

ScenicLiving

By

BMARCHITECTURAL

INSTALLATION GUIDANCE

ScenicLiving® Signature

Composite Decking



Important Notes

The diagrams and instructions outlined in this guide are for illustrative purposes only.

Safety

Please take safety precautions before and while installing this decking; check that any equipment is working correctly; and wear protective safety gear such as gloves, goggles and impact resistant shoes.

Typical Equipment Required

Personal Protection Equipment

Carpentry Tools – Square, Spacing Tool, Tape Measure, Pencil, Spirit Level, String

Power Drill / Screw Driver

Jigsaw / Circular / Mitre Saw

Expansion and Contraction

Composite boards will expand and contract with changes in temperature. Expansion and contraction are most significant where extreme temperature changes occur. Boards should be fixed with gaps to allow for this movement. See page 4 for more information.

Colour Variations and Stabilisation

Orders purchased at different times may display noticeable shade differences. There might be slight colour differences within a single batch, and between boards and trims. Lay out all boards and trims before installation to distribute natural colour variations across the decking area.

Please note, all composite materials, including these premium capped decking boards, will undergo initial colour stabilisation during the first few months they are installed and then no further colour changes will take place.

Handling and Storage

- Keep materials stored in a sheltered area and protected from the elements until installation begins
- Ensure materials remain dry and clean by covering them appropriately. Avoid storing products outdoors or using plastic sheeting for cover
- Decking boards must be stacked directly on top of each other. They should be supported off the floor by battens positioned at no more than 500mm apart
- If multiple pallets are delivered, do not stack more than 3 metres high
- We recommend boards are a two-person lift and protective gloves are worn
- Do not drag or slide boards across one another to avoid accidental damage
- BM Architectural is not liable for any damage caused by improper storage or handling

System Components

Coloured items shown in Monterey Beige.



Dual-Sided Decking Board



Dual-sided Bullnose Board



Dual-Sided Fascia Board



Angle Trim



Decking T-Clip (and screw)



Locking Clip



Starter/End Clip



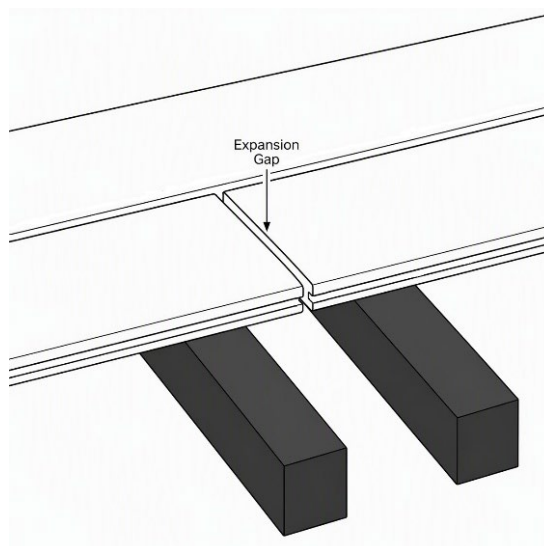
Colour-coded Screws

Thermal Expansion

- Composite Decking expands and contracts naturally with changes in temperature. To accommodate this movement, it is essential to leave adequate space between boards
- Our T-Clip system allows adequate spacing between adjacent boards. It is advised that a similar gap is maintained where boards are butted end-to-end.
- Installers should take into account the temperature when installation takes place. See guidance table below.

Installation Temperature	Expansion Gap
Less than 5°C	7mm
5-15°C	5mm
More than 15°C	3mm

- Installation is not recommended in extreme hot or cold conditions



Always add an expansion gap at butt ends

Pre-Installation Planning

Consider size, shape and orientation of the finished deck, any fixed elements in this area, and the laying pattern of the boards as this dictates the position of the joists and butt joints (if necessary).

Boards should be laid perpendicular to the subframe and, where butt joints are required, double joists should be positioned 20mm apart to provide adequate support for each board end. The ends of all decking boards should be supported around the deck boundary, with overhangs of no more than 15mm.

Typically, the laying of a deck commences with a row of Starter Clips, visible from the side of the first board, and finishes by face-fixing the last board with colour-coded countersunk screws. A Bullnose Board, face-fixed with colour-coded countersunk screws, can also be used at the start or end of a run, or on the outside edge of a step.

