



INSTALLATION GUIDEBOOK

# Decking





# Decking Introduction

Americana™ Thermally Modified Wood Decking designs are easy to work with. We use standard symmetrical profiles which can be used with off-the-shelf hidden fasteners. You choose which side of the board you see, and with our structural end joint, the deck can be laid like flooring, with joints floating anywhere between joists. Less waste, less time.

## Acclimation

For optimal wood performance we recommend allowing the wood to fully acclimate to your local environment. This acclimation period, which varies in length based on the relative humidity in your area and the season, allows the wood to achieve its Equilibrium Moisture Content (EMC) and thereby minimize any moisture absorption after installation. To properly acclimate, remove the packaging from the wood and store it elevated off the ground, out of the weather and direct sunlight. Acclimation can be further expedited by placing sticks in between each row of boards.

# Thermally Modified Decking Installation

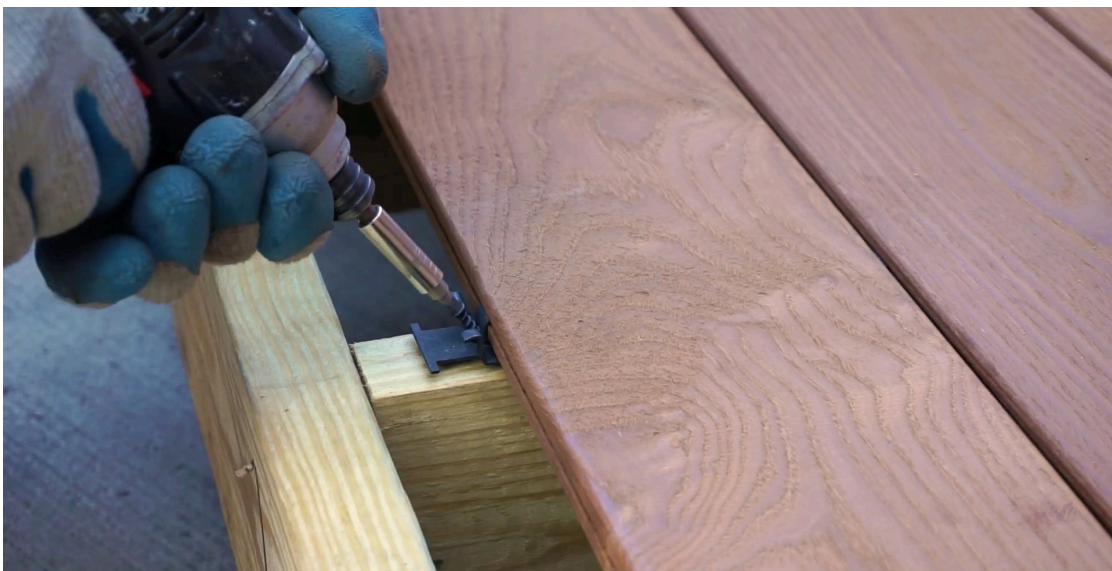
- ▶ Joist spacing: maximum 16" on center when decking is perpendicular, maximum 12" on center when decking is angled.

Minimum distance from ground: 12". **It is essential** that air can circulate under deck to equalize humidity. Do not trap moisture.



- ▶ Minimum gap between boards: 3/16". Mantis®, TurboClip®, or Invisi-Fast® systems automatically space the boards. **Clips must be matched to the groove that is milled.**

***\*If you are unsure which clip goes with your Decking, please contact Americana for assistance***



# Thermally Modified Decking Installation

- ▶ Face-screw outside edges of first and last decking boards using stainless steel screws only. To avoid splitting, pre-drilling and counter-sinking is recommended.



- ▶ Minimum screwing distance from edge: 3/4"
- ▶ Minimum screwing distance from ends: 1-1/2"
- ▶ Butt joints must be centered on joists.
- ▶ Decking boards with Structural End Match do not need to meet end-to-end on a joist. However, boards on either side of a Structural End Match must span a minimum of 2 joists.



**Structural End Match**  
Allows seams to be between joists

# Thermally Modified Decking Installation

## Normal Size    Net Size    Lengths    Compatible Clips

- ▶ 1 X 6                      0.75" X 5.50"                      3' to 12'                      Requires Mantis® 320
- ▶ 5/4 X 6                      1.00" X 5.50"                      3' to 12'                      Requires Mantis® 396  
\*TurboClip®  
\*Invisi-Fast®



**\* TurboClip / Invisi-Fast Clips - Decking can be milled for these clips by special request at no additional charge.  
\*\* Do NOT force or alter other clips to fit with our groove-and-groove decking profile.**

