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## INTRODUCTION

The HardieDeck™ system provides a highly durable low maintenance deck, with a modern appearance. It combines specially machined 19mm thick fibre cement decking boards with an aluminium Fast-track system that provides the concealed fastening mechanism.

The Fast-track jointing system consists of an anodised aluminium base jointer which is screwed to the framing joists, and a powder coated snap-in top strip which covers the screw heads and provides a continuous contrasting line between the decking boards.

#### Choosing a coating for HardieDeck™.

HardieDeck™ needs to be coated with an exterior trafficable paving paint or sealer within 60 days. Paving paint and sealers are durable and are used on verandas, paths and driveways. To see product specifications and recommendations for HardieDeck™ from paint manufacturers visit HardieDeck.com.au/coatings.

This Installation and Specification Guide covers the use of the HardieDeck™ system in a residential deck application. For commercial applications please call 13 83 53.

The  $\mathsf{HardieDeck}^\mathsf{T}$  system is not intended to be a watertight system.

This guide does not contain all the information relevant for constructing a deck.

Before starting see Safe Working Practices and Tools page 4.

Check for updated information on technical solutions and coatings visit HardieDeck.com.au or call 13 83 53



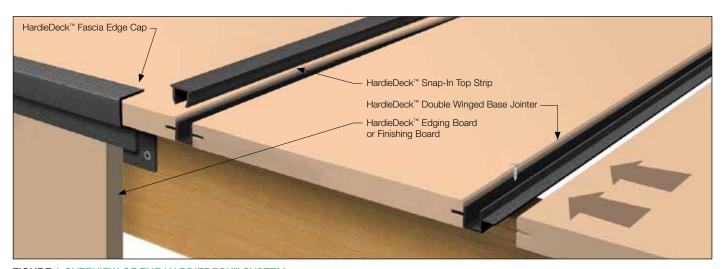


FIGURE 1 OVERVIEW OF THE HARDIEDECK™ SYSTEM

#### **INSTALLATION NOTES**

- Install, finish and maintain this product in accordance with applicable building codes, regulations, standards and James Hardie's written application instructions. Failure to do so may lead to personal injury, effect system performance, violate local building codes, and void James Hardie's product warranty.
- 2. All warranties, conditions, liabilities (direct, indirect or consequential) and obligations whether arising in contract, tort or otherwise other than those specified in James Hardie's product warranty are excluded to the fullest extent allowed by law. For James Hardie's product warranty information see the warranty section at the back of this manual.
- 3. The builder must ensure the product meets aesthetic requirements before installation or for the full warranty visit HardieDeck.com.au. James Hardie will not be responsible for rectifying aesthetic surface variations following installation.
- 4. The product specifier or any other party responsible for the project must ensure that the details in this specification, including structural and flashing details, are appropriate for the intended application, and that additional detailing is performed for specific design or any areas that fall outside the scope of this specification.
- 5. When specifying or installing James Hardie® products, ensure you have the up to date information. Visit HardieDeck.com.au or call 13 83 53.



## 1 BASIC INSTALLATION

Below are the basic steps to building HardieDeck $^{\text{\tiny M}}$ . Alternative details and options can be found in later sections.

The HardieDeck™ system must be coated or sealed, see **Finishing and Coating** page 10.

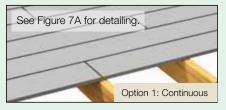
Watch Installation Video at HardieDeck.com.au/Installation-video







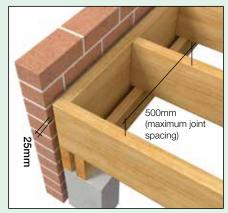
#### **DESIGN**





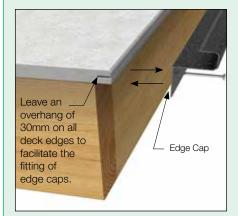
**STEP 1** Choose the desired decking layout, joint and edge capping options. Refer **Design and Detailing** pages 6-9.