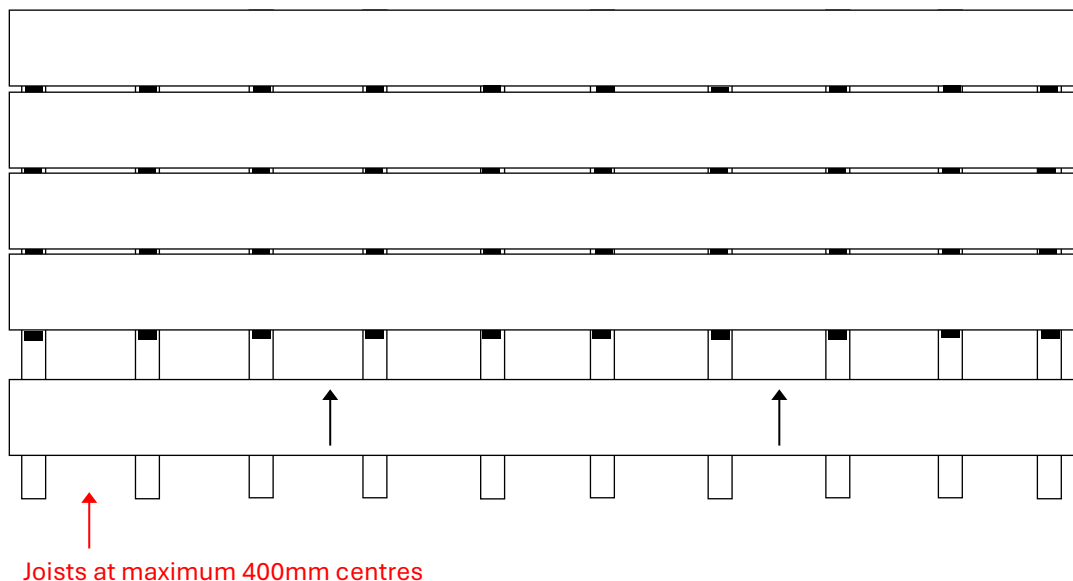
Starter Clips and subframes can be hidden with an Angle Trim or Fascia Board, face-fixed with colour-coded countersunk screws.

Installers should bear this information in mind when deciding where to start and end board runs, and finishing details.

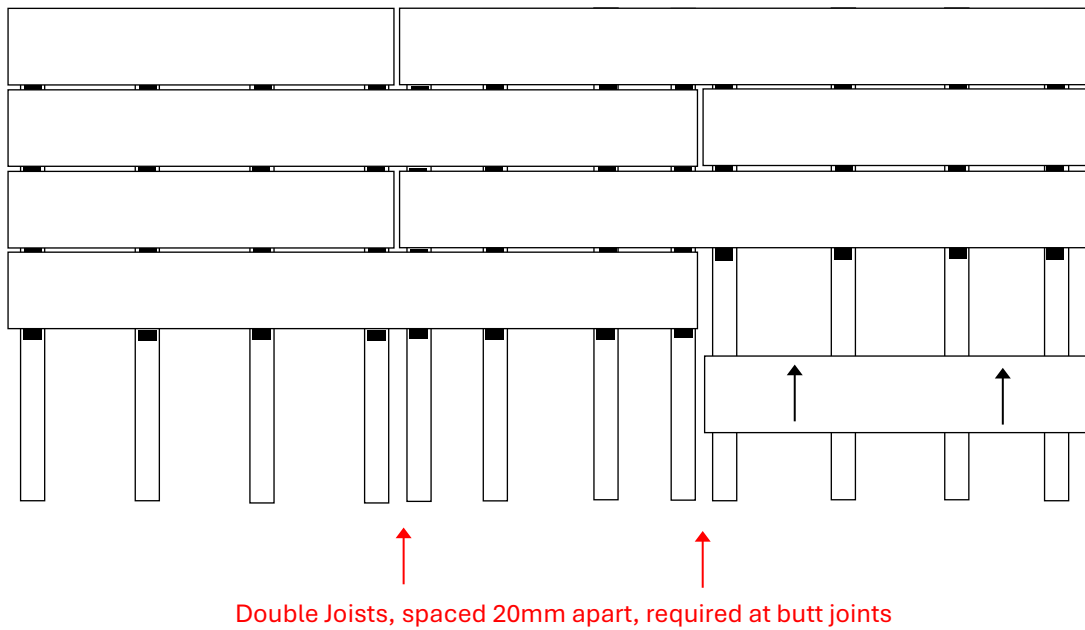
Always pre-drill composite items when face fixing and use colour-coded, countersunk screws for the best finish.

