

TECHNICAL GUIDE · V1.1 · COMPOSITE & PVC RANGES · INCL. 233MM SUPER-WIDE

Composite & PVC Decking — *installed right.*

The complete installation and after-care guide for the full Ezy Decking board range — Origin and PVC/ASA (including the 233mm super-wide board), solid and semi-solid WPC, and budget boards. Framing, fixings, expansion gaps and maintenance, written plain for the people doing the work.

BOARDS

138 × 23 · 233 × 23 · 146 × 21 mm

FIXINGS

Clip · Face-fix & plug

FRAMING

Aluminium · Composite · Timber

BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE

Read this *first*.

This guide will help you get a first-class result from Ezy Decking boards. It is general guidance only — it is not engineering, and it does not replace the current product data sheet for each board, or the requirements of a licensed builder.

IMPORTANT — PLEASE READ

Ezy Decking supplies decking. We don't build it.

We are a supplier, not a licensed builder or installer. All decking work should be designed and carried out by a suitably qualified and licensed builder, in accordance with the National Construction Code (NCC/BCA), the relevant Australian Standards, the current product data sheets, and your local council or building certifier's requirements.

As the importer, Ezy Decking is the manufacturer of these boards for the purposes of Australian Consumer Law — so our current product data sheets carry the exact figures and prevail over this guide. Structural elements — footings, posts, bearers, joists, fixings, balustrades, waterproofing and falls — are the responsibility of the builder and, where required, a structural engineer.

What this guide covers

- + Framing options — aluminium, composite battens and timber
- + Plastic, aluminium and stainless steel clip systems
- + Correct expansion gaps — by board type
- + The 233mm super-wide board — its own tighter rules
- + Step-by-step installation sequence
- + Long-term cleaning and after-care

What it doesn't replace

- + The current product data sheet for each board
- + A licensed builder's judgement on site
- + Engineering for structure, footings and spans
- + Council approval, certification and inspections
- + Bushfire (BAL), wind and load requirements for your site

WHAT'S INSIDE

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HOW TO USE IT

Work top to bottom. Sections 03–05 (framing, then gaps) are where most problems are made or avoided. If you only read one section, read **05 — Expansion gaps**. Laying the 233mm super-wide board? Section 07 governs wherever it differs.

SECTION 01

The *range*.

Ezy Decking boards come in PVC/ASA and WPC. They work the same way, but they don't all move the same amount or take the same fixings — so start here and match the rules to your board.

The board range at a glance

RANGE	SIZE	JOIST CENTRES – STRAIGHT	DIAGONAL / 45°	FIXING	MOVEMENT
Origin (PVC/ASA)	138×23	450 dom · 400 comm	–50 mm	Clip / face-fix & plug	Lower
Origin Super-Wide (PVC)	233×23	300 max — no exceptions	–50 mm	Aluminium clip only	Lower
PVC/ASA	138×23	450 dom · 400 comm	–50 mm	Clip / face-fix & plug	Lower
Solid WPC	138×23	450 dom · 400 comm	–50 mm	Concealed clip	Higher
Semi-solid WPC	138×23	400 max	–50 mm	Concealed clip	Higher
Budget WPC	146×21	350 max	–50 mm	Concealed clip	Higher

dom = domestic · comm = commercial. Reduce centres further for wet areas, exposed edges and heavier loads. The super-wide board and budget board are the only different sizes. Confirm every board against its current data sheet — it prevails.

How they move

Every board expands and contracts along its length with temperature — most on long runs and dark colours in full sun. **WPC boards (solid, semi-solid and budget) move noticeably more than the PVC/ASA boards** (Origin and PVC/ASA), so WPC needs the bigger gaps. Section 05 sets the figures.

How they fix

Every board takes the **concealed clip**. Because they move less, the **PVC/ASA boards can also be face-fixed and plugged** — WPC boards can't, they move too much for face fixing. The 233mm super-wide board takes **aluminium clips only** (Section 07). Section 06 covers the rest.

THE GOLDEN RULE

Never fit a board hard up against anything.

