

Deck Board Spacing Guide

Correct gap spacing for pressure-treated wood, composite, Trex, and TimberTech decking.

Gap Spacing by Material

Material	Side Gap	End Gap	Fastener	Max Joist
Pressure-Treated Wood	1 / 8 3	1 / 8 3	Face screws	1 6 3 O C
Composite (generic)	3 / 1 6 3	1 / 4 3	Hidden clips	1 6 3 O C
Trex	3 / 1 6 3	1 / 4 3	Hideaway clips	1 6 3 O C
TimberTech	3 / 1 6 3	1 / 4 3	CONCEALoc	1 6 3 O C

Quick Tips

- Below 40°F: widen end gaps to 3/83. Above 90°F: can tighten to 3/163.
- Composite expands far more than wood — a 20 ft board grows ~1/83 in summer heat
- Diagonal layouts: reduce joist spacing from 163 to 123 on center
- TimberTech CONCEALoc clips NOT approved for stairs — use face screws on treads
- PT wood shrinks as it dries — gap opens naturally over first season