

A photograph of a modern outdoor deck. The deck is made of light-colored wood planks. In the center, there is a hot tub. To the right, there is a glass-topped table with wicker chairs. A silver bucket with green bottles is on the table. The deck is surrounded by a wooden railing. In the background, there are mountains and a valley under a cloudy sky. A white outline of a house is superimposed on the sky.

# Decking Installation Guide



ARBOR  
WOOD<sub>CO</sub>

THERMALLY MODIFIED WOOD

## **STORAGE & HANDLING**

Arbor Wood Co. products should be stored indoors when possible and/or remain covered with a waterproof tarp until ready for installation. Boards must be stacked uniformly and elevated off the ground. Exposure to UV can cause the boards to become lighter in tone. Always remember to handle with care. Arbor Wood has a lower moisture content and the expansion/contraction is much less than standard wood, but it is still a good practice to ensure the wood has properly acclimated to local site conditions. It is recommended to have Arbor Wood Co. Products on site for one week prior to installation to acclimatize to the moisture of the environment.

## **COLOR**

Thermal modification changes the naturally occurring sugars in the wood resulting in beautiful, rich tones which extend through the full thickness of the material. Since Arbor Wood is still a natural product and is subject to variations in weight, density, color, and grain. In an exterior environment, unfinished Arbor Wood products will move to gray. This does not impact the performance characteristics of the wood itself. The speed of this graying process depends on the intensity of exposure to environmental elements like the sun and rain combined with the type of application. To maintain the original color we recommend applying Cutek Extreme® along with a UV Colortone as Cutek Extreme® by itself is not UV resistant. A light sanding or application of Cutek Proclean will remove the surface silvering and restore the original wood tones. Product color and factory applied finishes are not covered under the product warranty.

## **FINISHING**

Pre-finishing all deck boards prior to assembly is the only way to ensure that all 4 sides are coated evenly. It is highly recommended to coat all wood decking with Cutek Extreme® along with a UV Colortone prior to installation on all 6 sides. This process helps the wood acclimate more slowly and minimizes surface checking and wood movement. Even if your goal is to allow the wood to naturally gray or silver out over time, finishing at this point will help protect the wood when it is most vulnerable.

## **GRAIN PATTERN, CHECKS, & HAIRLINE CRACKS**

As Arbor Wood is a natural wood product, there may be a variance in grain from board to board. It is also possible to observe some small surface checking and/or hairline cracks in the wood. These instances are a natural occurrence and are not a reason for a claim. Regular application of Cutek Extreme® can help minimize the occurrence of surface hairline cracks.

## **CARE & MAINTENANCE**

It is important to ensure the surface of your wood remains clean. Black surface stains can be caused by dirt, debris, pollen and other airborne and microscopic elements resting on the surface of the material. Certain environments provide exceptional growing conditions for mold and fungus, conditions that often fall within, but are not limited to shaded decks or siding. This does not impact the integrity of the wood but it does mean you should be clearing the surface of your deck more often and taking additional preventative care considering surrounding conditions. It is important to remember the same occurrence can happen on any surface, such as rocks, glass, PVC, and composite products. This staining is removable with light pressure washing and a renewing/cleaning agent.



## WARRANTY

Arbor Wood Co. products are covered under a limited 20-year Warranty. This Arbor Wood Co. warranty is made to the original purchaser of the Product(s) (the "Purchaser"); the original owner of the structure on which the Product(s) are installed; and to the next owner of that structure (together "Owner"). Arbor Wood Co. express warranties may not be assigned to any subsequent owners of the structure. Arbor Wood Co. warrants that the Product(s) will remain free from fungal degradation, buckling, structural failure, separating, and rupturing for a period of 20 years from the date the installation is completed. When the Product(s) have been stored, handled, applied, finished and maintained in accordance with Arbor Wood Co.'s installation, application, finishing and maintenance instructions in effect at the time of application. Color and applied finishes are not warranted. These warranties apply only to above-ground installations made in accordance with the instructions. Be sure to consult full product warranty for specific questions.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, INCLUDING FULL WARRANTY,  
HOW-TO VIDEOS & MORE, FOLLOW THE QR CODE BELOW**



