



Pictured - Capped Composite Boards in Rosewood

CLADCO VERSADECK AND PRODECK DECKING AND JOISTS

Installation Guide,
Aftercare and FAQs

CLADCO
PROFILES



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This Installation Guide is applicable to:

ProDeck Decking

VersaDeck Decking (trade only)

Pictured - Capped Composite Boards in Platinum



STORAGE AND HANDLING

Cladco's capped composite decking boards should always be stored in a cool and dry place that is out of direct sunlight. They should be stored on a level surface that supports the entire length of the board - ensuring they do not warp or bend. Protective gloves must be worn when handling and cutting boards, and care should be taken when lifting. We recommend a minimum of two persons carry the boards, always ensuring it is within their physical capabilities. It is recommended that when cutting the boards they are placed on a timber surface to prevent scuffing.



COLOUR AND GRAIN

Cladco's ProDeck and Versadeck boards are manufactured from capped composite materials and are designed to replicate the natural variations of a timber decking board. Each board features an authentic woodgrain effect textured surface for a natural-looking finish. It is, however, still recommended that you purchase all capped composite boards required for the same project together at the same time, as this will ensure there is colour consistency throughout, whilst saving any additional delivery costs. We advise that all capped composite boards are laid out before installation to ensure a natural, well-balanced tone throughout. As with all materials exposed to direct sunlight, some natural weathering may occur over time. Boards should be acclimatised to the same temperature and stored in the same environment before installation.



20 YEAR WARRANTY

Cladco ProDeck Composite Decking is supplied with a 20-Year Residential Warranty and a 15-Year Commercial Warranty when installed onto recycled plastic joists, subject to terms and conditions. Cladco ProDeck Composite Decking Boards should be installed as per this installation guide. Failure to do so may invalidate the warranty. For further information, please visit www.cladcodecking.co.uk/cladco-profiles-limited-conditions-sale.

Pictured - Capped Composite Boards in Platinum

TOOLS & EQUIPMENT



Protective Equipment

When handling or carrying capped composite boards it is advised to wear long sleeves and gloves. When cutting the boards we suggest you wear a protective dust mask, ear defenders and safety glasses. Knee pads are recommended to be worn when fitting decking.



Tool Set

Standard everyday carpentry tools will be needed to complete the installation, including: tape measure, pencil, spacing tools, and stanley knife.



Power Drill and Driver

Standard power drills can be used when installing capped composite decking boards. A standard Phillips screwdriver bit PH2 should be used when working with Speeddekz 65mm Woodscrews and Speeddekz 50mm Screws.



CTI Adhesive

We recommend using CTI Adhesive to secure Capped Composite Fascia Trims when used to conceal a support system beneath. When using the CTI Adhesive, do not allow the adhesive to get on the capped composite boards, as this can damage the finish of the decking.



Jigsaw / Handsaw

ProDeck Composite Decking Boards can be cut using any standard wood cutting tools. We recommend using a fine-toothed blade to get the cleanest finish to your cut edge.



Spirit Level and String

A spirit level is essential when installing your decking to ensure a level support system. A spirit level ensures that ProDeck Composite Decking Boards are installed along a straight edge. A slight slope should be included to allow for water run-off.



PREPARE YOUR BASE

CHOOSE FROM TWO BASES



CONCRETE BASE

A 100mm thick concrete base is recommended, with a slight slope for drainage to occur. The optimum slope should be around 5mm for every metre.



GRASS OR SOIL BASE

Remove the turf or soil until the ground is completely even, ensuring to remove any debris or rocks from the area. Cover the area of your site with a layer of weed mat to prevent any weed re-growth from coming up under your decking. If you need to overlap the weed mat, ensure you do this with enough fabric to prevent any gaps. Once cut and pinned into place, cover the weed mat with your desired coverage, such as chippings, bark or stones, so that none of the weed mat material is exposed.

