



The Wood Component Company

**ideck**

<b>Coverage:</b>	1m <sup>2</sup> = 6.67 metres of board
<b>Grade:</b>	Standard and Better
<b>Hardness:</b>	1560lb <sub>f</sub>
<b>Botanical name:</b>	Shorea spp
<b>Origin:</b>	Indonesia
<b>Wood Type:</b>	Hardwood
<b>Fixings:</b>	4.5 x 65mm Countersunk Stainless Steel Decking Screws

Timber is a beautiful, natural and versatile material that cannot be replicated by any man made product. It is the only building material that is naturally renewable and truly sustainable.

Timber is manufactured from trees which have developed naturally and responsively to their environment. Being a 100% natural product it varies from one piece to another, each having variations in grain patterns and colour.

We understand that for the uninitiated buying timber can be a daunting process, so this document has been written with the novice in mind. We've attempted to explain how and why timber is graded and what to expect when you receive a delivery of timber from us. We've also included relevant sections from the grading rules, and to help you understand these rules we've included definitions of natural characteristics and manufacturing irregularities. By the time you have read and digested all this, you will probably know more about the subject than most of the staff at your local timber merchant!

We are confident in the quality of our products and we want you to be confident with your purchase, which is why we invite you to visit our Showroom in Kilcoole Co. Wicklow (by appointment), to see our products first hand before placing an order. We even encourage you to visit our competitors first so that you can compare our quality to theirs.



#### **Environment:**

The Timber Legality Assurance System (SVLK) assures the legality of timber products imported from Indonesia; in accordance with the Regulation No.995/2010 (Timber Regulation) adopted by the European Union in 2013.

The "Indonesian Legal Wood" certificate provides irrefutable proofs that timber products do not come from illegal sources. All Indonesian timber-related industrial units, primary or secondary will have a legality certificate and are audited independently the National Accreditation Body (Komite Akreditasi Nasional).

## Installation & Advice

### Deck Board Spans

21 x 145mm Yellow Balau decking should be installed with joists spaced at 400mm centres.

### Deck Board Spacing

21 x 145mm Yellow Balau decking should be installed with a 4-5mm gap between the boards. The space between the boards allows for air circulation and slight expansion with changes to the humidity level.

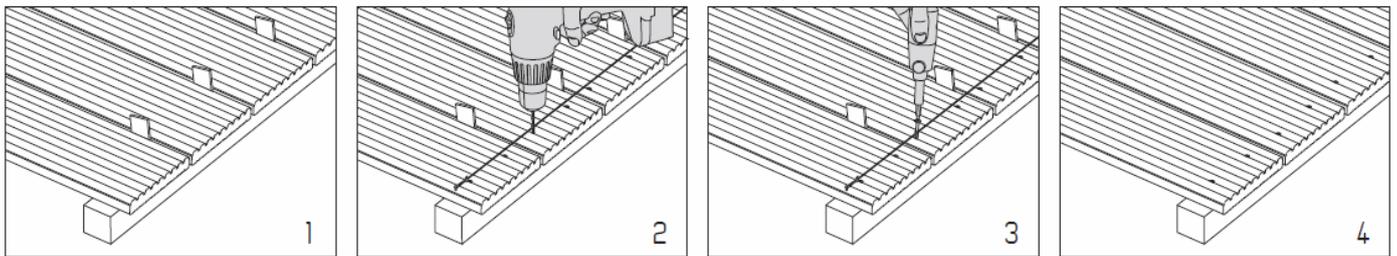
### Ventilation

It is important to allow adequate air circulation underneath the deck to prevent cupping and warping of the boards. It is recommended that a vapour barrier is used on the ground to prevent moisture from absorbing into the underside of the deck boards.

### Fasteners

There are a number of different options available for fastening deck boards to the joists. We recommend screwing through the face of every board using 4.5 x 65mm Stainless Steel Decking screws. Fix two screws into every joist at quarter points on the deck board (36mm from each edge). Boards must be pre-drilled with pilot holes prior to inserting the screws. This is particularly important at the ends of the boards to prevent splitting.

For a cleaner finish we suggest recessing the screws and using plugs to hide the screw heads. Plugs can be cut from off-cuts of decking using a relatively inexpensive drill attachment called a plug cutter.



### Hardwood wrench

The longer the deck board the greater the tendency for it to be slightly bowed, this is quite normal in wood of very high density such as Yellow Balau. To overcome this, most professional deck installers will carry a tool called a Hardwood Wrench, or Bow wrench, which enables the user to easily straighten a bowed board single handed as it is installed. The Bow wrench is relatively inexpensive and can save a lot of time, so it's worth buying even if you only use it for one project. It can also be hired from some tool hire stores.

### End Sealer

Yellow Balau decking from MTS is end-sealed during the manufacturing process to help prevent splitting and checking on the ends of boards. We recommend that if the boards are cut during installation then the exposed end grain should be sealed as soon as possible. A clear, water-resistant wax such as Osmo Wax End Sealer should be used.

### Cleaning and Maintenance

Your Yellow Balau deck will benefit from regular cleaning. Brush the deck with a stiff broom to remove dirt and dead leaves, and ensure that the gaps between the boards are clear of organic debris. Clean the deck periodically to remove grime and mildew. Yellow Balau decking can be pressure washed, but it is important to select a low setting to prevent the wood fibres on the surface from being damaged.

If your Yellow Balau deck is weathered it is possible to restore the natural colour with Osmo Wood Reviver. This product will remove weathering, mould, algae, mildew and iron stains and prepares the surface for recoating with Osmo Decking Oil.

### **Equipment**

Yellow Balau decking can be crosscut with good quality chop saw using a tungsten carbide tipped blade. Ripping can be done on a standard table saw, using a good quality, well-aligned fence and a tungsten carbide tipped blade. When drilling, always use the highest quality drill bits available. If screwing through the face, use a countersink bit with a positive stop to ensure that all the screw heads end up at a consistent depth. Screws can be lubricated to make installation easier.

Routing or planing can be done with either high speed tungsten carbide cutters. The feed speed should be fairly slow to avoid chipping.

### **Safety**

A dust mask and eye protection should always be worn when working with any wood. Avoid the inhalation of wood dust. We recommend a dust mask with an activated carbon filter. Some people may have an allergic reaction to hardwood dust. Remove wood splinters immediately to prevent infection.

### **Disclaimer**

To ensure its quality, Yellow Balau decking from MTS is carefully manufactured, graded and inspected at source. It is inspected again during the order picking process prior to despatch. However, Yellow Balau decking is a natural wood product and is subject to variations in weight, density, colour, grain and performance. Yellow Balau decking is subject to dimensional changes as the moisture content in the wood fluctuates with humidity in the air. Swelling, shrinkage, checking, and other movement of individual pieces are normal occurrences in wood decking.