased movement caused by expansion and contraction.

*Wing Tek screws are not recommended.*

## CLEANING YOUR EKODECK SCREENING

It is recommended to clean your screening immediately after installation and periodically as you see fit:

1. Scrub the screening with hot water and dishwashing liquid using a stiff decking brush.
2. Rinse your screening - a pressure washer is recommended.

Cleaning requirements will vary depending on product use, surrounding environment and weather exposure. We recommend a general clean is performed at least annually.

**EKODECK**  
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