Q-DECK® RECYCLED COMPOSITE DECKING

ISSUE 1 MAY 2010

INSTALLATION GUIDE

Contents

INTRODUCTION	2
KEY FEATURES	2
ENVIRONMENTAL CREDENTIALS	2
SAFETY FIRST	2
FITTING OVERVIEW	3
FITTING GUIDE (TO TIMBER SUBFRAME)	4-7
COLOUR SWATCH INFORMATION	8
CLEANING OVERVIEW	9
CHEMICAL RESISTANCE	9
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION	10
WARRANTY	10

INSTALLATION GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

Q DECK R™ QUALITY RECYCLED COMPOSITE DECKING

A hollow core composite decking system, **Q-Deck® R Recycled Composite Decking™** is made from rigid PVC which can be up to 95% recycled. This is not to be confused with post consumer waste such as packaging, but off cuts which have been recycled from manufacturers of window frames, for example. The top of the profile has been capped with a wood polymer composite PVC, specifically designed for long term outdoor weathering. This process is known as co-extrusion, and is considered by many to be the pinnacle in extrusion technology, due to its strength and impact resistance.

Q-Deck® R is also very easy to maintain as it is impervious and therefore requires only the occasional wash down with soapy water to keep its appearance.

By combining wood and PVC, **Q-Deck® R** keeps the traditional timber decking values and reduces the need for maintenance.

KEY FEATURES

- Great long-term outdoor performance, 25 year warranty.
- Impervious and thus:
  Low maintenance and easy to clean, minimising the chance of slipping.
  It does not warp, split or splinter removing the need for chemical based treatments.
  Resistant to insect and fungal attack.
- Made from Class 1 fire rated materials.

ENVIRONMENTAL CREDENTIALS

PVC is a well researched and versatile material which is 100% recyclable. Up to 95% material used in **Q-Deck® R** is made from recycled PVC.

The softwood wood fibre in **Q-Deck® R** is from European waste production.

SAFETY FIRST

- ✓ When handling and processing **Q-Deck® R Recycled Composite Decking™** always wear gloves and eye protection and work in a well ventilated area.
- ✓ Wash hands thoroughly after handling **Q-Deck® R Recycled Composite Decking™** and especially before eating or smoking.
- ✓ If you are a regular user of **Q-Deck® R Recycled Composite Decking™**, 'off cut' bags can be supplied by the manufacturer for collection and recycling.
- ✓ Wear goggles when pressure washing or scrubbing with chemical cleaners or restorers.
- ✓ Keep children away from the work area until the job has been completed and tools have been stored safely.
- ✓ The cutting, planing and sanding of **Q-Deck® R Recycled Composite Decking™** may produce large quantities of dust and create a lot of noise so we we strongly recommend that personnel carrying out these tasks wear suitable Personal Protective Equipment including gloves, eye protection, particulate dust mask and ear defenders.

INSTALLATION GUIDE

FITTING OVERVIEW

Q-Deck® R can be fitted to a standard timber deck sub-frame. It is designed to be used in simple patterns i.e. at right angles to the joists.

Note: The maximum distance between joist centres is 500mm for most applications.

The **Q-Deck® R** deck clip ensures a 5mm gap between boards. It is advisable to maintain this expansion gap between joints, around newels, between board and fascia and between boards that are butted end to end.

Q-Deck® R unlike wood, expands and contracts along its length, so in certain applications a greater expansion gap may be required, ie. allow a 10mm gap when fitting boards length ways on/perpendicular to a solid structure (eg. wall).

As a general rule, for decks that are fitted in the UK there is the potential for **Q-Deck® R** decking to expand by up to 2mm per linear metre. Therefore using short lengths of the material minimises the shrinkage and expansion effects whereas fitting long lengths end to end for large deck areas maximises the effects.

The change in dimension of the material is related to a change in temperature and is known as thermal expansion, unlike timber decking which expands from moisture. Therefore, maximum expansion will occur in the hot summer months (when the product achieves its highest temperature) having been fitted during a period of cold dry weather in the winter.

In summary **Q-Deck® R** constantly changes in size as the UK weather changes and as long as the product is properly installed to allow for some thermal expansion the physical affects of shrinkage and swelling should go unnoticed.

For information on timber sub-frame construction please refer to the **Q-Deck®** 'Planning & Design' and 'Installation' documents, available at **www.qualitydecking.co.uk** or call **0800 849 6339.**

INSTALLATION GUIDE

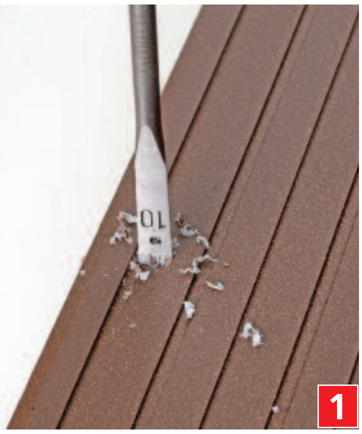
FITTING GUIDE (TO TIMBER SUB-FRAME)

LAYING THE FIRST BOARD

There are two ways to start and three ways to finish a **Q-Deck® R Recycled Composite Deck** and this depends firstly on accessibility and then on the desired finish/look.