# Arbor Wood Decking Installation Information

## DISCLAIMER

Consult your local building code to ensure your project is installed in accordance with local requirements and consult your local building office to understand permitting requirements. Drawings and schematics used to show where to place screws and nails are for reference purposes only. Safety glasses and a dust mask should always be worn when working with Arbor Wood. Drilling, sawing, sanding or machining wood products generates wood dust. Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a dust mask or other safeguards for personal protection. Arbor Wood Co. recommends end-sealing cut boards with a clear, water-resistant penetrating oil such as Cutek Extreme®.

**Warning:** Do not use a mallet or hammer to install Arbor Wood Co. siding products, doing so will void the warranty. Arbor Wood Co. siding is designed to have an expansion gap to allow the product to acclimate to the installation location.

## CALCULATING CLIP NEEDS

Decking installation using Deckwise Ipe Clip® Extreme® Fastener Systems requires 175 clips and screws for 100 square feet (or 1.75 Clips/Square Foot). Kits are sold in quantities of 100, 175, 525, and 1,050. For more on calculating your needs visit the Coverage Calculator from Deckwise through the QR code provided



## JOIST SPACING

Before installation ensure all deck joists are spaced evenly and level so that everything planes through appropriately. Consult your local building code for appropriate joist spacing. Arbor Wood Co. recommends 16" spacing on-center (middle of the joist to middle of the joist) for all decking products.

## FACE FASTENING

When using non-grooved deck boards in a face fastened installation it is important to pre-drill the face of the board before fastening with an outdoor rated deck screw (stainless steel is recommended).

## GROUND LEVEL & ROOFTOP DECKS

Arbor Wood Co. decking products should never be installed in contact with the ground or a rooftop surface. It is important to allow for regular airflow under the decking and to eliminate trapped moisture under the decking. A substructure frame must always be used when installing decking. Ensure a minimum of 4" of open area below decking surface for adequate ventilation. If skirting the deck, ensure there are areas or clearance for air to flow through.



# DeckWise® Ipe-Clip® KD Extreme® Installation

## STEP 1: INSTALLING THE FIRST DECK BOARD

Apply DeckWise® JoistTape™ or a bead of exterior adhesive to each joist approximately 3/8" in width. For adhesives, you may want to do this as you go so, that, it does not dry before completion if you have a larger area to install. While adhesive adds hold-down strength to the boards, it does not prevent wood rot. JoistTape™ prevents joist wood rot as well as seals around deck screws. Even though joists may seem even, changes in weather can cause board movement. Both JoistTape™ and/or adhesive will also help prevent squeaking from uneven joists in the future.

## STEP 2: DRILL A 1/8" PILOT HOLE

Use a 1/8" drill bit to pre-drill a pilot hole for the initial face-driven screws. Drill deep enough to penetrate the deck board and NOT the underlying joist material. (All Ipe Clip® Hidden Deck Fastener systems, 175 count and above, include a 1/8" High Speed Drill Bit. We suggest using the 3-in-1 DeckWise® Drill & Drive™ (not included in Ipe Clip® Fastener kits), which has a 1/8" drill bit, 3/8" countersink bit, and screw gun T15 tip that will help speed up this process).

## STEP 3: DRILL A 3/8" COUNTERSINK HOLE APPROXIMATELY 3/8" DEEP

Use a 3/8" countersink bit to bore a hole approximately 1/4" to 3/8" deep (depending on your deck board thickness) for each screw to be hidden by a hardwood plug. Be sure your countersink bit is sharp and leaves a clean edge.