# Thermally Modified Decking

## Profiles

**Example: M-46-02**

**"M" = Mantis**

**"T" = TurboClip/Invisi-Fast**

**"46" = Thickness in quarters of an inch, Width in whole inch**

**"02" = SKU (Mantis Groove & Groove Profile)**

Americana Code	SKU Description
M-XX-001	Mantis Groove one edge
M-XX-002	Mantis Groove & Groove
M-XX-003	No Grooves Contour
M-XX-004	Mantis Groove one edge, Contour
M-XX-005	Mantis Groove & Groove, Contour
T-XX-101	TurboClip Groove one edge
T-XX-102	TurboClip Groove & Groove
T-XX-103	TurboClip Crown
T-XX-104	No Grooves Contour ( <i>same profile as M-XX-03</i> )
T-XX-105	TurboClip Groove one edge, Contour
T-XX-106	TurboClip Groove & Groove, Contour

## Species

- ▶ Thermally Modified Appalachian Ash\*  
**\*Subject to availability, check with Americana**
- ▶ Thermally Modified Pennsylvania Oak

# Thermally Modified Decking

## Stair Treads

- ▶ Use 5/4" (net 1") thickness boards only
- ▶ Pre-drill, counter-sink and face-screw only; do not use clips
- ▶ Stringers max 12" OC apart
- ▶ Do not use Structural End Match on Stair Treads. Use solid boards only
- ▶ Maximum overhang 1/4" from supporting structure

## Fasteners

Use stainless fasteners, ONLY. **Do NOT use galvanized.** Galvanized fasteners will create permanent black stains.

## Storage

Ideally, Americana™ thermally modified wood should be stored inside, away from the weather and sun. If storing outside, it is important that Americana™ wood products are not subjected to weather or sun, because the UV Rays will fade the material. The products should be elevated off the ground, uniformly stacked, and completely covered with a waterproof tarp. Make sure the ends of the tarp are open so moisture is not trapped inside.



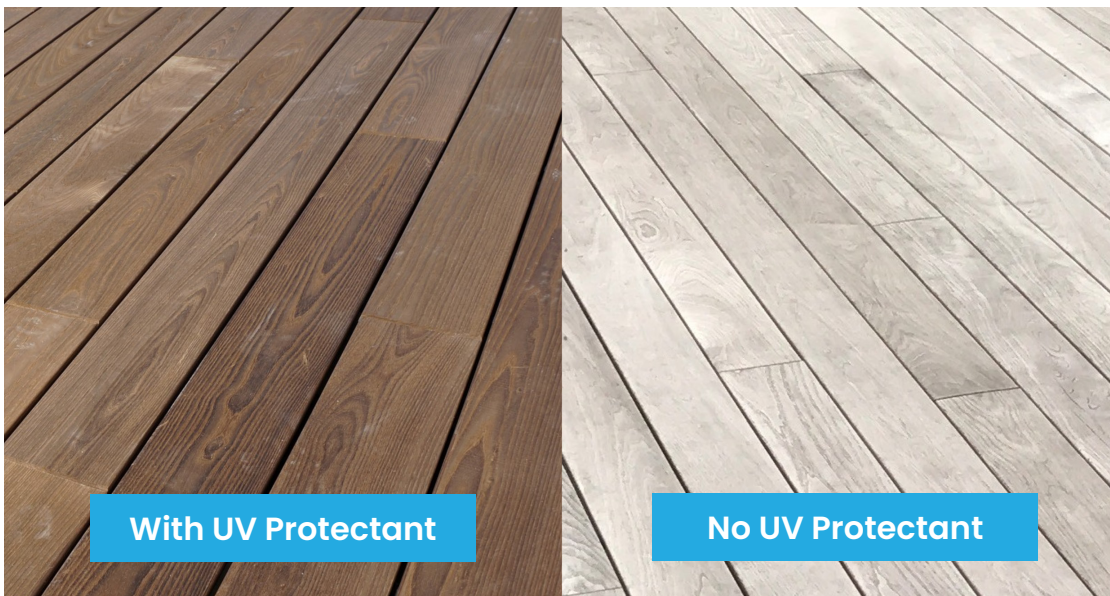
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# After Installation

Thermally Modified wood will begin to “season” or adapt to its environment.

- ▶ *What you may see: superficial checking and occasional cracks near ends of boards. These do not get worse over time, and they do not indicate product failure. These adaptations are common to all woods. After several wet/dry cycles, many of these checks and cracks will diminish or close up altogether.*

Without UV protectant, Thermally Modified wood will lighten and eventually turn silver. This process begins immediately and may take a year to complete. This is also a very natural process for all wood products and it is superficial. The original brown color can be restored at any time by sanding and applying a UV protectant. Power washing alone does not remove the silvering.



Recommended UV protectants:

- ▶ *For best results, Americana™ recommends Cutek™ Extreme (note: a pigment is required for UV protection) - <https://cutekstain.com/us/>, 1-833-MY-CUTEK*
- ▶ *Ask us about other finishes before using.*



## Wood Silvering

To prevent “silvering” of the wood, we recommend using a penetrating UV protectant. Most UV protectants also resist water and allow it to evaporate before penetrating the wood. This in turn reduces the incidence of checking and cracking.



Finishes – For best results, apply Cutek Clear to all sides before installation (or opt for factory-applied Cutek). To maintain or alter the color, apply another coat of Cutek + colortone of your choice on visible surfaces after installation.

***Please consult Americana before attempting to use any finishes other than those recommended.***



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