For boards laid parallel to a wall i.e. no access to the edge of the board next to the wall, there are two ways of fitting your first board. At this stage you need to consider how you want the finished edges to look. If you want a look detailed in points 11-16 then allow for the first board to overhang the outer joist(s) by at least 55mm but ideally no more than 70mm. Ensure the board is parallel to the wall and temporarily clamp in place.

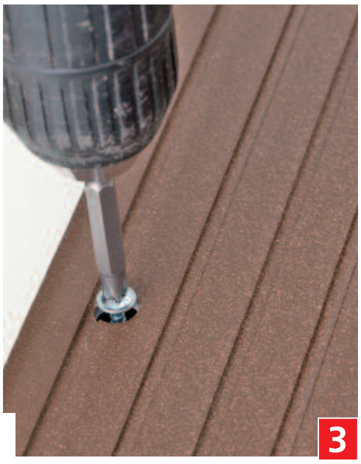
One option is to...


1

Pre-drill a 10mm access hole through just the upper surface of the board every 500mm (take care to position the hole at a centre line no greater than 20mm from the edge of the board next to the wall).


2

Then, via the 10mm hole, pre-drill an oversized pilot hole through the lower surface of the board.


3

Secure the board in place using **Q-Deck® R** stainless steel pan headed screws taking care not to over tighten them as they pinch the lower surface of the board to the joist below.

4

To finish this edge you need to cover the 10mm access holes using **Q-Deck® R** fascia U channel. However this fascia U channel will need adapting to a right angle profile by removing one of its sides.

This is done by scoring the inside corner of the channel with a sharp knife and literally snapping it off to leave a clean edge (see 4).


5

continued over...

INSTALLATION GUIDE

Alternatively...

if you have access to the edge of the first board another option is to obliquely screw (using **Q-Deck® R** stainless steel pan headed screws) through the edge of the board into the joist below at 500mm centres along its length, as detailed in diagram 6.

Note: that pre-drilling oversized pilot holes is required.

To finish this edge you need to cover the edge of the board using adapted **Q-Deck® R** fascia U channel (as detailed in points 4 and 5).

Using the **Q-Deck® R** deck fixing clips at every joist junction, fix the first board on the opposite edge ensuring lateral pressure is applied (the use of a rubber headed mallet is ideal) to the board and bracket for a tight fit. Suitable screws are 5 x 40 Pozi stainless steel chipboard screws.

Repeat the process for the subsequent boards ensuring they are tight to the fixing brackets.

If butting boards end to end the brackets can be secured as shown.

Because the majority of joists are a pale green colour it is also wise to stain any exposed joists with a suitably matched widely available brown fencing type stain.

Laying the last board

Like starting, there are several ways to finish a **Q-Deck® R** deck and this depends firstly on accessibility and the desired finish/look.

For a final board laid parallel to a wall i.e. no access to the edge of the board next to a wall, you can fit it as described previously in points 1-5.

Alternatively If you have access to the edge of the final board then you can finish a **Q-Deck® R** deck in one of two ways. Firstly you can finish the final board flush with the edge of the outer joist and fix by obliquely screwing through the edge of the board into the joist as detailed in point 6.

The second option as detailed previously allows for the board to overhang the edge of the final joist creating a stylish finish. To achieve this finish the final board must overhang the edge of the final joist by at least 55mm but ideally no more than 70mm. Instructions continue at image 11.

continued over...

INSTALLATION GUIDE


10

Whichever method you use it maybe necessary to rip the final board down its length to a specific width – see image 10 and associated diagram below for details.

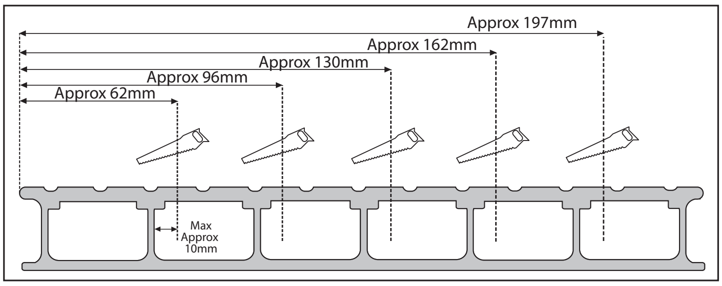


Diagram shows preferred position of rip cuts.


11

Temporarily fit the final board into the last deck clip and mark a line on the underneath of the board along the joist edge.


12

Extract the board and fix propriety right angled metal brackets (as shown) to the marked line at 500mm centres as detailed here.
Note: pre-drilling pilot holes is required.

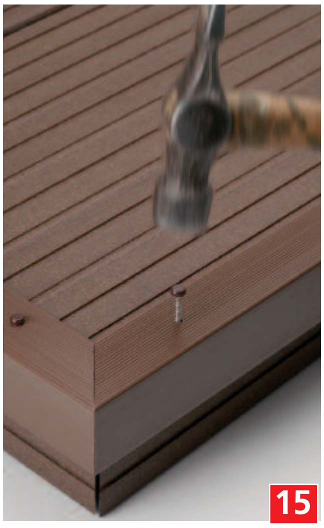

13

Re-fit the board and secure by screwing the other side of the right angled bracket to the side of the joist.


