



## WHARFDECK *Information Sheet Jan 2019*

**Wharfdeck** is the product name for heavy-section decking produced by Urban Salvage in a 135x32mm size. It is supplied in a choice of Class 1 and Class 2 Durability timber species which are all recommended where ground clearance exceeds 400mm. Many decks are elevated and have good sub-frame ventilation. Increasingly, however, decks are landscaping installations that ignore conventional building standards for sub-frame ventilation. They may be at ground level on one or two sides and the underside of the timber may be less than 300mm from earth or concrete. In these decks Ironbark or a Class 1 species is the preferred choice.

Recommended spacing of boards on raised decks is 7 to 8mm. This allows adequate drainage, has the appearance of a continuous platform and does not inhibit table or chair movement. In a raised deck the boards will not 'grow' and close up. In ground-level decks a greater spacing between boards should be applied to ensure drainage is maintained over prolonged wet spells. This is especially true if fixed direct to battens on concrete or to a closed box frame. In neither case is cross-flow ventilation beneath the deck platform possible.

**Wharfdeck** can be fixed to hardwood or softwood joists over waterproof capping. We recommend (and stock) 80mm Wurth Stainless Steel screws with a 12mm star-drive head as the preferred method of fixing. Screws require pilot-drilling of 6mm - or to gauge - in Wharfdeck and in joist to a depth of 20mm. Do not attempt to self-tap fixings as this will cause metal shear and a deviation from true. Boards require two screws per joist.

Recommended span centres are 550mm. Care must be taken to countersink screw heads by no more than 1mm below level to anticipate shrinkage, but not to allow pooling of rainwater.

**Suitability** is as important as durability in the choice of timber for decking. Wide timber boards are susceptible to surface cupping in an exposed situation. As a rule of thumb - it's best not to exceed 5:1 in ratio width to thickness. **Wharfdeck** is designed to minimize cupping and shrinkage because it has a section size that is balanced and it is kiln-seasoned. However minor movement should still be expected on the top face in any decking application - regardless of species or fixing. Regular oiling of top face will also minimize surface distortion.

### **Treatment**

Light penetrating decking oils that are absorbed by timber and contain anti-fungal agents are the best treatment for decks. Although **Wharfdeck** cannot absorb heavy applications of oil in a single coat, multiple applications are possible and recommended. For close-to-ground installations, oil boards on both faces prior to fixing

Avoid polymer coatings available in decking finishes. Products that form a skin are not the best option since they require constant maintenance or tend to flake off over time, leaving deck unprotected. Allowing your deck to silver does not reduce its life. Some oils come with a tint which can disguise the natural loss of colour affecting timber in weather and UV light.

KD Blackbutt	135x32mm
KD Spotted Gum	135x32mm
KD Ironbark	130x25mm