



Minimising Expansion & Contraction on your deck

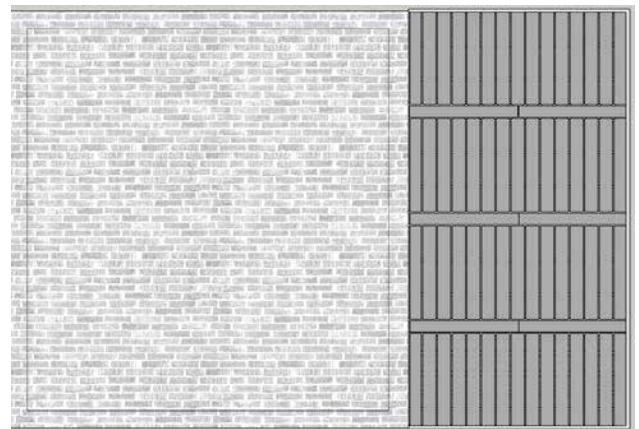
All composite boards experience slight expansion and contraction due to the composition of the materials. This characteristic is usually factored for by a qualified builder and can be minimised or eliminated if installed correctly.

We have seen instances of shrinkage - in most cases caused by improper installation and most on DIY projects.

The following key installation components are adhered to by professional installers to minimise or negate board shrinkage:

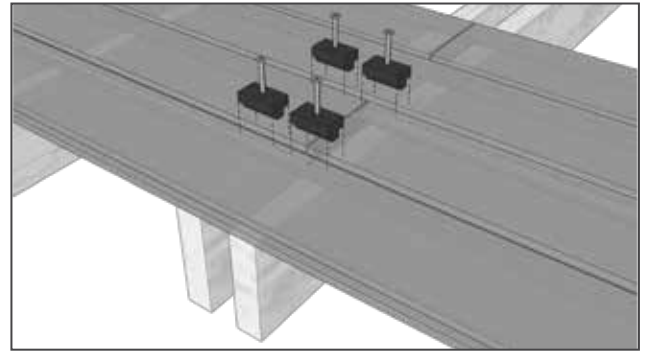
1. Breaker Board Design

The best way to negate expansion and contraction is to use a breaker board design when installing your deck. Breaker Boards are best structural configuration to minimise expansion and contraction on composite materials and are also the most aesthetically pleasing design.



2. Securing Butt Joints

If a staggered joist has been used, ensure that boards intersecting at Butt Joints are secured with 4 clips to the joist (2 for each board as per below)



3. Anti - Creep Clips

Anti-Creep Clips are special clips designed to minimise movement for board lengths over 3m in length. These clips are provided on request.



4. Severe temperature variations

In areas that experience large fluctuations in temperature, installing an additional security screw through the board and joist at reasonable intervals is often adhered to by experienced installers.



5. Boards are installed with temperature variations in mind

Composite boards must be installed with specific gaps based on the temperature at the time of installation. This is to accommodate for the expansion/contraction aspect that is inherent within all composite materials.

Installation Temperature	1m Board	2m Board	3m Board	4m Board	5.4m Board	5.8m Board
10C	1.5mm	3.0mm	4.5mm	6.0mm	8.1mm	8.4mm
20C	1.0mm	2.0mm	3.0mm	4.0mm	5.4mm	5.6mm
30C	0.5mm	1.0mm	1.5mm	2.0mm	2.7mm	2.8mm
40C	0.2mm	0.4mm	0.6mm	0.8mm	1.0mm	1.1mm