Not against another board end, not against a wall, post, pool coping or planter. The board needs room to expand and contract with the weather. Every gap in this guide exists for that reason.

SECTION 02

Before you *start*.

Delivery & storage

- + Store boards flat, fully supported on bearers, off the ground.
- + Keep bundles out of standing water and away from direct ground contact.
- + Don't drag boards off the stack — lift them, to protect the capped surface.
- + Let boards sit on site to settle to local conditions before fixing, especially in temperature extremes. This matters more on the wide board, not less.

Tools you'll want

- + Drop saw / circular saw with a fine-tooth (TCT) blade
- + Cordless driver, clips and the matching screws
- + Spacers, chalk line, square and a long straight edge
- + Tape, pencil and a thermometer for gap setting

Work safe

Cutting any composite or PVC board creates dust and offcuts. Wear the right gear.

- + Safety glasses to **AS/NZS 1337**
- + Dust mask / respirator to **AS/NZS 1716**
- + Hearing protection when using power saws
- + Cut outdoors or with extraction; sweep up offcuts and dust as you go

TIP

Cover the finished deck during any other trades' work. Plaster and concrete dust leave a haze that's a pain to remove later (repeated mopping will usually shift it, but prevention is easier).

Plan the falls. The substructure should fall slightly for drainage so water never pools on or under the deck. Set this before any boards go down.

SECTION 03

Substructure & *framing.*

A composite deck is only ever as good as the frame under it. Get the structure flat, ventilated, draining and correctly spaced — your builder and engineer own this part.

The non-negotiables

- + **Ventilation:** keep a minimum **100 mm** of clear, ventilated airflow under the deck.
- + **Drainage:** eliminate standing water — fall the frame and ground so water runs away.
- + **Flat & true:** joist tops in one plane; pack or plane high spots. Bumps telegraph through the boards.
- + **Support every end:** board ends must land on a joist — never unsupported.

Joist centres — by board

Centres depend on the board: from **300 mm** (super-wide) and **350 mm** (budget) up to **450 mm** (PVC/ASA and solid WPC, domestic). Semi-solid WPC runs at **400 mm**; all standard-width ranges drop to **400 mm** for commercial. See the full table in Section 01.

BOARD	STRAIGHT	DIAGONAL / 45°
PVC/ASA & solid WPC (138 × 23)	450 dom · 400 comm	– 50 mm
Semi-solid WPC (138 × 23)	400 max	– 50 mm
Budget WPC (146 × 21)	350 max	– 50 mm
Origin Super-Wide (233 × 23)	300 max – no exceptions	– 50 mm

When in doubt, tighten up. Closer centres make a stiffer, flatter deck. For commercial, wet or load areas — and near edges — reduce the centres and follow the data sheet and your engineer. The 300 mm figure for the super-wide board does not flex with site conditions: if a run can't achieve it, resolve the framing before boards go down.

SECTION 04

Framing *options.*

Origin can go over aluminium, composite battens or timber. Each behaves differently — here's what to allow for.

Aluminium framing

Dead-flat, dimensionally stable and rot-proof — the premium substructure, and excellent for rooftops, wet areas and coastal jobs. Allow for the frame's own thermal movement on long runs (build expansion into the structure), keep it ventilated and draining, and **match your fixings to avoid galvanic corrosion** between dissimilar metals (see fixings, Section 06). Use stainless steel or aluminium fasteners where specified.

Composite battens

Our composite battens aren't rated to span — they're fixed down to a **solid, level surface such as tiles or level concrete**. Allow for the batten's own movement, fix per its instructions, and keep every board end supported. Keep the slab draining so water never pools.

Timber framing

The traditional substructure, covered by **AS 1684**. Use durable or correctly treated timber for the exposure — generally **H3 minimum above ground**, H4 where in or near ground contact. Allow for timber's own movement and moisture, keep joist tops straight, and flash/seal where the frame meets a building. Joist-top protection tape helps shed water and reduces squeak.

ACROSS ALL THREE FRAMES

100 mm ventilation · drainage · supported ends · matched fixings.

Whatever the frame is made of: keep air moving underneath, never let water pool, support every board end on a joist, and pair the board, clip and screw materials correctly. The frame design, spans and footings are your builder's and engineer's call.