AIRFLOW

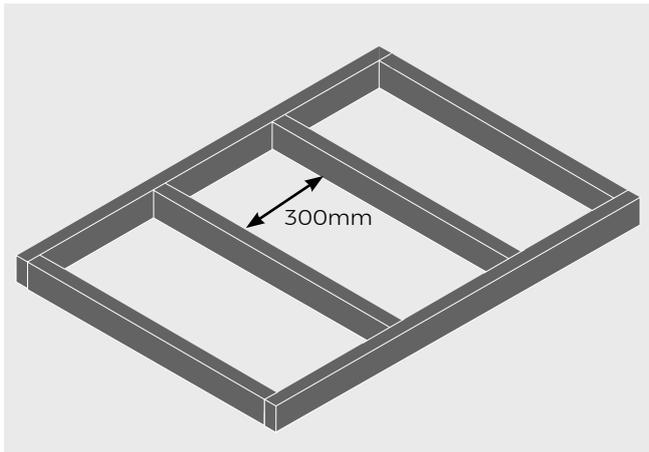
Ensure your substructure design allows for significant airflow and ventilation. If the decking is being installed on areas with poor ventilation, the decking substructure must be installed on top of joists which allow for a 47mm airflow gap.



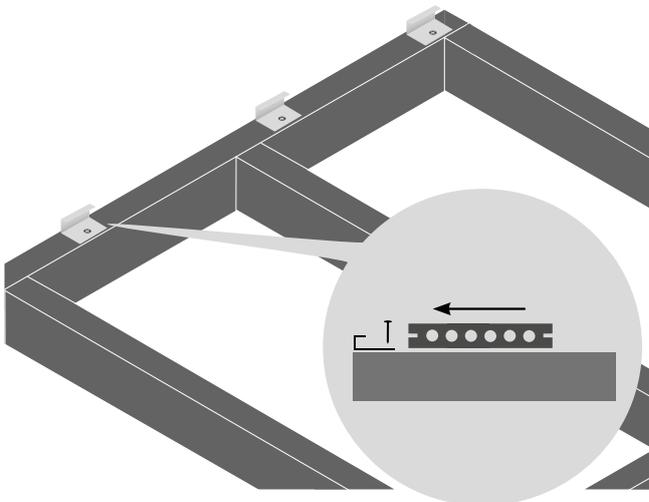
FRAMEWORK

The below installation guidelines are using Cladco recycled plastic decking joists. PLEASE NOTE this can also be achieved with composite joists.

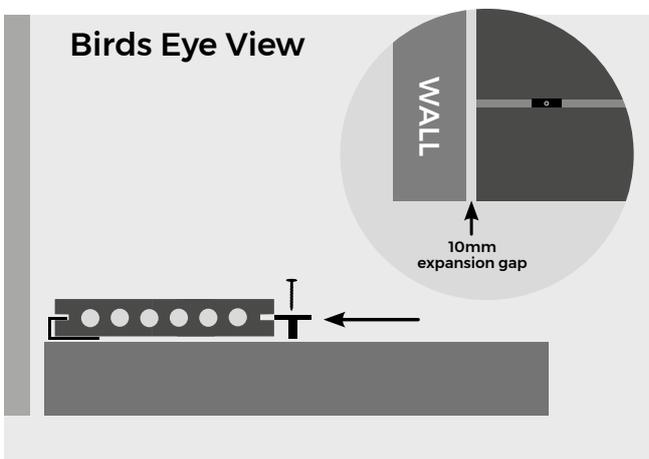
For wall-to-wall decking installations, please follow the below instructions. For decking installations with exposed edges, it is recommended to use bullnose boards. Please refer to the bullnose board installation section further down the page.



1 The maximum recommended space between recycled plastic joist rows depends on the angle at which you intend to lay your boards about the joists, but should never exceed 300mm (please see the diagram). If using timber joists, apply deck tape to the top surface and exposed cut ends to protect them from moisture and prevent rotting.