## STEP 4: DRIVE A DECK SCREW THROUGH THE COUNTERSUNK HOLE

Next, securely drive a deck screw down into the countersunk hole into the joist below. (All Ipe Clip® fastener kits, 175 count and above, have extra stainless steel deck screws included in them for starter boards.) Wood plugs will next be installed into the holes to hide the deck screws and create a smooth, blemish free surface.

## STEP 5: PUT A DROP OF GLUE IN COUNTERSUNK HOLE

Place a dab of wood glue (Gorilla Glue® is suggested) into the countersink hole from the above steps. This will secure the wood plug from popping up in the future. Plus, it will act as a moisture barrier, sealing the countersunk hole and screw.

## STEP 6: INSERT WOOD PLUG IN COUNTERSUNK HOLE

Place a dab of wood glue (Gorilla Glue® is suggested) into the countersink hole from the above steps. This will secure the wood plug from popping up in the future. Plus, it will act as a moisture barrier, sealing the countersunk hole and screw.

## STEP 7: FLUSH CUT ANY PLUG MATERIAL

Once the plug is hammered in and the glue is dry, remove any excess plug material protruding above the surface of the deck board. You can accomplish this by using a flush cut pull saw, belt sander or an orbital sander with 80 grit sand paper.

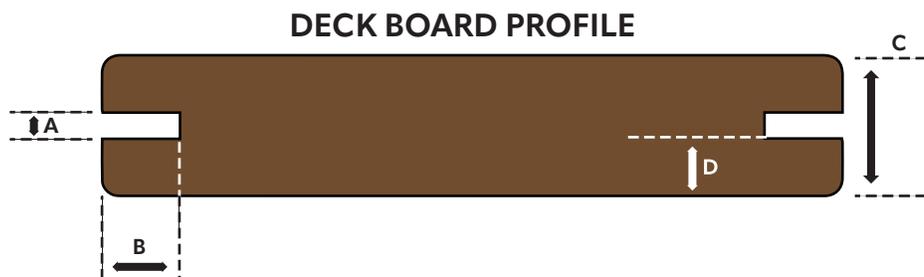
## STEP 8: SAND FOR HARDWOOD OIL FINISH

Sand smooth all areas where a plug was installed so that plug is flush with deck surface. A round, random orbit sander with 80-120 grit sand paper works best. When sanding is finished, we suggest using Cutek Extreme® for a beautiful natural wood color on your entire deck.

## STEP 9: CUT SLOTS FOR IPE-CLIP® FASTENERS

NOTE: Pre-grooved decking is available from Arbor Wood Co. If you are using pre-grooved decking, skip this step and proceed to step 10.

Use a biscuit jointer or a router (with a 5/32" X 1/2" slot cutting bit) to cut a slot in the edge of deck board above each joist. You will want to center this groove in the board so there is a symmetrical profile for best results using the Ipe Clip® Hidden Deck Fasteners by DeckWise®.



A) 5/32"

B) 1/2"

C) Measurement of board thickness

D) (C-A)/2



# DeckWise® Ipe-Clip® KD Extreme® Installation (contd)

## STEP 10: PREDRILL A PILOT HOLE

Insert one Ipe Clip® fastener into the groove of the deck board above each joist. Where two boards meet on a single joist, only one fastener is needed. Drill a 1/2" pilot hole perpendicular for each screw when installing Ipe Clip® fasteners into hardwood decking.

## STEP 11: SCREWING IPE CLIP® FASTENER

Run the stainless steel screws through the hole in the center of the Ipe Clip® fastener, through the deck board, and down into the joist. It should not take much torque to fasten the deck board. Once the board is snug to the joist you can install the next fastener on the next joist. A screwgun with a clutch setting works great for this as you can turn the clutch down to avoid overdriving screws. Fasten each board using one fastener and one screw per joist.