#### PREPARE FRAME



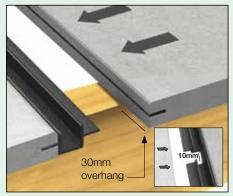
**STEP 2** Prepare the substructure for your chosen design.

#### **SET OVERHANG**

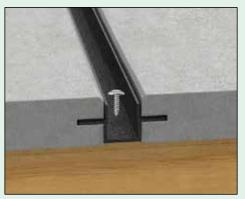


**STEP 3** Place the first board with an overhang and temporarily fix the edge capping to secure the first board.

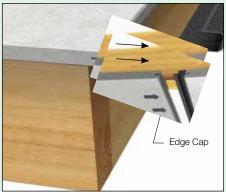
#### FIX



**STEP 4** Slide the base jointer into the first board. Then slide the second board into the base jointer. At the base jointer junctions, leave a 10mm gap to facilitate drainage.



**STEP 5** Fasten the base jointer at every joist. For the correct screw types for timber and steel frames see **Fasteners** page 3.

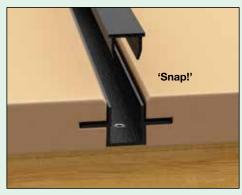


STEP 6 Remove temporarily fixed edge cap.

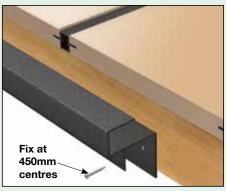
### **FINISH**



**STEP 7** Prepare the deck for painting. Use a recommended coating within 60 days. See **Finishing and Coating** page 10.



**STEP 8** After the coating dries, tap in Snap-In Top Strip until it clicks.



**STEP 9** Fix edge capping at 450mm centres around perimeter of deck. See **Perimeter and Edge options** page 6.

# **2 COMPONENTS AND ACCESSORIES**

## HardieDeck<sup>™</sup> system

PRODUCT CODE	PRODUCT NAME	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	LENGTH (MM)	WIDTH (MM)	THICKNESS (MM)	EFFECTIVE COVER (MM)	MASS	SCHEMATIC
404780	HardieDeck™ Board	Main decking board slotted in both long edges.	3000	196	19	210	19kg	

PRODUCT CODE	PRODUCT NAME	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	LENGTH (MM)	WIDTH (MM)	MINIMUM ORDER QUANTITY	SCHEMATIC
305841	HardieDeck™ Double Winged Base Jointer	Used to join all long edges of the HardieDeck™ boards.	3000	14 (excluding wings)	5 per pack	
305842	HardieDeck™ Snap-In Top Strip	Snaps into Base Jointer after coating to conceal fasteners.	3000	12	5 per pack	T

## HardieDeck™options

PRODUCT CODE	PRODUCT NAME	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	LENGTH (MM)	WIDTH (MM)	THICKNESS (MM)	EFFECTIVE COVER (MM)	MASS	SCHEMATIC
404781	HardieDeck™ Edging Board	Decking board slotted in one long edge. The unslotted edge is exposed as an edging option or used as a fascia board.	3000	196	19	210	19kg	
404782	HardieDeck™ Finishing Board	Wider decking board with no slots. Used for pattern variation and stair treads.	3000	296	19	296	29kg	

PRODUCT CODE	PRODUCT NAME	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	LENGTH (MM)	MINIMUM ORDER QUANTITY	SCHEMATIC
305843	HardieDeck™ Wingless Base Jointer	Used on HardieDeck™ board short ends to create square or panelised look.	3000	5 per pack	
305844	HardieDeck™ Fascia Edge Cap	Used to fix the first board long edge and finish deck edge with fascia board.	3000	Each	P
305846	HardieDeck™ Slimline Edge Cap	Used to fix the first board long edge and finish deck edge with or without a fascia board.	3000	Each	