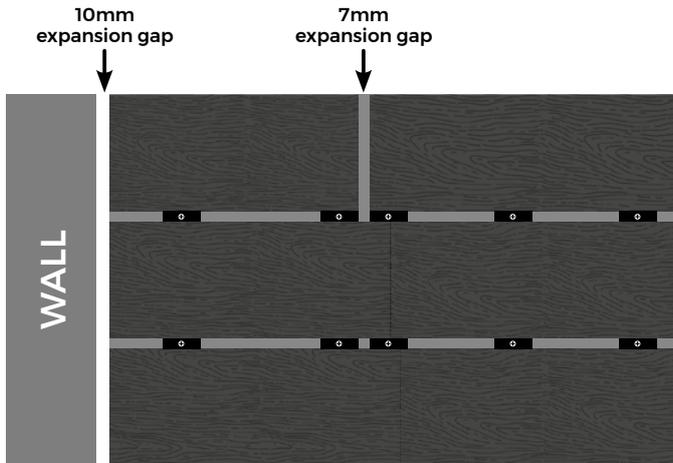


2 Bullnose boards/starter clips need to be fixed to the end of the joists before laying the first board, leaving a gap of at least 10mm between any walls and the starter clip. Use one bullnose/starter clip and screw per joist. Place the first ProDeck Composite Decking Board on the timber frame, ensuring the boards run perpendicular to the joists and secure the first board into the first bullnose/starter clips. Do not screw through the ProDeck Composite Decking Board.



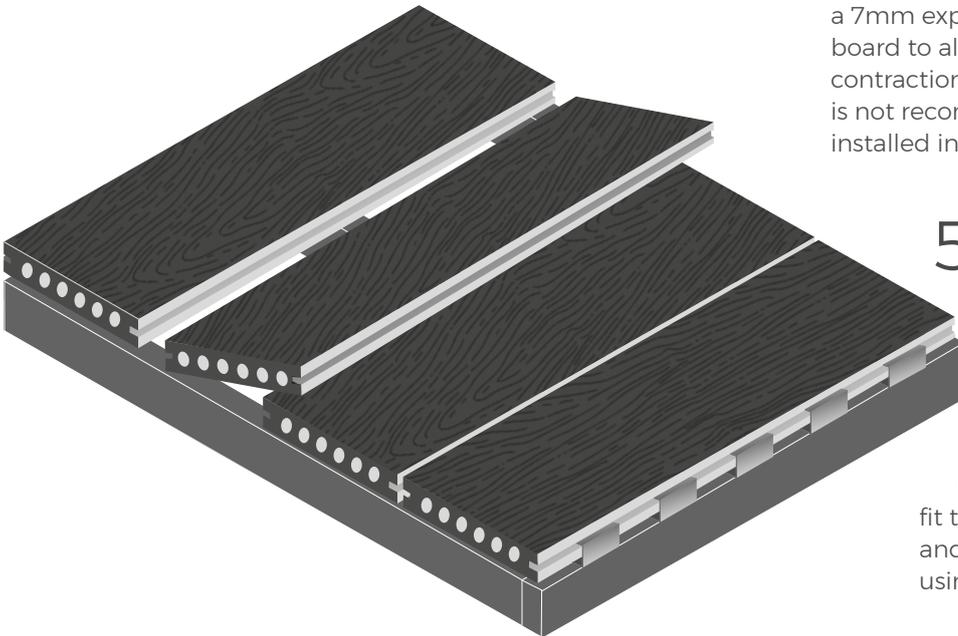
3 Take a T-clip and slot it into the groove along the first board you have just secured. Place a screw through the hole of the T-clip. Screwdown and into the joists below, but do not tighten at this point. Continue to fix T-clips in place along the groove of the board, screwing one T-clip into each joist. Ensure the ProDeck Composite Decking Boards do not overhang the joist at the edge by more than 25mm and leave a 10mm expansion gap between the wall or any other fixed objects that may surround the decking.

