



## **BASIC INSTALLATION INFORMATION**

WearDeck Polymeric Lumber in all profiles produces decking that easily exceeds generally accepted standards for application.

1. **5/4" decking spans 24 inches on center (OC) for deck & dock applications.**  
**\*Note; Live Load Capacity – 266 lbs./ft<sup>2</sup> @ 16" OC & 120 lbs./ft<sup>2</sup> @ 24" OC**
2. **2" x 6" decking spans 24 inches on center for deck & dock applications**  
**\*Note; Live Load Capacity – 306 lbs./ft<sup>2</sup> @ 24" OC**

### **SPANS**

WearDeck is designed to perform above accepted standards at the 24" OC spacing as indicated above. However, using the generally accepted decking joist spacing standards provides an installation far superior to any competitor. In as such, WearDeck recommends that for exceptionally superior performance, WearDeck can be installed as indicated below.

- 5/4 x 6" joists spacing 16" on center. 12" on center if installed diagonally. Commercial applications are generally a minimum of 12 inches on center for straight commercial applications. (Always refer to the overriding local building code requirements)
- 2 x 6" joists spacing 24" on center, 16" on center if installed diagonally. Commercial applications are generally 16" on center, possibly 12" for straight commercial applications. (Always refer to the overriding local building code requirements)
- For commercial applications, **ALWAYS** follow local municipal building code standards for ALL commercial installations, which generally require closer joist spacing by applicable code.
- All joists must be level to each other in order to attain a proper quality installation. **This is responsibility of the homeowner, builder or contractor.**
- Joists may require blocking/bridging in order to maintain straight & level joists based on material used to construct deck. **This is the responsibility of the homeowner, builder or contractor.**
- For cantilevering; 5/4" x 6" maximum of 2" & 2 x 6" maximum of 4".
- Provide a minimum of a 1/8" to 1/4" inch gap between exterior walls, pilings, posts, & retaining walls or any solid fixed structure when installing all decking. This is to accommodate any potential movement of main structures (walls, pilings, posts etc....) not the deck board.
- WearDeck's unsurpassed strength & stability adds significantly to the structural stability of any deck or dock structure, when properly applied.
- WearDeck has a directional grain pattern, which for appearance purposes ONLY is best applied with the 5 grain peaks on board face running in the same direction. Wood grain pattern repeats every 37 ½ inches.

## **FASTENING & WORKABILITY**

There are multiple fastening options in the market today that work effectively with WearDeck. Composite deck screws designed to capture surface material will provide the best appearance. Using screws not designed for composite deck boards will not provide best or proper appearance at board surface. Below are just some of the acceptable fasteners & standards:

1. Starborn Deckmate, TrapEase by Fasten Master, Tiger Claw, etc...
2. CAMO - excellent for concealed fastening applications. As with use on any decking application, concealed fastening methods do not provide as strong of an application as will face fastening.
3. When face fastening a 5/4" board, use at a minimum, a #9 x 2 1/2" exterior rated composite type screw.
4. When face fastening a 2" board, use at a minimum, a #10 x 2 3/4" exterior rated composite type screw.
6. Predrilling is NOT GENERALLY REQUIRED, however in the extreme cold of winter, testing to determine best method of application is recommended.
7. WearDeck can be installed with standard tools used for installing any wood deck or dock.
8. A **MINIMUM** of 2 fasteners should be placed from 1/2 to 1 inch from ends & edges of decking at a minimum of every 24 inches or every joist for proper standard decking applications. Your particular application may require a more fasteners based on needs of your structure. Applications for other than standard decking use, example 2x8s or 2x10s, may require special bolts or screws based on your particular application or structures needs.
9. 1/2" x 6" or 1/2" x 10" Fascia is designed for use as trim over a completely solid, level board-to-board, surface. WearDeck Fascia is not designed to be used as decking, decking cap or any walkable wear surface or to span any distance without solid level board-to-board support.