#### **Fasteners**

PROFILE	TYPE OF FIXING	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION
STEEL FRAMING		
	Concealed in Fast- track fixing system	8-18 gauge 16mm long pan head metal tek screw (min. class 3*) max. 10mm dia. head
	Face Fix	HardieDrive™ Screw 40mm long A class 3 finish self-tapping wing-tipped screw for fastening to 0.8 to 1.8mm BMT steel frames. 1,000 per box. Part No. 305533
TIMBER FRAME		
	Concealed in Fast- track fixing system	Minimum 25mm long pan or wafer head needle point screw (min. class 3*) max. 10mm dia. head
	Face Fix	Stainless Steel 8-10 gauge, type 17, 50mm long decking screw

## 3 TOOLS

## **CUTTING & FIXING TOOLS (SUPPLIED BY JAMES HARDIE) ACCESSORIES DESCRIPTION** HardieBlade™ Saw Blade. 185mm diameter A poly-diamond blade for fast and clean cutting of James Hardie fibre cement. 1 each. Part No. 300660 NOT SUPPLIED BY JAMES HARDIE James Hardie recommends the following products for use in conjunction with the HardieDeck™ system. James Hardie does not supply these products. Please contact the component manufacturer for information on their warranties and further information on Slide Compound Mitre Saw Used for cutting decking boards. 110mm Wet Saw Cutter Used for cutting decking boards. Makita B-60 Tungsten Jig Saw Blade or equivalent Used in compatible jig saws. **Dust-reducing Saw** Used with a HardieBlade® saw blade. Vacuum Extraction with appropriate dust filter A well maitained vacuum and filter appropriate for capturing fine (respirable) dust. Jig Saw For cutting small sections. Cordless Drill Recommended tool for screw fixing the sheets to steel and timber framing.

#### **OTHER MATERIALS**

CUTTING & FIXING TOOLS					
ACCESSORIES	DESCRIPTION				
NOT SUPPLIED BY JA	AMES HARDIE				
the HardieDeck™ system	ds the following products for use in conjunction with  . James Hardie does not supply these products. Please nanufacturer for information on their warranties and further ucts.				
99	Epoxy flush sealing (2 part) Countersunk head screws are flush sealed using Megapoxy P1 or Hilti CA 125. Where the temperature is below 15° use Hilti CA 273. Used over face fixed fasteners.				
	Exterior trafficable paving paint or sealer.				

## **4 SAFE WORKING PRACTICES**

#### WARNING - WHEN WORKING WITH FIBRE CEMENT DO NOT **BREATHE DUST**

James Hardie® products contain sand, a source of respirable crystalline silica which is considered by some international authorities to be a cause of cancer from some occupational sources. Breathing excessive amounts of respirable silica dust can also cause a disabling and potentially fatal lung disease called silicosis, and has been linked with other diseases.

Some studies suggest smoking may also increase these risks. When cutting fibre cement warn others in the immediate area to avoid breathing dust. Wear a properly-fitted, approved dust mask or respirator (e.g. P1 or P2) in accordance with applicable government regulations and manufacturer instructions to further limit respirable silica exposures.

During clean-up, use appropriate, well maintained, filtered vacuums or wet cleanup methods. For further information, refer to James Hardie's installation instructions and Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) available at HardieDeck.com.au.

Failure to adhere to our warnings, material safety data sheets, and installation instructions may lead to serious personal injury or death.

#### JAMES HARDIE RECOMMENDED SAFE WORKING PRACTICES

#### **CUTTING (OUTDOORS)**

- Position the cutting station so wind will blow dust away from the user or others in working area.
- Position the cutting station in a well-ventilated area.
- Use a dust reducing circular saw equipped with HardieBlade® saw blade and well maintained vacuum and filter appropriate for capturing fine (respirable) dust.

#### DRILLING / OTHER MACHINING

When drilling or machining you should always wear a P1 or P2 dust mask and warn others in the immediate area.