FRAMEWORK

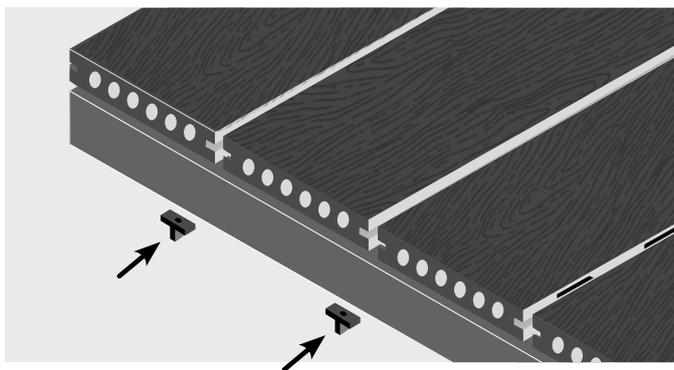


4 Take the next ProDeck Composite Decking Board and then slot the adjoining T-clips from the first board into the groove of the second board and secure them next to each other. Repeat steps 3 and 4 to cover the entire decking area, using one T-clip and one screw per joist. We recommend alternating the direction of the woodgrain surface on every other board for a more natural, varied finish.

PLEASE NOTE: Do not allow the ProDeck Composite Decking Boards to meet at the ends. T-clips will leave a 7mm expansion gap between each board to allow for expansion and contraction in temperature changes. It is not recommended that boards are installed in dempeartures below 5°.



5 For the final two boards, measure the width of both boards together (including the 7mm expansion gap) to discover where the outer edge of the final board will lie and mark it out with a pencil on the below joists. Use this mark to fit the final bullnose/starter clips and slot the last board into place using these clips.



6 Slide the required amount of T-clips through the final board groove, aligning with the joists, before the penultimate board is inserted and screwed into place with the T-clips.

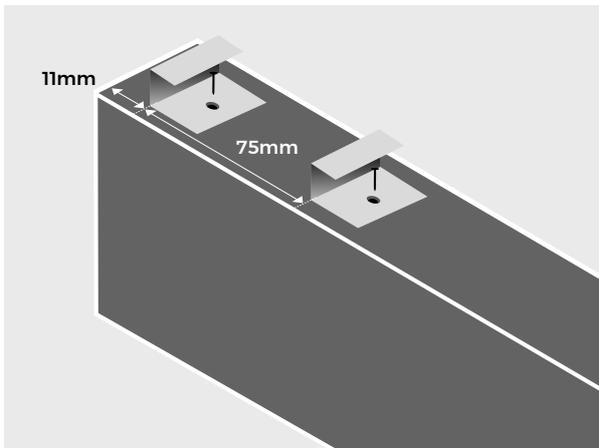
TOP TIP If using fascia trims, pre-drill pilot holes with a counterbore through the fascia at 200-300mm intervals, and allow for an expansion gap between the end of the decking board and the fascia trim of 5-7mm. Screw the fascia trim to the joist at a 90° angle.

FINISHING YOUR DECKING

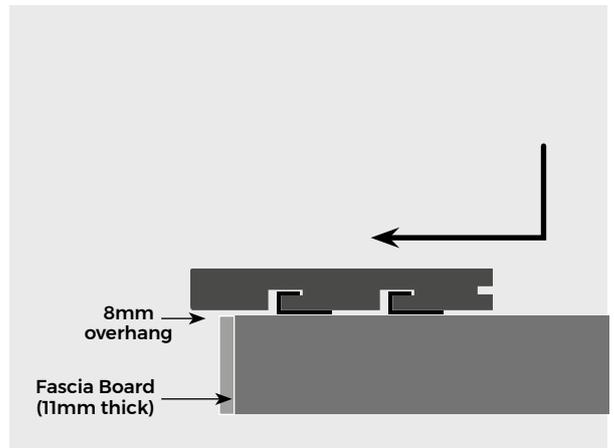
If you are installing decking that is not surrounded by walls and will have exposed edges, it is recommended that you begin your installation with our ProDeck Bullnose Composite Decking Board. These boards have a grooveless outer edge and will conceal the ends of the six-hole ProDeck Composite Decking Boards.