Guidance is given in this document for a standard decking board and trim installation. Further consideration may be required for more complex installations e.g. stepped access, avoiding fixed elements like drains, diagonal laying patterns etc.

Recommended Joist Layout for Straight Board Runs



Recommended Joist Layout for Staggered Board Patterns or Decks over 3600mm



Deck area should be cleared of vegetation and levelled. Laying a weed control matting is recommended once the support posts are installed.

Colour Variations and Stabilisation

Orders purchased at different times may display noticeable shade differences. There might be slight colour differences within a single batch, and between boards and trims.

Lay out all boards and trims before installation to distribute natural colour variations across the decking area.

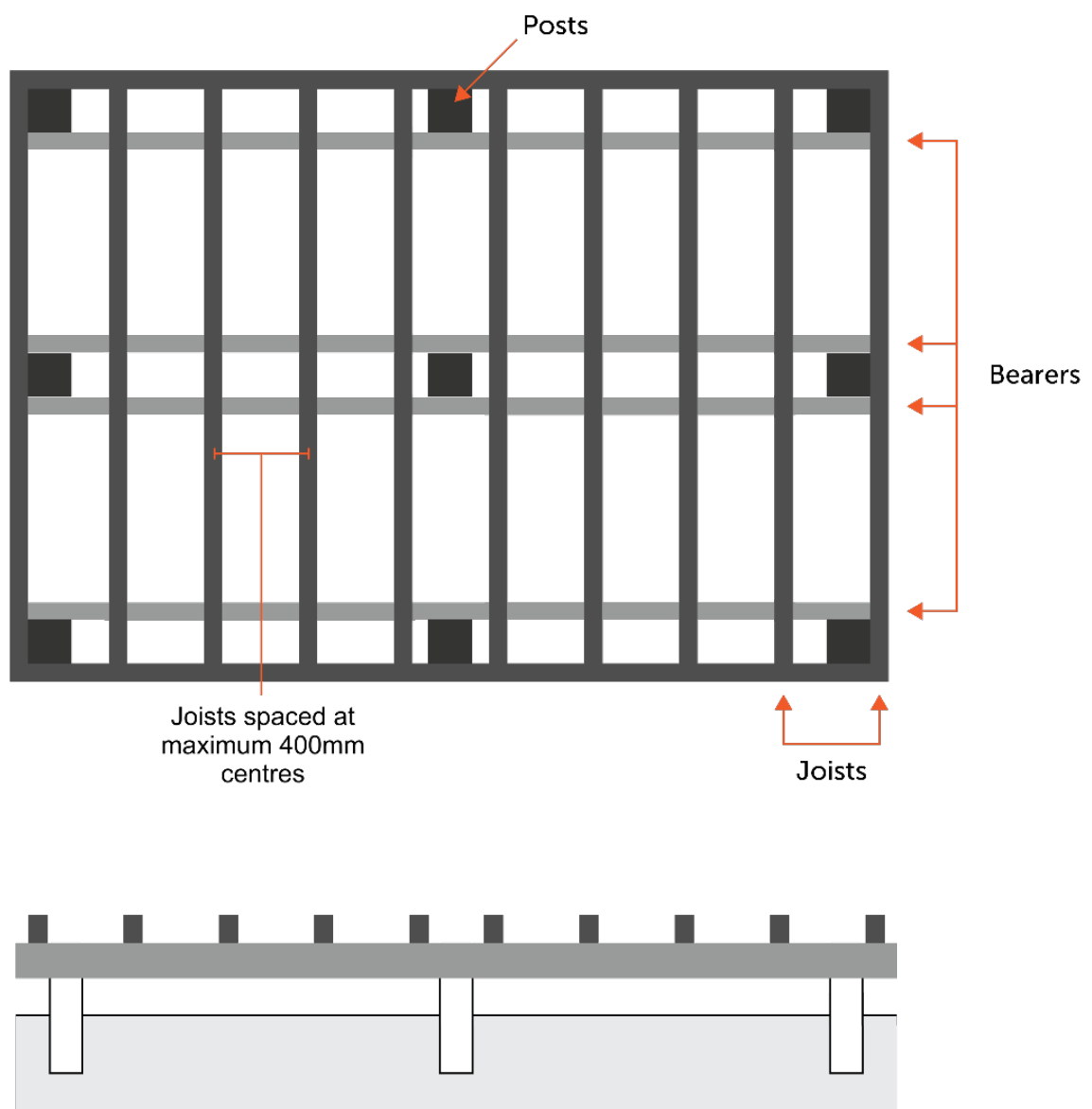
Please note, all composite materials, including these premium capped decking boards, will undergo initial colour stabilisation during the first few months they are installed.