SECTION 05 / THE ONE TO GET RIGHT

Expansion gaps for the 138 × 23 and 233 × 23 boards.

Composite and PVC boards expand in the heat and contract in the cold — along their length, and WPC moves the most. Leave room to move and the deck stays tight and flat. Pinch it tight and it buckles, lifts or "walks". This is the section that protects the job and the warranty.

SECTION 05 · END-TO-END MOVEMENT

Gaps at board *ends*.

THE RULE — WPC BOARDS

1 mm of gap per metre of board — at each end — when the boards are cold.

WPC moves the most, so this rule governs it. Measured cold, the gap closes up as the boards warm through the day — a 5 m board gets roughly 5 mm at each end while it's cool. Round up, never down, and add a touch more on a cold morning, because the boards still have a lot of expanding to do.

End-gap guide — WPC (measured cold)

BOARD LENGTH	GAP EACH END	TOTAL / BUTT JOINT
2.4 m	2–3 mm	~5 mm
3.0 m	3 mm	~6 mm
3.6 m	4 mm	~7 mm
4.2 m	4 mm	~8 mm
4.8 m	5 mm	~10 mm
5.4 m	5–6 mm	~11 mm
5.8 m	6 mm	~12 mm

Indicative, based on the 1 mm/m rule for WPC. Confirm against the current data sheet for your board — it prevails.

BUTT JOINTS

Where two boards meet end-to-end, land the join on a **double joist** (or two joists) so both board ends are fully supported and fixed. Leave the end gap from the table between them. **A single shared clip gives each board end very little purchase** and leads to problems — give every end its own fixing.

PVC/ASA BOARDS — ORIGIN

Lower-movement boards: gaps can be **reduced** from the WPC figures per the data sheet, and these boards can be **face-fixed & plugged** (see Section 06). The 233mm super-wide board still needs its end gaps and must never be glued along its length (Section 07).

Long runs — breaker board vs staggered joins. A breaker-board layout gives **two separate gaps** — each run gets its own gap against the breaker board — so the individual gaps stay smaller. With a staggered butt-join layout, two boards meet at each joint and **both expand and contract toward it**, so that single gap has to take the movement of both boards.

SECTION 05 · SIDES, EDGES & ANTI-WALK

Sides, edges *& walking.*

Side gaps (board to board)

The concealed clip **sets the gap between boards automatically**. Seat every clip fully and don't force boards together — the clip spacing is the expansion gap. Keep clips consistent and the lines stay straight.

ANTI-WALK FIXING

Fit one of our **non-walking clips** at the **centre of each board run** — or drive a single screw at **45°** through the board into the joist at that point. Either way the middle is anchored, so the board expands and contracts evenly from one point instead of creeping in one direction and "walking" over time.

Perimeter gaps

Leave **5–10 mm** around every fixed object — walls, posts, pool coping, planters, columns. The board must never touch them. Trim and fascia hide the gap without closing it.

Keep the gaps clear. Don't let the side and end gaps fill with leaves or debris — blocked gaps stop drainage and stop the boards moving. A clear gap is a working gap.

SECTION 06

Fixing *systems.*

Boards fix with concealed clips that locate in the side groove. The lower-movement PVC/ASA boards (Origin and PVC/ASA) can also be face-fixed and plugged. Choose the clip material for the environment and the traffic.

CLIP	BEST FOR	WHY
Plastic	Standard domestic decks	Cost-effective, UV-stable, quiet underfoot, sets a consistent side gap. The everyday choice. Not approved for the 233mm super-wide board.
Aluminium	High-traffic & commercial; mandatory on 233mm super-wide	Stronger hold and a stiffer deck; won't degrade or creep under sustained load. Pair with the correct screws (see below).
Stainless steel	Coastal, pool & marine	Strong corrosion resistance and our toughest clip — quality stainless steel. For the harshest salt-spray sites, check the right option with us.

Concealed clip — all boards

The clip sits in the side groove, hides the fixing and **sets the side gap automatically**. It's the standard method for every board, and the **only** method for WPC — which moves too much for face fixing.