#### APPROPRIATE PRACTICE

- For maximum protection (lowest respirable dust production), James Hardie recommends always using the best cutting methods.
- Do not use a power saw indoors.
- Do not use a circular saw blade that does not carry the HardieBlade logo
- Do not dry sweep Use wet suppression or appropriate vaccum and filter.
- Do not use grinders.
- Always follow tool manufacturers' safety recommendations.

P1 or P2 respirators should be used in conjunction with above cutting practices to further reduce dust exposures. Additional exposure information is available at jameshardie.com.au to help you determine the most appropriate cutting method for your job requirements. If concern still exists about exposure levels or you do not comply with the above practices, you should always consult a qualified industrial hygienist or contact James Hardie for further information.

#### STORAGE AND HANDLING

To avoid damage, James Hardie® building products should be stored with edges and corners of the product protected from chipping. James Hardie building products must be installed in a dry state and protected from weather during transport and storage. The product must be laid flat under cover on a smooth level surface clear of the ground to avoid exposure to water and moisture.

## **5 DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS**

The designer must consider all design considerations outlined below prior to specifying the HardieDeck™ system.

All design and construction must comply with the appropriate requirements of the current National Construction Code (NCC) and any other applicable regulations and standards current at the time of construction.

#### 5.1 TERMITE MANAGEMENT

HardieDeck™ boards are resistant to termite damage. Any timber used for framing must be termite-resistant, preservative-treated timber or have a termite barrier to protect the primary building elements (e.g. frame and decking, stairways and ramps to the extent not constructed using HardieDeck™ boards). Please refer to AS 3660.1 for more information and

**NOTE:** Where installation of a termite barrier is chosen. AS 3660.1 requires attachments to buildings, such as decks, to have a clearance greater than 25mm from the building. This allows visual inspection. (see Figure 2)

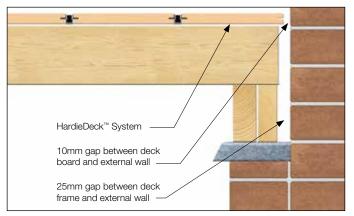


FIGURE 2 DECK TO WALL JUNCTION

#### 5.2 FRAMING

Floor joists must be minimum 45mm wide. In order to achieve an acceptable finish, it is necessary for all framing to be straight. A suggested tolerance is 3-4mm over 3 meters in all directions. If installing in a Bushfire Prone Area refer to page 6.

#### **Timber Framing**

Use of timber framing must be in accordance with AS 1684 'Residential timber-framed construction', and be CCA treated dry kiln timber or durable hardwood. To help protect against moisture ingress and rot, always prime the end grain of timber members.

#### Steel Framing

Use of steel framing must be in accordance with NASH standard for residential and low rise steel framing Part 1 and the framing manufacturer's specifications. Framing members must be in the range 0.6mm to 1.9mm BMT (base metal thickness). The steel framing must have the appropriate level of durability required to prevent corrosion.

#### 5.3 SPAN CAPACITY & LOADING

HardieDeck™ boards are structurally designed to span a maximum of 500mm joist spacing and withstand the domestic and residential activities for self-contained dwellings (Category A1) of Table 3.1 of AS/NZS 1170.1 -'Structural design actions - Permanent, imposed and other actions' of 1.8kN concentrated load and a UDL (Uniformly Distributed Load) of 2kPa. For commercial applications please call 13 83 53.

#### **5.4 FASTENER DURABILITY**

Fasteners must have the appropriate level of durability required for the intended project and be fully compatible with all other materials

James Hardie recommends a minimum Class 3 fastener for general deck applications, stainless steel for swimming pool surrounds and decks within 1km of a coastal exposure or similar corrosive environment.

#### 5.5 FALL AND DRAINAGE

It is recommended that decks have a fall of at least 1 in 100 away from the building to facilitate drainage.

#### Do not create a fall by stacking the sheets.

When no fall is provided, the designer must assess and address issues including ponding, water ingress back into the house or other waterrelated issues. Flash decking to building to help manage moisture. It is recommended to provide a step of at least 50mm from the finished floor level to the building. Refer to relevant building regulations and codes which may specify a larger step down and other construction requirements.