Subframe

Decking should be installed directly onto either plastic, timber or metal joists positioned at no more than 400mm centres. Subframes typically comprise posts, cross-bearers, noggins and joists, or pedestals and joists. A typical joist specification is 50mm wide by 100mm deep.

BM Architectural supplies recycled plastic joists, posts and pedestals, aluminium joists, and steel pedestals. Contact us for details.

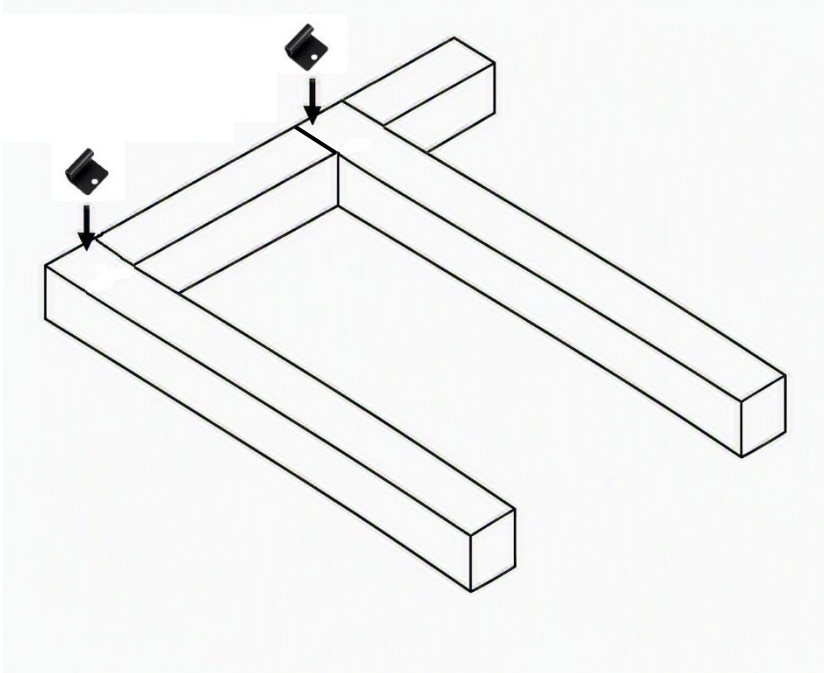
Decks should be built with a slight gradient (c. 1 in 40) away from adjoining structures, and boards laid in this direction to help water to drain naturally. Decking tape is recommended when installing composite decking onto timber joists to help extend the life of the structure.



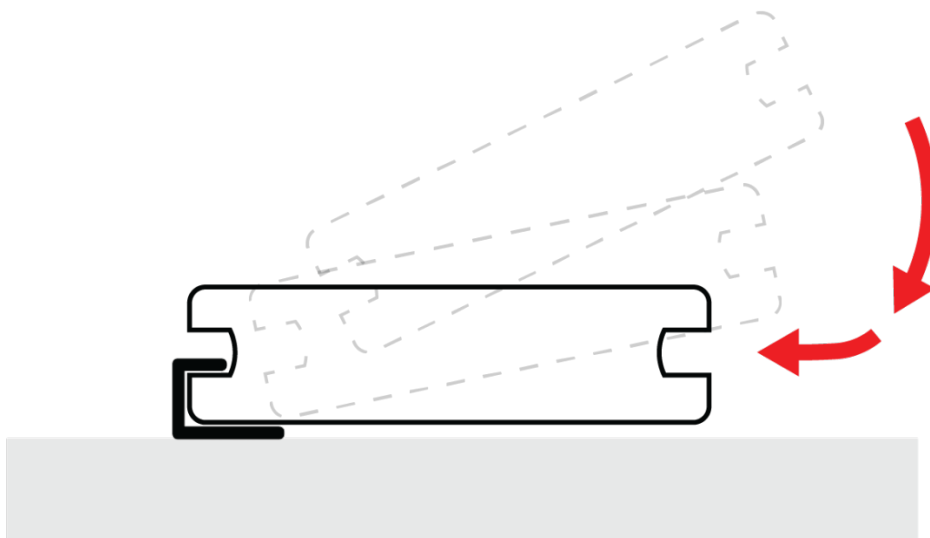
Once the subframe is fixed firmly in place, the decking can be installed.