Starter, end & fascia

- + Start and end each run on the correct **starter / edge clip**.
- + Finish edges with matching **fascia and trims** — fixed to allow movement, never pinning the boards.

Face-fix & plug — PVC/ASA only

Because Origin and PVC/ASA move less, they can be **screwed through the face and finished with a colour-matched plug**. Pre-drill oversize for movement and fix at every joist. Not for WPC. On the super-wide board, reserve it for high-load zones only (Section 07).

Fix it well

- + **Pre-drill** board ends and all face screws for expansion and contraction.
- + Seat clips fully; drive screws square, don't overdrive.
- + Use the screws supplied with the system — don't substitute.

Breaker-board clips

Use breaker-board clips at any **change of direction** — picture-frame borders, breaker boards, and where two runs meet. They hold the board edges on both sides of the join, so the boards stay fixed and correctly gapped where a standard clip can't bridge the change of direction.

DISSIMILAR METALS — ON ALUMINIUM FRAMES
EZYDECKING.COM.AU · SUPPLIER, NOT INSTALLER

Match your metals, or they'll corrode.

Mixing metals in damp or coastal settings invites galvanic corrosion. Fixing to aluminium framing, use compatible

SECTION 07 · ENGINEERED FOR THE SPAN

Super-wide *233mm board.*

At 233mm wide, this board carries a longer unsupported span between joists than the standard-width profiles — nothing but the board itself holds the middle up between fixing points. The spec is built around that: tighter joist centres, aluminium-only clips, and clear rules on where extra fixing earns its keep. **Where this section differs from the rest of the guide, this section governs.**

Joist centres

Tighter centres directly reduce the unsupported span that causes mid-span bounce and cupping. Don't widen centres on this board to save joists — the standard 400–450 mm spacing isn't rated for this width.

THE NON-NEGOTIABLE

300 mm centres. No exceptions.

This is the one figure on this board that doesn't flex with site conditions. If a run can't achieve 300 mm centres, resolve the framing before boards go down — don't fix the board and plan to revisit it.

Aluminium clips only

Standard plastic clips are not approved for this board. Use aluminium castellated clips at every joist, every board, no exceptions. Aluminium holds edge engagement over years of heat cycling without the creep of a plastic clip under sustained load — and this board carries more dead weight and more leverage per clip than a standard-width board.

- + Aluminium clips at every joist — do not skip joists to save clips.
- + Do not mix clip types across a single board or deck area.
- + Confirm clip stock before quoting — standard clips will not be supplied for 233mm runs.

Screw & plug — high-load zones only

Keep the hidden-fix face for the main field. Reserve screw-and-plug fixing for zones carrying genuinely higher or more concentrated load:

- + Stair treads and stair nosings/edges
- + Picture-framing borders and deck perimeters
- + Entry thresholds and high-traffic pinch points
- + Any spot where heavy furniture, spas, planters or similar sit permanently in one place

KEEP THE FACE CLEAN

Don't screw-fix the whole field as standard. It's not needed away from load zones, and it removes the clean hidden-fix face that's the point of the board.

No adhesive along the run

No Sikaflex or adhesive bead along the board length. The board needs to slide as it expands and contracts — an adhesive bead fights that movement and concentrates stress at whatever point grabs hardest, which is more likely to cause a crack or a bow than prevent one. If a zone needs extra hold, use screw-and-plug at that point, not adhesive along the run.

SECTION 07 · HEAT, LOAD & QUICK REFERENCE

Sun, load and the *short version.*

Watch for cupping in full sun

Wide boards show top-to-underside temperature differential more visibly than narrow ones, simply because there's more material between the two fixed edges. In full, sustained sun — especially on a board carrying a static load while hot — a slight cup can develop and, in some cases, persist after the board cools.

- + Avoid leaving heavy static loads (planters, spa steps, eskies, furniture) in the same spot for extended periods in full summer sun.
- + Acclimatise on site per Section 02 before fixing — this matters more on a wide board, not less.
- + If a run will sit in full west or north sun with no shade relief, mention this to the customer at quote stage — it's a characteristic of the width, not a fault.