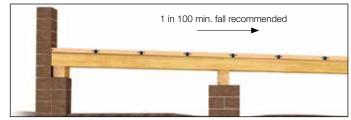


FIGURE 3 RECOMMENDED FALL

#### **5.6 SLIP RESISTANCE**

It is the designer's responsibility to determine the required slip resistance for the required application in accordance to the National Code of Construction (NCC) and AS 4586 and SA HB 198:2014 - 'Guide to the specification and testing of slip resistance of pedestrian surfaces'.

For decking boards installed in high slip areas e.g. swimming pools, it is recommended to use a paving paint with slip resistance aggregate. The slip resistance rating is dependant on the paving paint or sealer selected. Refer to the Frequently asked questions page available at HardieDeck.com.au.

#### **5.7 BALUSTRADE**

The balustrade upright supports must be fixed to the structural frame and not to the HardieDeck™ system. All balustrades must conform to the requirements of the NCC.

#### **5.8 BUSHFIRE PRONE AREAS**

The HardieDeck™ system, (boards and accessories), are deemed non-combustible by the National Construction Code (NCC), and are suitable for all Bushfire Attack Levels including Flame Zones as specified in AS3959-2009 "Construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas." (CSIRO assessment report FCO - 3056).

Based on the AS/NZS 1530.3 test results in CSIRO Certificate of Test FNE11103 and the requirements specified in Clause C1.12 of the NCC, it is the opinion of this Division that "James Hardie Strip Decking" satisfies the intent for non-combustible materials presented in Clause C1.12 and may be used where non-combustible materials are required, including decking, stair treads and the trafficable surfaces of ramps and landings in BAL-FZ zones.

Table 1 below outlines requirements for framing supports, balustrades and handrails. It is provided as a guide only based in the requirements outlined in AS3959-2009. Please consult the NCC or your local council for more information.

TABLE 1 BUSHFIRE PRONE AREAS REQUIREMENTS FOR DECKS								
DESIGN	BUSHFIRE ATT	ACK LEVEL (BAL)						
CRITERIA (AS 3959)	12.5 & 19	29	40	Flame Zone (FZ)				
Decking Boards	HardieDeck <sup>™</sup> s	system suitable						
Framing and Supports	No additional requirements	Non- combustible (e.g. steel) or bushfire suitable resisting timber	Non-combustible (e.g. steel) or syster compliant with AS 1530.8.1 (no bushf timber allowed)					
Balustrade & Handrail	No additional requirements	1<125mm It must be non-combustible						

## 6 DESIGN AND **DETAILING**

#### 6.1 LAYOUT

HardieDeck<sup>™</sup> boards can be laid out in a variety of directions to create patterns and add design character to the building. Care is required to ensure that the span capacity of the boards is not exceeded. For example, when boards are laid at an angle other than 90° to the framing members, joists may need to be spaced closer than the maximum 500mm.

The patterns below are provided as a guide and are some examples of the designs that can be achieved with the HardieDeck  $^{\!\scriptscriptstyle\mathsf{M}}$  system.

#### **PARALLEL 90° - STANDARD**

HardieDeck<sup>™</sup> boards have been designed to be installed perpendicular to the joist direction.

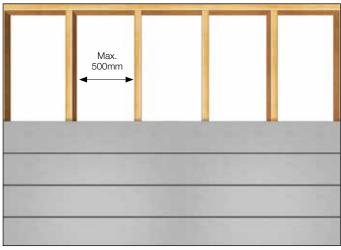


FIGURE 4 STANDARD DECKING LAYOUT

#### PARALLEL 45°

When installing HardieDeck™ boards diagonally by up to 45°, the joist spacing must be reduced to 300mm as indicated below.