1. Installing the First Board

Starting at an outside edge of the decking boundary, install Starter Clips to each joist.



Once the line of Starter Clips are secured, insert your first decking board into the clips using the board's side groove. Ensure the board is fully installed before proceeding.



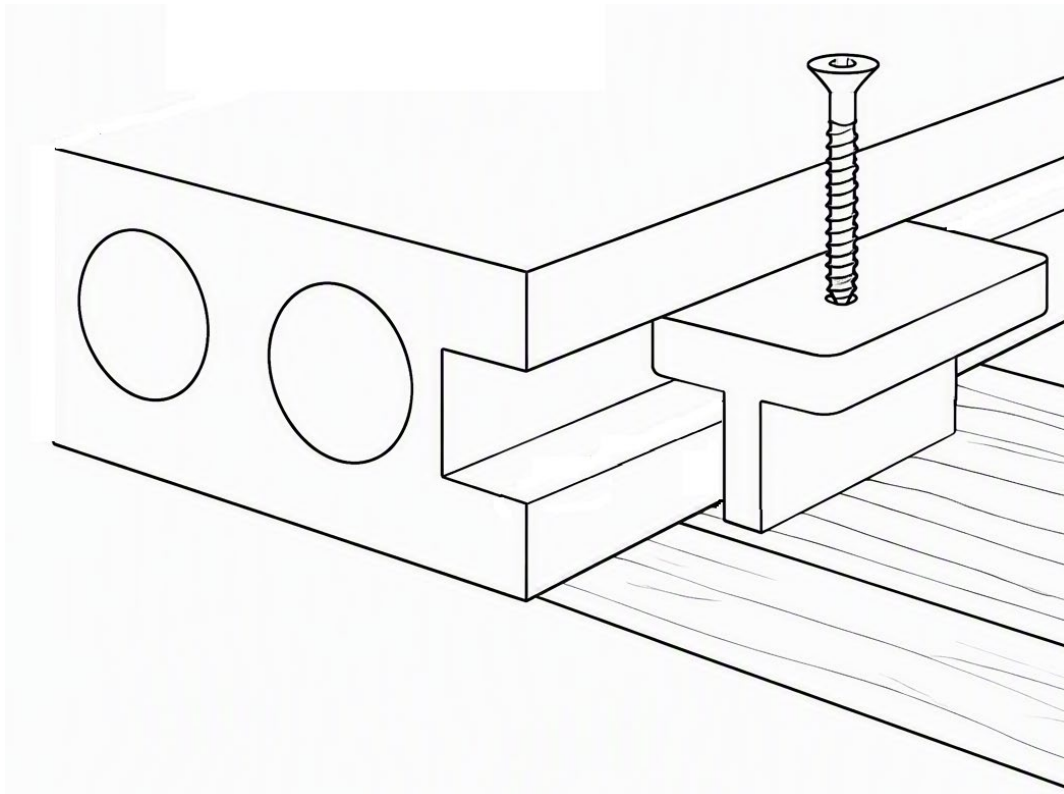
2. Installing T-Clips and Locking Clips

T-Clips are used to fix the inside edge of the first board and all subsequent boards.

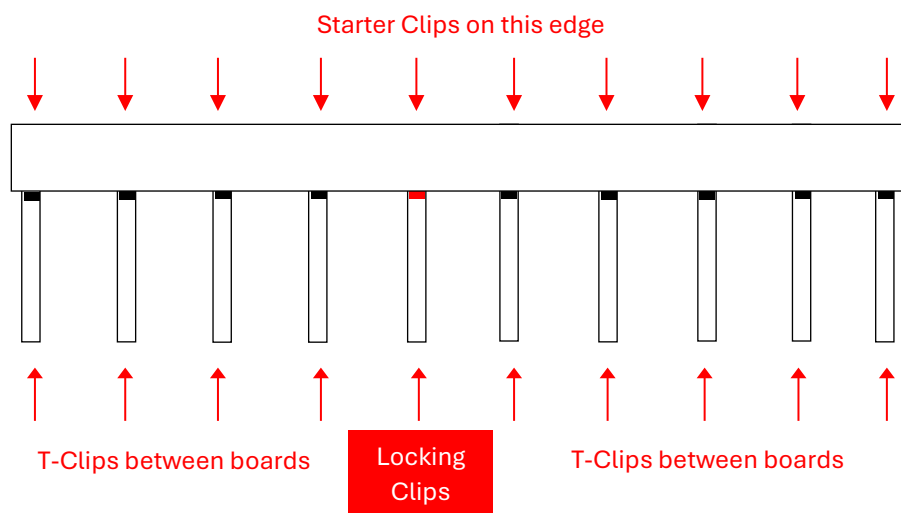
Insert a T-Clip into the side groove of the unfixed edge of the first board and part screw into the joist. Do not fully tighten at this time.