FOR AN OVERHANGING FINISH

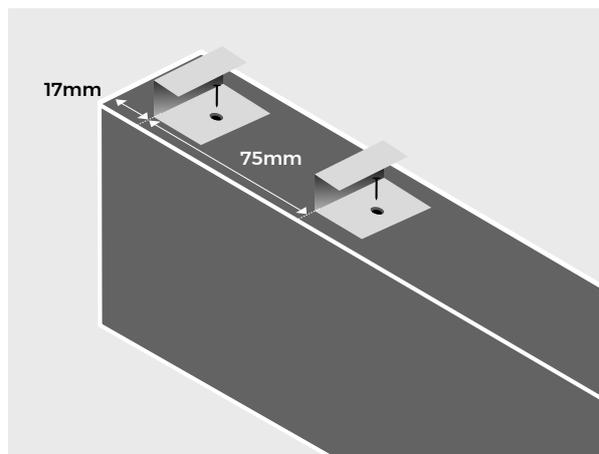


1 Using the same timber frame substructure, fit two ProDeck Bullnose/Starter Clips to the end of your joists as shown here, ensuring they are spaced 75mm apart with the first clip being 11mm from the edge joist.

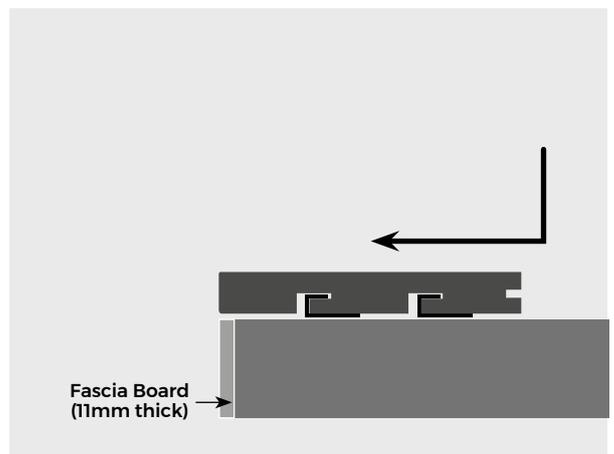


2 Fit the ProDeck Bullnose Composite Decking Board over the starter/bullnose clips and push forward until flush. Secure in place with T-clips as required before continuing to fit the rest of your standard ProDeck Composite Decking Boards.

FOR A FLUSH FINISH



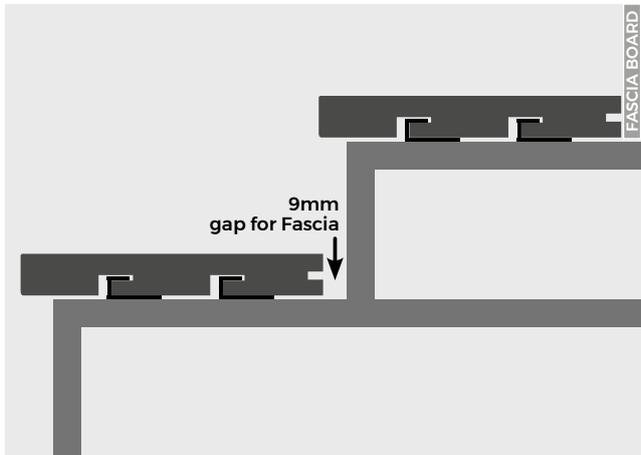
1 Using the same substructure, fit two ProDeck Bullnose/Starter Clips to the end of your joists as shown here, ensuring they are spaced 75mm apart with the first clip being 17mm from the edge of the joist.



2 Fit the bullnose board over the starter/bullnose clips and push forward until flush. Secure in place with T-clips as required before continuing to fit the rest of your standard ProDeck Composite Decking Boards.