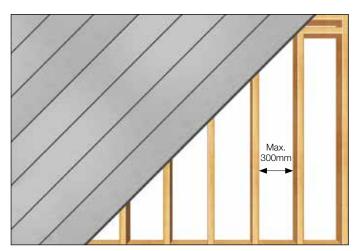


FIGURE 5 45° DECKING LAYOUT

Custom designs may be achieved by alternating orientations such as CHEVRON, HERRINGBONE and CHEQUERBOARD. The 296mm wide HardieDeck™ Finishing Board is 100mm wider than the standard HardieDeck™ Board and Edging Board. It can add design variation. For design assistance call 13 83 53 or visit HardieDeck.com.au.

# 6 DESIGN AND DETAILING (CONT.)

#### 6.2 PERIMETER AND EDGES

# **OPTION 1: SLIMLINE EDGE CAP WITH FASCIA BOARD** Overhang board 30mm

FIGURE 6A FIRST BOARD INSTALLED WITH EDGE OPTION 1 (CAP)

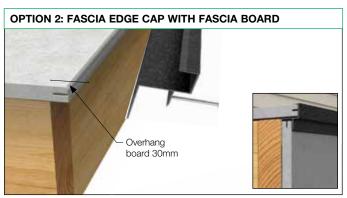


FIGURE 6B EDGE OPTION 2 (CAP)

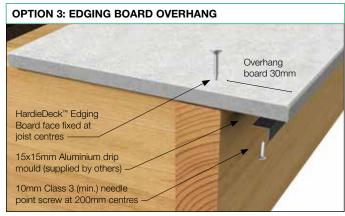


FIGURE 6C EDGE OPTION 3 (DRIP MOULD)

#### 6.3 JOINTS

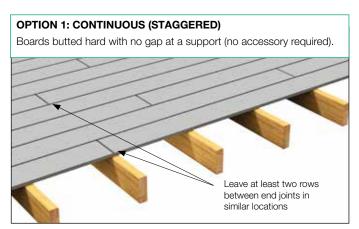


FIGURE 7A STAGGERED LAYOUT BUTT JOINTS

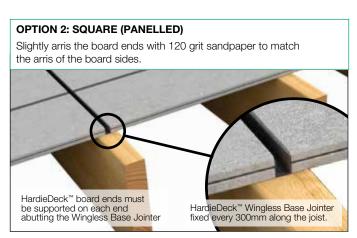


FIGURE 7B DECKING BOARD SQUARED BUTT JOINTS

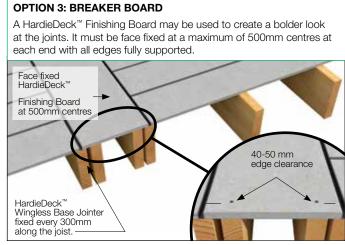


FIGURE 7C DECKING BOARD BREAK-A-BOARD BUTT JOINTS

#### 6.4 CORNERS

Where the deck changes direction either a square joint, mitred joint or a staggered joint can be formed. All decking board joints must be fully supported by the framing joists or blocking. The options below illustrate the 296mm wide Finishing Board as an aesthetic option. This board has no grooves for it to be secured by a base jointer, so it must be face fixed and adequately supported.