Repeat for the full length of the first board, with one T-Clip per joist, except at a central joist where a Locking Clip should be used instead.

The Locking Clip features serrated teeth on one edge which locks the board in place. This will allow for even expansion and contraction along the board.

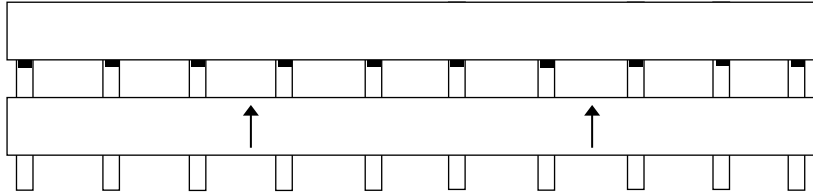


T-Clip installation

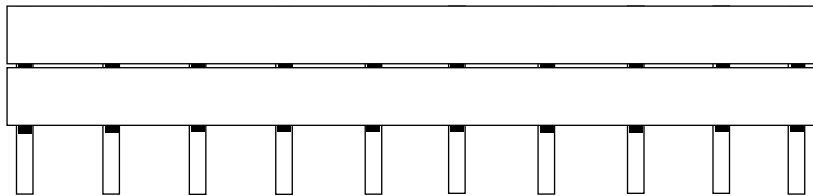


3. Installing Second/Subsequent Boards

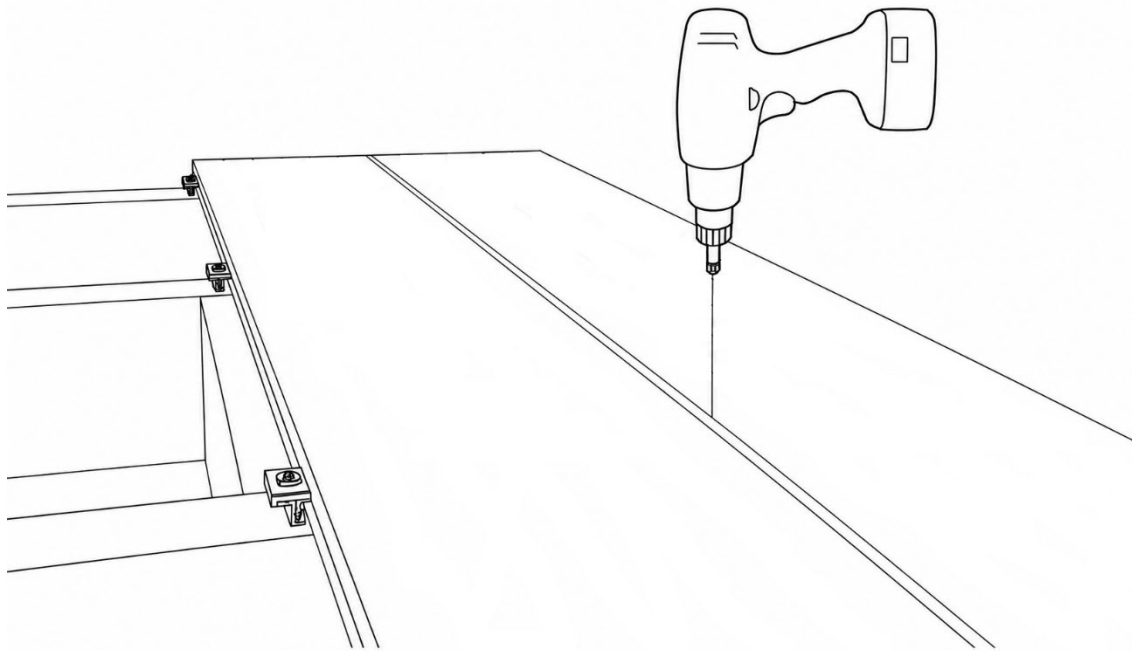
Insert the next board into the installed T-Clips and Locking Clip.



Then install the next row of T-clips and central Locking Clip on the other side of the board, but do not fully tighten.