## END-TO-END-BOARDS: HOW TO INSTALL "BUTT JOINTS" (HARDWOOD & COMPOSITE DECK MATERIAL)

Where two boards meet on a single joist, the preferred method is to use a sister joist parallel to the main joist. Install 2 (two) Ipe Clip® Hidden Deck Fasteners — one on each joist — where the boards meet. However, only one centered fastener can be installed at their meeting point.

**NOTE:** Steps must be face-screwed (do not use any hidden fasteners). The front edge of the step is always more susceptible to splitting or cracking. The possibility of this can be reduced by not cantilevering the edge of the step over the riser by any more than 3/4". The radius on the top front edge of the step should be rounded to a bull-nose and 5/4 material should be utilized.

## Recommended tools:

**Electric Screw Gun, Bits & Tips** - Used to drill pilot holes and for installing the stainless steel screws. (A cordless screwgun with an adjustable clutch is recommended so torque can be properly set to avoid over-tightening of screws.) Use a 1/8" drill bit and a 3/8" countersink bit or the 3-in-1 DeckWise® Drill & Drive™ Drill Bit Set.

**Wisewrap® FLASHING TAPE** - Prevent joist, ledger board, and wooden posts from rot and decay. Caulk Gun & Exterior Construction Adhesive - Used as a leveling agent for uneven joists.

**Biscuit Jointer\*** - A common cabinet maker tool available at most hardware stores and home centers. Used to make a slot in the edge of the deck boards to allow insertion of the Ipe Clip® fasteners.

**Router\*** - Can be used if you do not have access to a biscuit jointer. Use the DeckWise® 4-Wing Slot Cutter Router Bit or a #20 biscuit cutting router bit, also called a 5/32" slot cutting bit. This method is actually preferred by some installers.

\***Not required** for use with pre-grooved Arbor Wood Co. decking.

## STEP 12: INSTALLING THE NEXT BOARD OVER THE EXPOSED SIDE OF THE FASTENER

Slide the next deck board onto the installed Ipe Clip® fastener protruding from the previous deck board. Again, if pre-grooved decking is not being used, use a biscuit jointer or a router (with a 5/32" x 1/2" slot cutting bit) to cut a slot into the edge of the next deck board above the joist. Keep in mind, this next board will also have Ipe Clip® hidden fasteners installed on its opposite edge for fastening, and so forth.

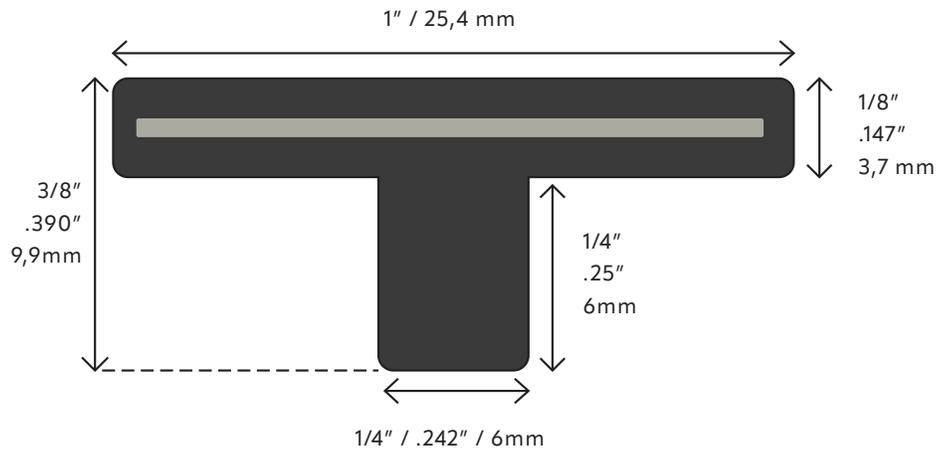
**NOTE:** When using Ipe Clip® ExtremeKD® fasteners, use the DeckWise® Deck Spacer tools provided to ensure that fastener legs are not crushed while keeping your deck boards tight. Remove spacer tools as soon as any deck board is fastened.