14

Because the decking over sails the outer joist it is also possible to create a fascia using more **Q-Deck® R** board cut to a desired width as shown in diagram 14. Secure the fascia boards to the outer joist using **Q-Deck® R** stainless steel pan head screws.
Note: pre-drilling oversized pilot holes through the board is required.

INSTALLATION GUIDE



15

When using **Q-Deck® R** U fascia channel to finish the edges of your deck you should firstly cut it to length. Temporarily fit to check it fits its desired position, remove from the edge of the deckboard and then pre-drill oversized pilot holes (2.0mm) through it. Refit to the edge of the deck and secure using **Q-Deck® R** poly pins as detailed in diagram 15.

16

INSTALLATION GUIDE

COLOUR SWATCH INFORMATION

30 x 236 x 3600/4800mm.
Q-Deck® R Vanilla Lite.
HD & Lite to order only

Please note: Colour samples are reproductions only and can deviate from the actual products, new or aged in situation.

If uncertain please request a sample as we cannot be held responsible for incorrect colour choice/specification.

30 x 236 x 3600 *to order/* 4800mm *ex stock*. Q-Deck® R Cappuccino Lite. *HD to order.*

30 x 236 x 3600 *to order/* 4800mm *ex stock*. Q-Deck® R Chocolate Lite. *HD to order.*

INSTALLATION GUIDE

CLEANING OVERVIEW

After completing your deck **Q-Deck® R** recycled composite deck it is advisable to give it a quick wash down with soapy water. This will help remove manufacturing dust that is often still present at this stage. It is always best to remove any dirt or marks as soon as possible, using water, mild cleaner and a sponge. In most cases your deck can be cleaned with a pressure washer combined with, if necessary, a mild cleaning detergent. We recommend that for food marks (such as ketchup, wine, soup, fruit juice, cola, coffee) the area is scrubbed immediately as these products may contain dies which potentially could leave a mark on the surface.

CHEMICAL RESISTANCE

Q-Deck® R Recycled Composite Deck material has been extensively tested on a large number of products that it may come into contact with during/post installation.

- Is resistant to: This product leaves no permanent mark on the material or the stain disappears in a short space of time after outside exposure.
- Is not resistant to: This product leaves marks on the material that remain clearly visible

Resistant to	Not resistant to
Floor soap + water	Acrylic paint
Weed killer	Synthetic paint
Window cleaner	Shoe polish
White spirit	Permanent marker
chlorinated water used in swimming pools	PVC glue
Coffee	Strong acids
Fruit juice	Strong bases
Coca cola	Acetone
Drinking chocolate	Tree sap
Chalk	
Butter	
Milk	
Sun cream	
Vinegar	
Red wine	
Ketchup	

INSTALLATION GUIDE

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Width	**236mm**	
Depth	**30mm**	
Density	**1500Kg/m^3**	
Weight	**2.77Kg/m**	
Impact strength @23°C	**65 J/m^2**	(ISO 180)
Rockwell hardness R Scale	**115 N/mm^2**	(ASTM)
Tensile Modulus 1% strain at 23°C	**2200 MN/m^2**	
Tensile Strength @ Yield	**37-42 MPa**	(BS2782 Method 320C)
Coefficient of Thermal Expansion (°C)	**$0.06x10^{-3}$**	
Heat Deflection Temperature (EEC Directive BS2782 - PPM °C)	**‹147**	(Method 81/432/CEE 121A)
Vicat softening point	**77-79 °C**	(BS EN ISO 306 Method B50)
Water absorption	**Impervious**	

Q DECK R™ QUALITY RECYCLED COMPOSITE DECKING

25 Year Warranty

For a period of twenty-five (25) years from the date of original purchase, Q-Deck® R products shall not split, splinter or suffer structural damage as a sole and direct consequence of termites, insects or soft rotting micro-fungi.

LIMITATIONS

For a period of ten (10) years from the date of original purchase, Q-Deck® R products shall not break. However this warranty explicitly excludes occurrences where the break occurs or may have occurred as a consequence of impact loads or poor design/construction methods. This warranty applies to the use of products in normal residential use.

Contact Hoppings Softwood Products on 01992 578877 if you require a warranty for a deck that is to be created in a commercial type situation.

WHAT'S NOT COVERED

This warranty does not provide protection against misuse, abuse, neglect or improper storage or handling. Hoppings cannot be held responsible for product failure due to improper installation or failure to abide by Hoppings fitting instructions. It also excludes the discolouration/staining of the products due to:

- Air borne pollutants, such as mould, algae, leaf litter and any deposits from plants and trees.
- Any other foreign substances that are not listed in this document.

The warranties are wholesaler/manufacturer to consumer/buyer warranties.
However the initial raising of a complaint should be directed to the authorised retailer from where the goods were purchased. The complaint should be made in writing/e-mail and must include proof of purchase ie. a copy or scan of the original invoice.