Once this board is in position, the previous line of T-Clips and Locking Clip should be fully tightened through the gap between the boards, taking care to use a driver of a suitable width to avoid board damage.



Repeat step 3 above for the remaining deck area.

4. Installing the Last Board

Method 1

The easiest and most popular method of fixing the last board in a run is with colour-coded countersunk screws located through the top of the board and into the joists, typically 400mm centres.

Always pre-drill composite items when face fixing and use colour-coded, countersunk screws for the best finish.

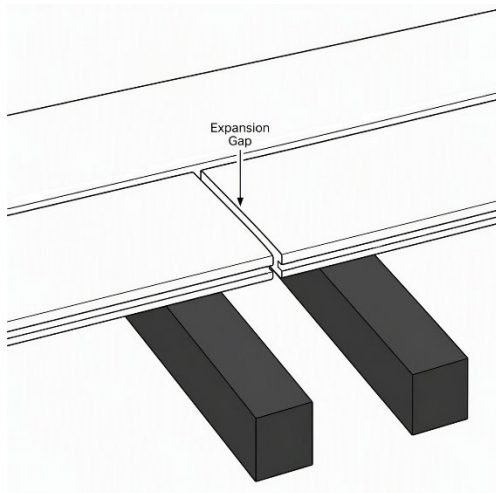
Method 2

Where face-fixing is undesirable. Some installers prefer to leave out the penultimate board and install the last board with a row of Starter Clips in the same way as the first board and, having first measured the exact position of these clips based on all boards being installed equally spaced. The penultimate board is then positioned in place in the remaining gap, with the right number of T-Clips and a Locking Clip being passed along the side grooves of the adjacent boards and fixed in place.

Butt Ends

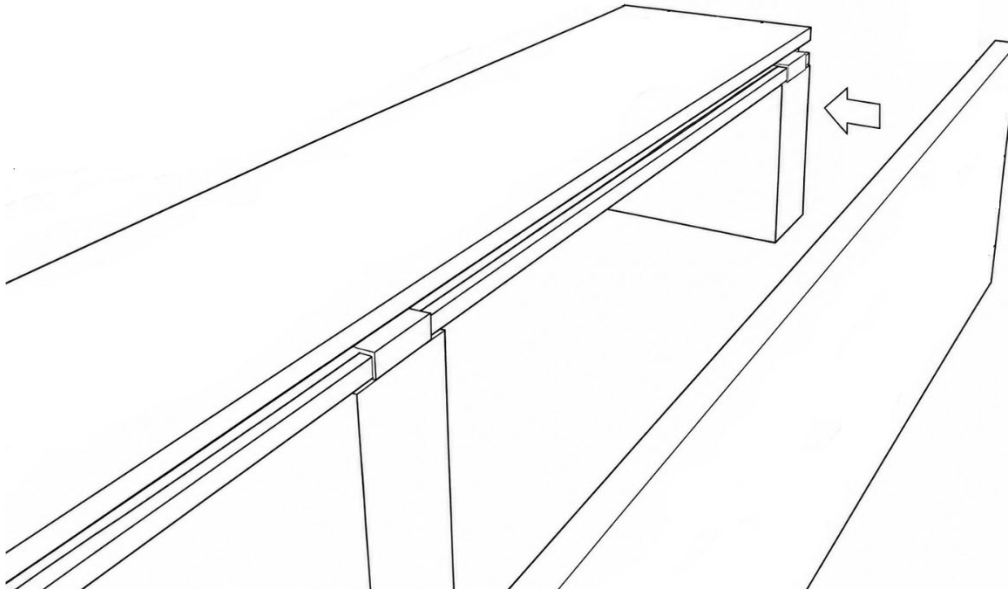
If the deck size or chosen laying pattern requires boards to be positioned end-to-end, these locations should be planned in advance and use a double joist, positioned 20mm apart.

A gap should be left between the boards to allow for expansion and contraction. See guidance table on page 4.



Installing a Fascia Board

Fascia Boards are face-fixed into the joist ends with color-coded countersunk screws to hide the subframe and provide a smart, clean edge. We recommend two screws per joist. Always pre-drill composite items when face fixing and counter sink screws for the best finish.



Installing a Bullnose Board

When using a Bullnose Board, we recommend installing it before adjacent boards. It could be installed as the first board at the start of a run. This will ensure that any modification of board width is accomplished with a standard deck boards rather than the Bullnose Board. These boards are ideal for the outside edge of steps.