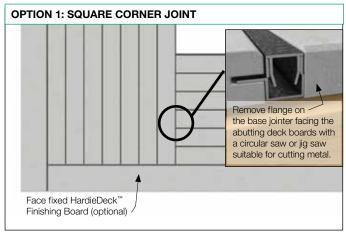


FIGURE 8A SQUARE CORNER JOINT

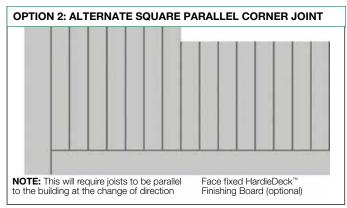


FIGURE 8B ALTERNATE SQUARE PARALLEL CORNER JOINT

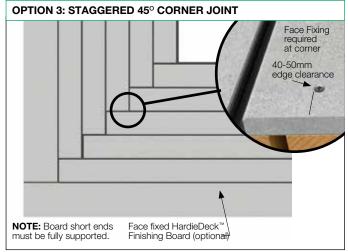


FIGURE 8C STAGGERED 45° CORNER JOINT

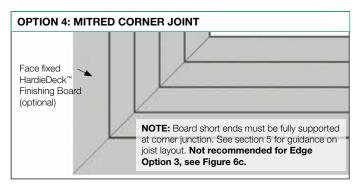


FIGURE 8D MITRED CORNER JOINT

#### 6.5 ABUTMENTS

Where the deck abuts the house, it may be necessary to narrow or "rip" the final board width. This is best done with a wet saw as detailed in the Tools page 4. The cut edge of the board adjacent to the house can be fastened to the joists.

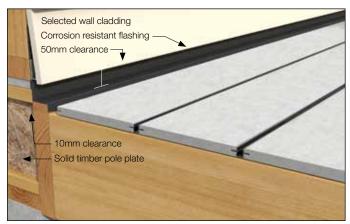


FIGURE 9 DECK AND BUILDING EDGE TREATMENT

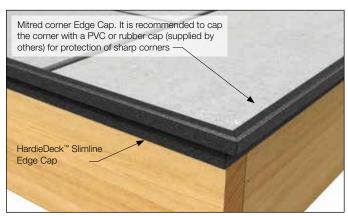


FIGURE 10 EDGE CAPPING MITRED CORNER DETAIL

#### 6.6 FASCIA AND ENCLOSED DECKS

The HardieDeck™ system may be used vertically as fascias or cladding to enclose decks. It may also be used in all bushfire areas; however, Flame Zone (Bal-FZ) requires additional detailing, refer to the table in Bushfire Prone Areas page 6.



FIGURE 11 FASCIA CAPPING OPTIONS

For the bottom edge of the enclosing cladding, it is recommended to use the slimline edge cap as per Figure 12. Do not extend the board to the ground and maintain a minimum of 50mm clearance.

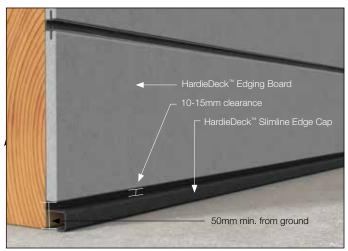


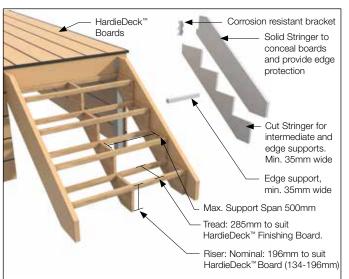
FIGURE 12 BOTTOM FINISHING DETAIL AND CLEARANCE

#### **6.7 PENETRATIONS**

Where the boards require cutting around railing posts and other penetrations, cut out the required area with a jig saw fitted with a Makita code B-60 jig saw blade or equivalent. All cut edges must be fully supported by framing.

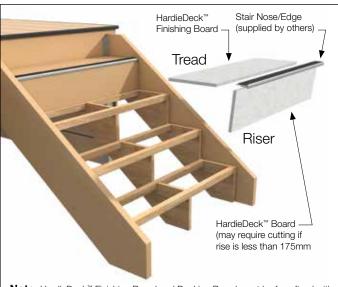
#### 6.8 STAIRS AND TREADS

HardieDeck™ Boards may be used as stair treads and stringers to match deck design. The designer must ensure that the dimensions and layout comply with the relevant standard, code and regulations. The below figures are given as a guide and based on AS 1657-2013 Fixed platforms, walkways, stairways and ladders - Design, construction and installation.



NOTE: The above riser and tread dimensions consider board thickness and dimensions. The resulting riser and going must be within 115-190mm and 240-355 mm, respectively.