FINISHING YOUR DECKING

FOR INSTALLATIONS WITH STEPS



Install the ProDeck Bullnose Composite Decking Board as above on each step, leaving a small 9mm gap behind to allow the fascia trim to fit. Fit the fascia trims on each step to conceal the decking underneath. Ensure you have planned and measured your steps in accordance with the bullnose board's and fascia trim's dimensions to avoid any vacant space.

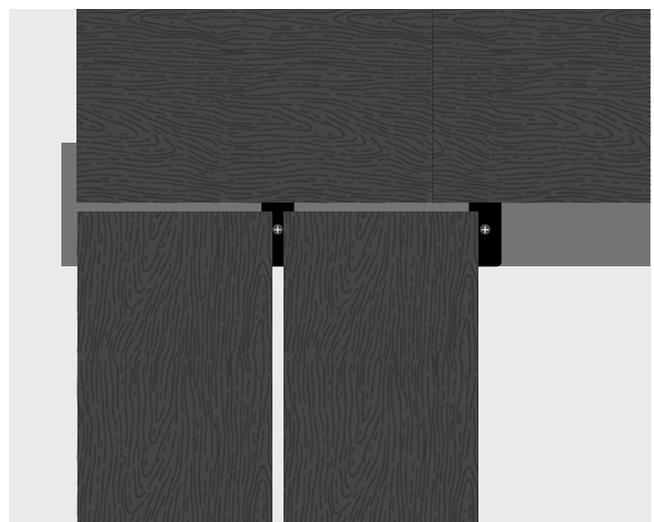
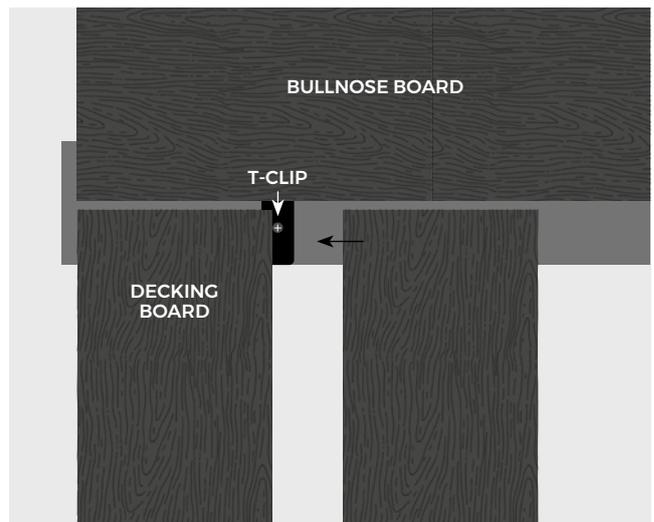
TIPS ON USING THE CAPPED COMPOSITE T-CLIP SYSTEM

It is recommended that ProDeck T-clips are used during your ProDeck installation. This T-clip is designed for you to be able to also fit the bullnose boards and maintain a clean, neat finish.

1 Insert the T-clip as shown in the diagram so the front of the clip is within the groove of the secured bullnose board.

2 Screw the T-clip into the joist before pushing the next ProDeck board firmly in place.

3 Repeat this for the remainder of the decking boards, ensuring that the front of all T-clips is firmly in the groove of the bullnose board.





AFTERCARE



SNOW AND ICE

Take care when walking over your deck in adverse weather conditions, such as snow or ice, as this may cause the decking to become slippery.

If using a de-icer, ensure that the product contains calcium chloride, as this will not damage the decking. It may leave a slight residue behind, but this can be easily cleaned away.

Always check before using any chemicals on the decking. Do not use grit, sand or metal/plastic spades on your decking, as they may scratch the surface.



MAINTAINING YOUR DECKING

In some cases, pressure washing may be required for long-term dirt. When using a pressure washer, it is recommended that a distance of at least 300mm is left between the decking and the pressure washer nozzle to avoid any damage.

