



# SQUARE DECKING INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

## Tools and Items Needed

- Drill/power screwdriver
- 1/8" drill bit
- Circular saw with carbide-tip blade
- 2 1/2" minimum composite wood deck screws (e.g. Starborn Fasteners)
- Tape measure
- Carpenter's pencil
- Safety glasses/goggles
- DO NOT use cordless impact drivers
- Set drill speed to 1500-1750 RPM
- Max torque not to exceed 23 inch pounds
- Pre-drill knots or dense hardwood

### Notice to installers

- DO NOT use cordless impact drivers

Each Veranda board has a unique appearance and should be arranged according to the end user's preference. Prior to construction, check with your local regulatory agency for code requirements in your area. For best results, follow these simple installation instructions, paying close attention to gapping, spacing and fastener requirements.

## Joist Span

Depending on local building code requirements, refer to PFS-TECO RR-100 or CCMC 13378-R for joist spacing and stair tread support options. Contact Veranda product support at 877-463-8379 for information on commercial applications.

## End-to-End Spacing

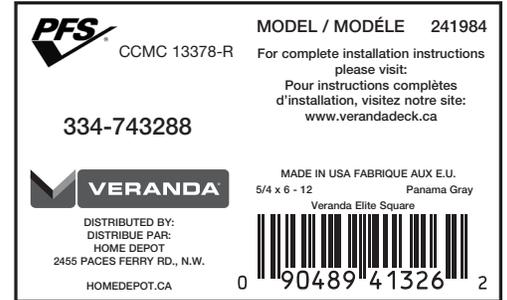
Allow a minimum of 1/16" gap between board ends for every 11°C of difference between installation temperature and the hottest temperature expected (fig. 1). Additional blocking may be needed for support (fig. 2). Allow 1/4" distance between all decking material and any permanent structure or post. After all decking has been attached, snap a chalk line (white or yellow chalk recommended) flush with or up to 1-1/2" out from the deck framing and trim with a circular saw. Veranda decking, like all wood and composite decking products, requires proper ventilation and drainage in order to ensure its longevity. When using a minimum 2x6 joist standing on edge, with the suggested 1/4" side gap, there should be a 2" clear space between the bottom edge of the joists and grade to allow for proper ventilation. Adequate drainage is also needed to prevent water from pooling under the deck.

## Fasteners

For ease of installation, we recommend using 2-1/2" corrosion-resistant, composite wood deck screws. These screws help minimize the common "mushroom" effect that sometimes occurs when using standard fasteners. They can also reduce the amount of pre-drilling and countersinking. If using ordinary coarse thread deck screws, always pre-drill a pilot hole and countersink prior to driving screws.

Screws should be driven flush with the Veranda decking surface. Do not over-tighten. Use two fasteners per deck board at each joist. For any decking where two boards meet end-to-end over a joist, add additional blocking (fig. 2). Always pre-drill a pilot hole and countersink at board ends when using either composite or wood screws. Be careful not to over-tighten screws near board ends.

Please refer to PFS-TECO RR-0100 for stringer spacing when deck boards are used as stair treads.



(A) Sample End Tag

*Note: Always follow best workmanship practices. Including, and not limited to, square cutting both board ends prior to installation.*

		Board-End to Board-End Gapping Requirements										
		Warmest annual temperature °C expected in region										
Temperature °C on day of installation	°C	-7	-1	4	10	16	21	27	32	38	43	49
	-7	1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8	3/16	3/16	1/4	1/4	5/16	5/16
	-1		1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8	3/16	3/16	1/4	1/4	5/16
	4			1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8	3/16	3/16	1/4	1/4
	10				1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8	3/16	3/16	1/4
	16					1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8	3/16	3/16
	21						1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8	3/16
	27							1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8
	32								1/8	1/8	1/8	1/8
	38									1/8	1/8	1/8
	43										1/8	1/8
49											1/8	

fig. 1

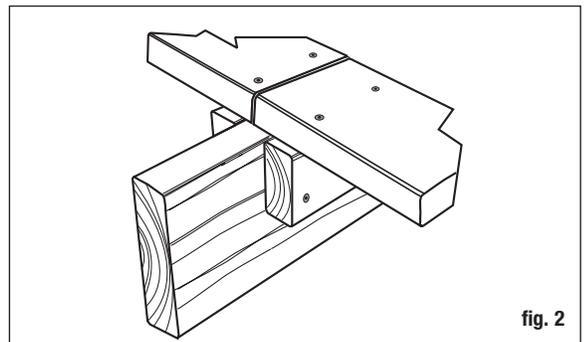


fig. 2

*Pre-drill and countersink all deck screws, regardless of type, that are within 1-1/2" of the end of the deck board.*

## Color Variation

Like most composites, Veranda Decking will have color variations from piece to piece. This is due to naturally occurring variations in wood fibers and polymers. Purchasing all required decking material at one time is recommended, as manufacturing runs can produce slightly different colors. Do not install if color variation is not acceptable.

## Preventing Mold and Mildew Growth

Mold and mildew can be a nuisance on any exterior building surface, regardless of the material. If the conditions are right, they will grow on wood, plastic, concrete, metal and other surfaces. Mold formation is most prevalent in consistently wet, shaded areas. Spores from the natural environment are carried by the wind and commonly land on decks surfaces. It is important to note that the appearance of mold/mildew is a function of nature, not necessarily a deficiency with any of the material on which it grows.

## Cleaning

Periodic washing with soap/mild detergent and water will help remove surface dirt. This will also help prevent the buildup of pollen, debris and spores that can cause and accelerate mold/mildew growth. *Caution: A pressure washer should not be used to “blast” mold/mildew or soils from a deck surface. The abrasive nature of the water stream can potentially cause damage by driving the spores deeper into the material, which may create a more challenging problem to remedy. A pressure washer with a fan-tipped nozzle should be used only to lightly wet or rinse wood or composite deck surfaces.*

There are many deck wash and exterior cleaning products available at retail. It is important to make sure you use a cleaner specifically intended for your application. After selecting a product, be certain to read, understand and follow all instructions supplied by the manufacturer. Some cleaning products and inhibitors may be more effective than others, depending on the environmental conditions your deck is subjected to. Additionally, it is always a good idea to test the cleaner in a small, inconspicuous area prior to applying it to the entire deck.

*Tips for snow removal: Care should be taken when removing snow from your deck to avoid damaging the deck surface. Use a plastic snow shovel, one without a metal edge. A stiff push broom can work very well and minimizes lifting. Light snow can be cleared using a leaf blower. Do not attempt to break up or scrape ice from the deck surface; use ice melt products when needed. No concerns have been reported using ice melt products labeled “Safe for Pets”.*

## Mold Inhibitors

As with deck washes, there are several mold-inhibitor products available from paint stores, hardware stores, online outlets and home centers to help prevent long-term mold/mildew growth. For any product selected, be certain to read, understand and follow all instructions provided by the manufacturer. Depending upon the environmental factors affecting your deck, some preventive cleaning products may be more effective than others. It may be necessary to try more than one product. For ongoing preventive maintenance, follow the manufacturer’s recommendation.

*Note: Veranda deck boards are not suitable for structural use. It should not be used for primary load-bearing members such as posts, joists, beams or stringers. The same common-sense precautions should be taken when handling Veranda deck boards as with wood or other building materials. Dust masks and eye protection devices are recommended to avoid possible irritation from sawdust and chips. Gloves will help protect hands. Hands should be washed after construction work.*

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