233 × 23mm at a glance

SPEC	SETTING
Joist centres (max)	300 mm — no exceptions
Clip type	Aluminium only — every joist, every board
Screw & plug	High-load zones only — stairs, borders, thresholds, permanent heavy loads
Adhesive along board length	Not permitted — point loads are screw-fixed, never glued
Acclimatisation	As per Section 02 — critical on this board given the width
End and perimeter gaps	As per Section 05 for PVC/ASA boards

Built on a conservative engineering basis

The 300 mm centres and aluminium-only clip spec aren't a placeholder — they're deliberately tighter than the standard-width figures, set to account for the 233mm profile's longer unsupported span and the greater edge leverage it puts through each clip. It's the same conservative approach applied across the Ezy Decking range. As with every product we import, this spec is reviewed against current supplier span and deflection data on an ongoing basis, and updated if that data ever calls for a tighter setting — the current product data sheet always prevails over this guide.

FOR QUOTES CARRYING HEAVY STATIC LOAD

Talk to us before it goes on the job.

Spa surrounds, commercial areas and permanent furniture zones carry higher sustained load than the standard field. Call our team and we'll confirm the loading with you before it's quoted — quick to check, and it keeps the spec matched to the job.

SECTION 08

Installation *sequence.*

- 01 **Check the frame.** Flat and true, falling for drainage, 100 mm ventilation, joist centres correct for the board and the lay (450 mm straight / 400 mm diagonal for standard widths; 300 mm for the super-wide board). Fix any high or low joists now.
- 02 **Settle the boards.** Let them adjust to site conditions, and note the board temperature — it sets your gaps.
- 03 **Set out.** Square the deck, plan your board runs and butt joints (joints land on double joists), and mark your perimeter 5–10 mm off every wall and post.
- 04 **Fix the starter.** Run the starter / edge clips along the first edge and lay the first board true to your line.
- 05 **Lay & clip.** Seat a clip at every joist, drop in the next board, repeat. Let the clips set the side gap — don't force boards together. Aluminium clips only on the super-wide board.
- 06 **Hold the end gaps.** Keep the board-end gaps from the table at every butt joint and at the perimeter. Use spacers so they stay honest.
- 07 **Anchor the centre.** Fit a non-walking clip — or drive a 45° screw — at the centre of each board run.
- 08 **Finish the edges.** Last board on edge clips, then fascia and trims — fixed to allow movement. Screw-and-plug high-load zones on the super-wide board.
- 09 **Clean down.** Sweep the gaps clear, wash off dust, and check every gap is open and even. If it's not square, it's not finished.

SECTION 09

Do's & *don'ts*.

Do

- + Leave every expansion gap — ends, sides and perimeter
- + Land butt joints on a double joist
- + Pre-drill ends and face fixings
- + Match clip, screw and frame metals
- + Keep 100 mm ventilation and good drainage
- + Anchor the centre of every run — non-walking clip or 45° screw
- + Keep board gaps clear of debris
- + Frame the super-wide board at 300 mm with aluminium clips
- + Work to the current Origin install sheet

Don't

- + Butt boards hard against walls, posts or each other
- + Force boards together past the clip spacing
- + Leave a board end unsupported between joists
- + Mix metals near salt without stainless fixings
- + Install near **low-E glass** — reflected heat can damage boards
- + Sit a BBQ or heater straight on the deck — use a mat
- + Let water pool above or below the deck
- + Block the gaps with trim or debris
- + Glue any board along its length, or use plastic clips on the super-wide board

THE ONE THAT CAUSES CALL-BACKS

Closed gaps. Every time.

The overwhelming majority of composite deck problems trace back to a board fitted too tight somewhere. If you're ever unsure, leave a little more gap — not less.

SECTION 10

After-care & *cleaning.*

Ezy Decking boards are low maintenance — not no maintenance. A little routine care keeps the surface looking new for the life of the deck.