For standard everyday debris such as plants, leaves, berries and animal droppings, simply brush your decking free of any debris with a soft/medium bristled broom.

Discolouration can be caused by chemicals found in everyday household products, such as suntan lotion or insect repellent; take care when using these products near your ProDeck decking. During the first 6-12 months after installation, the colour of the boards will stabilise. During this time, ProDeck decking boards may fade naturally from weathering before stabilising to a final colour.

Pictured - VersaDeck Boards in Platinum

AFTERCARE AND MAINTENANCE

Cladco ProDeck decking has a 20-year warranty when installed using our recycled plastic joists and is stain and fade-resistant. In some cases, pressure washing may be required for persistent dirt. When using a pressure washer, it is recommended that a distance of at least 30cm is left between the cladding and the nozzle to avoid any damage.

For standard everyday debris such as plants, leaves, berries, and animal droppings, simply brush away. Soapy water can also be used to ease this process.



1 Use a brush to remove any debris, such as leaves, off the decking to create a clear surface ready for cleaning.



2 Prepare a bucket of hot soapy water. You may want to wear rubber gloves.



3 Apply the hot soapy water to your decking. Once applied use a brush to scrub the surface of the decking. Any surface debris will start to lift off.



4 Leave the hot soapy water on the surface for several minutes before rinsing. Ensure all soap and debris have been successfully removed from the boards before leaving to dry.

FIRE AND HEAT SOURCES

Take care when using fire pits or BBQs near ProDeck Composite Decking Boards, as embers or direct heat may damage the surface. Cladco cannot be held responsible for any fire-related damage or contact with flames. Using a heat source near the cladding is entirely at the customer's own risk.

MOULD AND MILDEW

Mould and mildew are common in outdoor environments. The climate will affect how mould grows, dependent on temperature and moisture levels. To minimise mould growth on your decking, ensure it is cleaned often. If mould is present, use soapy, hot water to remove it. In cases of more stubborn dirt or grime, pressure washing may be necessary to restore the decking's appearance.

DISCOLOURATION

Discolouration can be caused by chemicals found in everyday household products, such as suntan lotion or insect repellent. Take care when using these products near your ProDeck boards.

During the first 6-12 months after installation, the colouring of the decking will stabilise. During this time, ProDeck boards may fade naturally from weathering before stabilising to a final colour.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where can I install my ProDeck Composite Decking?

Cladco ProDeck Composite Decking Boards are very practical for any outdoor space (subject to building control and a structural framework). The boards can be installed on grass, soil or concrete providing it has a suitable sub structure to be built upon.

Can I use a pressure washer?

A pressure washer can be used to clean your decking area. We recommend using a pressure washer with a psi of no greater than 2000.

A fan tip should be used with a 40 to 60° spread, keeping the head 250-300mm away from the surface. Please note that using pressure washers may increase the chance of screw holes becoming more visible. Always test in an inconspicuous area first. Direct, prolonged contact could damage the surface of the boards and should be avoided.

Will my decking get hot in the sun?

As with all products exposed to the sun, capped composite decking boards can become hot over prolonged periods. Darker colours can feel hotter in areas exposed to direct sunlight, footwear may be necessary in these circumstances. Special caution should be taken when using decking in areas with prolonged sun exposure and next to glass.

Can I use a fire/bowl or patio heater on my decking?

When using a fire pit or patio heater, it is always recommended to test this with a board offcut first. Any embers or heat that come into contact with the boards should be removed immediately. Embers or heat may damage the integrity of the board and cause marks to the surface.

Are the ProDeck bullnose boards and fascia trims also dual-sided?

No. The ProDeck bullnose boards and fascia trims are all individual colours and are not reversible.

How much does decking weigh?

The 2.4m Cladco ProDeck Composite Decking Board weighs approximately 7.37kg. The 4m Cladco ProDeck Composite Decking Board weighs approximately 12.28kg.

What colours are available?





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