## STEP 13: INSTALLING THE LAST DECK BOARD

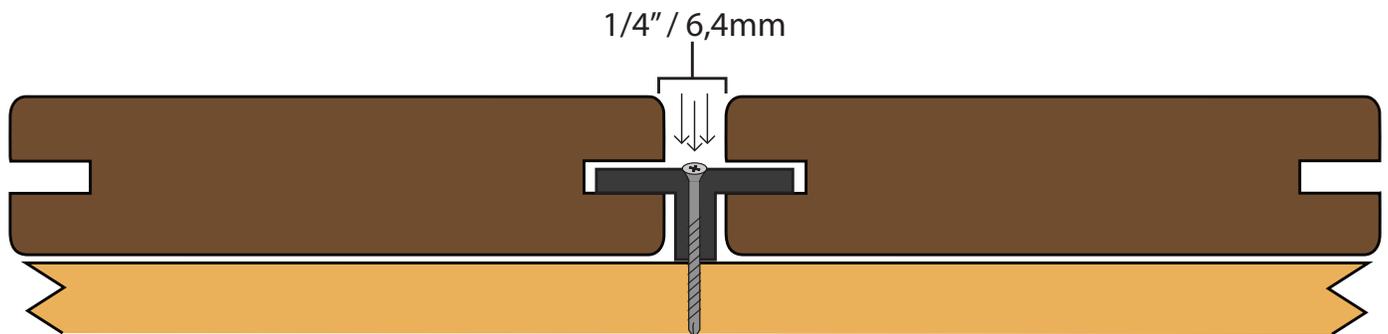
On the last deck board, fastening clips will not be used and it is necessary to fasten the outside edge with surface screws. These surface screws can be concealed by countersinking a 3/8" hole and using the wood plugs supplied. It is also recommended to apply a small amount of construction adhesive on the outside joist for securing the last or outside edge deck boards.

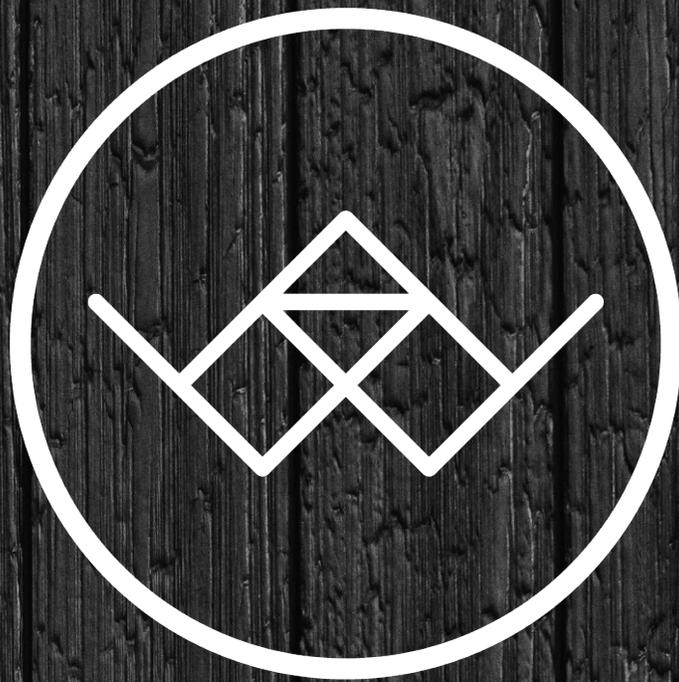


# DeckWise® Ipe-Clip® KD Extreme® Details



MATERIAL	STAINLESS STEEL INSERT	COLOR
POLYETHYLENE	.883" X .883" THICKNESS: .036" --- 22,4MM X 22,4MM THICKNESS: 9MM	BLACK





Arbor Wood. **For Good.**

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THE USA**