Routine cleaning

- + Clean regularly to stop dirt and grime building up.
- + For everyday dirt, **mild dish detergent and water** is all you need — apply with a soft nylon brush or mop.
- + Pressure washer? Use it with care: **under 2000 psi**, nozzle no closer than **300 mm**, and clean **in the direction of the grain**.
- + Hose down the deck if a lot of pool water splashes onto it.

Spills & marks

- + Clean grease and oil **straight away**. A capped-deck cleaner can be used — always test an out-of-the-way spot first.
- + Cover the deck during other building work — plaster and concrete dust haze the surface (repeated mopping will usually lift it).

Protect the surface

- + Put **felt pads** under furniture — dragging it can scratch the boards.
- + Use **pot feet or stands** under planters so water can evaporate and doesn't stain.
- + Keep **wrought iron and steel** from sitting on or over the deck — it can leave dark staining.
- + On **WPC and PVC boards**, light scratches can be eased out by pushing the edges back together — a **heat gun works well on WPC**.

Heat & reflection

- + Keep BBQs and heaters off the deck surface — use a **BBQ mat**. Radiated heat and flame can damage boards.
- + Avoid **low-E glass** nearby — its reflection concentrates heat and can damage close boards.
- + Keep the board gaps clear so rain washes pollen and debris away between cleans.
- + Move heavy static loads around on the super-wide board over summer.

Enjoy it. Beyond the odd wash-down and a bit of common sense with heat and furniture, your deck is built to be left alone and enjoyed.

SECTION 11

Standards & *warranty.*

Standards your builder works to

Decking work in Australia is governed by the NCC and a range of Australian Standards. Your licensed builder and certifier will apply the ones relevant to your site. Commonly:

- + **NCC / BCA** — National Construction Code; the overarching requirements and approval
- + **AS 1684** — Residential timber-framed construction (timber subframes)
- + **AS/NZS 1170** — Structural design actions, including wind
- + **AS 1657** — Platforms, walkways, stairs and guardrailing
- + **AS 3959** — Construction in bushfire-prone areas (BAL)
- + **AS 4654** — Waterproofing for decks over habitable spaces
- + **AS/NZS 1337 & 1716** — Eye and respiratory protection when cutting

Decks above a set height need compliant balustrades; many decks need council approval and certifier inspection. Your builder confirms what applies.

Keeping the warranty intact

Each range carries its own warranty — Origin's is a **20-year residential warranty**, issued by Ezy Decking (Low Maintenance Importing Pty Ltd ATF SMINT Trust). Every warranty depends on the boards being installed and maintained correctly.

THE WARRANTY HOLDS WHEN

Boards are installed to this guide and the current data sheet — correct joist centres, expansion gaps, fixings and ventilation — and maintained per the after-care here. Skipping the gaps is the quickest way to void it.

Register within 90 days of installation at ezydecking.com.au/warranty with photos of the completed frame and boards to unlock the extended cover. The published warranty document sets out the complete conditions and prevails over any summary here.

DISCLAIMER

Guidance only — not building or engineering advice.

Ezy Decking supplies decking products and, as the importer, is the manufacturer of these boards for the purposes of Australian Consumer Law — it is not a licensed builder, installer or engineer. This guide is general information only. It does not replace the current product data sheet for each board, the NCC, the relevant Australian Standards, or council/certifier requirements — all of which must be followed. The installation must be carried out by a suitably qualified, licensed builder in accordance with those documents. Where a builder departs from this guide or the current data sheet, the resulting work is the builder's responsibility and the product warranty may be void. All figures are indicative and must be confirmed against the current data sheet for the board, which prevails. To the extent permitted by law, Ezy Decking accepts no liability for any loss or damage arising from reliance on this guide, or from any installation that does not follow this guide or the current data sheet.

BUILT ON THE BASICS

Quality decking, built once and *built right*.

Questions on a job, a product or a claim? Talk to a person who knows decking.

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Changes in V1.1 (September 2026): 233 x 23mm super-wide board incorporated — range table, joist-centre table, clip table, new Section 07, sequence, do's & don'ts and after-care updated; supersedes the standalone Super-Wide Board Install Addendum v1.1. Warranty registration wording aligned with the product warranties. Branch phone numbers added.