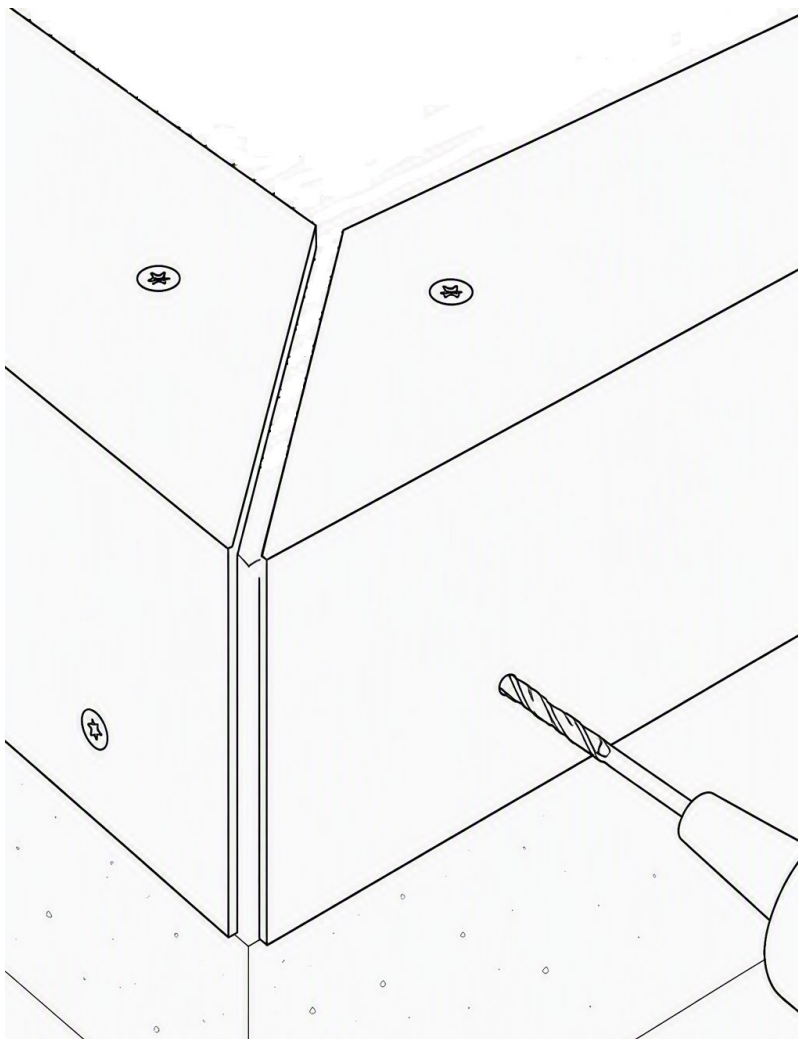
Bullnose Boards are installed with T-Clips at the inner edge and colour-coded screws at the outer edge, fixed into the joists. Always pre-drill composite items when face fixing and use colour-coded, countersunk screws for the best finish.

Installing an Angle Trim

Angle Trims or corner trims are an L-shaped composite profile that provides a capping to protect and conceal board ends and edges. They can be used with Fascia Boards and are fixed with colour-coded countersunk screws.

Always pre-drill composite items when face fixing and use colour-coded, countersunk screws for the best finish.

An appropriate expansion gap should be left if installing with either butt or mitred ends.



Maintenance Guide

By following the guidelines below, ScenicLiving composite decking from BM Architectural will maintain its durability and appearance for years to come.

Cleaning & Spill Management

- Keep expansion gaps clear to ensure drainage and movement.
- Immediately clean any spills, including liquids or sauces, to prevent staining.
- For general routine cleaning, use a broom and warm soapy water.
- For deeper cleaning, a pressure washer can be used, not exceeding 6 bar, keeping a safe distance to prevent damage.

Water & Drainage

- Standing water should not remain on the deck. Persistent puddles indicate improper installation and should be corrected.
- Regularly inspect the substructure to ensure free drainage. Trapped water can cause decay of the base and installed components.

Fungal Growth Prevention & Treatment

- Fungal growth can occur in shaded or consistently damp areas if:
 - Organic debris or food residues accumulate
 - Shade from trees, furniture, or buildings limits sunlight
 - Surface moisture remains for prolonged periods
- Ensure mould is removed often by regular cleaning
- Fungicidal treatment supplements can be used but not to replace regular cleaning
- Avoid high-pressure washing to remove fungal growth, as it may drive spores deeper into the decking