#### FIGURE 13 DECK STAIR FRAMING



Note: HardieDeck™ Finishing Board and Decking Board must be face fixed with a minimum of two fasteners per support (edges and intermediates) with an edge clearance of 20mm.

FIGURE 14 DECK STAIR - TREADS AND RISERS

# 7 FINISHING **AND COATING**

HardieDeck™ Boards need to be coated with an exterior trafficable paving paint or sealer within 60 days in accordance with coating manufacturers specifications.

#### 7.1 SURFACE PREPARATION

Prior to applying any paints or sealers, the deck surface must be cleaned and allowed to dry. Dust and dirt on the surface will affect the adhesion of surface coatings, and may result in blistering and peeling. Follow the surface preparation instructions from the coating manufacturer.

NOTE: Acid etching, which is commonly used in the preparation of concrete surfaces, is not recommended on HardieDeck™ Boards as it can damage the board surface and result in a rough appearance.

For face fixed screws, cover the screw heads with two-part epoxy flush and sand smooth, or alternatively the screw heads may be left exposed.

#### 7.2 SURFACE COATING

#### Do not install the Snap-In Top Strip until the coating is completed and dry.

The recommended brands have been tested to be compatible with the HardieDeck™ Boards. To see product specifications and recommendations for HardieDeck™ Boards from paint manufacturers visit HardieDeck.com.au/coatings.

If using alternative brands, contact the manufacturer to ensure that the product is compatible with HardieDeck™ Boards and is suitable for the application.

In general, best results are achieved with water-based paving paints with optional slip resistance additives.

Clear sealing options are available. Refer to HardieDeck™ system Clear Seal on HardieDeck.com.au for more information.



For recommended surface coatings visit HardieDeck.com.au/Coatings or call 13 83 53



FIGURE 15 APPLY EXTERIOR TRAFFICABLE PAVING PAINT OR SEALER

## 8 CARE **INSTRUCTIONS**

#### CARE FOR YOUR DECK

To minimise wear and tear, and keep your deck looking good for years to come, follow these recommendations:

#### Cleaning and Maintenance

Cleaning will maintain the beauty of your HardieDeck™. The boards should be washed with a soft broom and pH-neutral detergent regularly. The frequency of cleaning is dependent on the geographical location and exposure of the building:

- at least every 6-12 months in rural or normal urban environments:
- at least every 1-3 months in areas subject to higher corrosion such as coastal environments and swimming pool surrounds;
- at least once a month in particularly harsh environments such as beachfronts, severe marine environments or areas of high industrial
- as recommended by the manufacturer of the third party coating system applied, if the recommended frequency is higher than that set

In particularly dirty environments dry sweep regularly to avoid scratching from dirt and debris.

Any damaged to HardieDeck™ system components must be fixed or replaced immediately.

#### Re-coating

When re-painting the deck:

- The deck surface must be cleaned with accordance to the paint manufacturer's specification.
- Apply masking tape over the snap-in cover strips. As paints may not be compatible with the powder coating on the strips, it is not recommended they be painted over.
- Alternately, the snap-in cover strips may be removed and replaced with new cover strips after re-painting. The snap-in cover strips may be purchased separately.

#### **Furniture**

We recommend protective mats or furniture pads are used to protect against contact from sources such as furniture legs, BBQ's or planter stands.

Minimise dragging furniture & heavy objects along the deck. Consider adding rubber stops to furniture legs, as you would do to reduce the likelihood of scratching a wooden deck.

## 9 WARRANTY

The  $\mathsf{HardieDeck}^\mathsf{TM}$  system supplied by James Hardie is warranted for a period of 10 years.

Please refer to the terms and conditions stated in the warranty document available at HardieDeck.com.au.

The decking boards are not covered by the James Hardie's product warranty if used without HardieDeck™ Double Winged Base Jointer and HardieDeck™ Snap-In Top Strip.

This product is not warranted for use outside of its intended application. © Copyright 2015 James Hardie Australia Pty Ltd.

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