When used properly, as designed for fascia or trim purposes, should be installed as indicated below:

- A. 1/2" x 6" should be fastened with a minimum of 2 screws every 12 inches starting at 1" from ends and edges of each board, allowing 1/16<sup>th</sup> inch gap between ends / butt joints of each board, screw should be at least a #8 x 1 5/8" long. Example of cap capture screw would be; Deckmate #8 x 1 5/8" T20 star drive composite
- B. 1/2" x 10" should be fastened with a minimum of 3 screws every 12 inches applied vertically starting at 1" from ends and edges of each board, allowing 1/16<sup>th</sup> inch gap between ends of each board, screw should be at least a #8 x 1 5/8 inches long. Example of cap capture screw would be; Deckmate #8 x 1 5/8" T20 star drive composite.
- C. Screws can be composite deck type screw with cap capture threads or standard style threads, cap capture style screws provide the best appearance.

\*\*\* MINIMUM requirements stated above but **Fastening & fastener decisions are entirely the responsibility of the homeowner, builder or contractor.**

## **DECK SPACING GUIDELINES**

WearDeck provides the most stable composite decking board on the market today. Because of our strenuous manufacturing standards, WearDeck outperforms any known product in the industry today, particularly in terms of thermal expansion and contraction tolerance during the extreme heat of summer or the extreme cold of winter.

**Thermal Expansion = 1/32" in the length of a 20' 5/4 x 6" or 2 x 6" deck board**

**This allows for generally unheard of spacing requirements:**

- End to end spacing minimum of 1/16 inch.

- Side to side spacing minimum of 1/16 inch. \*

\*General building practices call for wider side to side spacing to allow for proper drainage, debris removal and/or air circulation, PLEASE consider these factors when installing any decking material. WearDeck is rated for ground contact and can be installed underwater.

### **FACE FASTENING GUIDELINES**

Even with WearDeck's superior characteristics we recommend using the most commonly accepted fastening methods. Use of a quality composite decking style screw is recommended for best performance and appearance.

1. Straight at 90° to deck board.
2. When face fastening place screws NO closer than ½ inch from the end and ½ inch from the side from side edge of deck board, using 2 screws at each joist connection. Builders most often find that installing screws approximately 1" from end and edges of boards provides a better look and overall optimal application.
3. A **MINIMUM** of 2 fasteners should be placed from ½ to 1 inch from ends & edges of decking at a minimum of every 24 inches or every joist for proper standard decking applications. Your particular application may require a more fasteners based on needs of your structure. Applications for other than standard decking use, example 2x8s or 2x10s, may require special bolts or screws based on your particular structures needs.
4. MINIMUM requirements are stated but ALL **Fastening & fastener decisions are the responsibility of the homeowner, builder or contractor.**

### **CLEANING**

Generally keeping the decking surface rinsed to remove excess dirt and debris will keep surface in excellent condition. However periodic cleaning is recommended for best overall appearance.

1. Prompt cleaning of any stain is always the best. Using a good household cleaner and a natural bristle brush will most often produce acceptable results.
2. However, if dirt is allowed to build up on the surface for a prolonged time tougher buildup may occur which could require extra effort to remove.
3. WearDeck has NO organic compounds so WearDeck will not support mildew or mold growth but if allowed to become and stay dirty the dirt, soil, debris will grow mold or mildew, requiring extra effort to clean. Again, standard cleaning practices will keep your WearDeck beautiful for years.
4. Cleaning solutions such as; DAWN dishwashing solution, 409, Simple Green, Fantastik, etc. should work well for general cleaning needs.
5. IF there is a grill on the deck, a non-rubber backed mat is recommended to protect against grease drops. If grease stains or any stain occurs they should be cleaned as soon as possible. The longer they remain the harder they are to remove from any surface / any product. DAWN dishwashing solution generally does an excellent job removing most grease stains.
6. Pressure Washing is **NOT RECOMMENDED.** However, if pressure washer is used always keep spray tip from 12 to 18 inches away from deck material with a wide fan spray setting at medium pressure. **NEVER** use a fine point spray setting when cleaning any plastic, composite or wood decking material, as fine point spray on a pressure washer can and will most often damage any decking material regardless of type.

### **RE-DECKING AN OLD DECK / DOCK**

**IMPORTANT:** When re-decking an old deck or dock after removal of old surface material it is necessary that the remaining structure be properly inspected, re-nailed and/or re-screwed. Boards should be replaced where necessary before new decking can be installed on what then should be a secure deck structure that is **very importantly, level board to board.** **This is the responsibility of the homeowner, builder or contractor.**