

## **HANDLING AND CUTTING:**

*Store out of direct sunlight. Allow wood to acclimate and stabilize to the installation environment humidity levels before use.*

Allow for proper air circulation underneath the decking in your design for long-term stability. Allow a 1/8" gap between deck boards for drainage and airflow. Air Dried decking will shrink approximately 1/16" on 4" wide boards and 1/8" on 6" wide boards. Decking will shrink less on KD Products. Carbide tipped saw blades and high quality drills are recommended for smooth cuts.

## **END SEALING:**

*Seal all ends immediately after cutting with "Anchorseal" clear wax end sealer, in order to reduce end checking/splitting. Always seal Ipé before installing if at all possible to reduce surface checking. (See Finishing Instructions on page 2).*

## **FASTENING:**

*Use a bead of high quality exterior adhesive, similar to "PL Premium or PL 500", between the deck boards and the joists ON ALL INSTALLATIONS.*

Use stainless steel trim head screws, driven with a slow speed drill into a pilot hole and countersink. Use two fasteners to attach decking to each joist. Many contractors use #7 X 2 1/4" stainless steel trim head square drive, screwed into a 1/8" pilot hole and countersink.

Coated or galvanized steel fasteners have been used; however they stain the wood black and have a shorter service life. Pre-drill ends of boards to avoid splitting. Screws require a pilot hole and countersink, including the self-drilling types. To determine proper fastener length, multiply the wood thickness times 2.5.

## **ALTERNATIVE INSTALLATION METHODS:**

*Hidden Fastener Systems: Although labor intensive, these systems eliminate the screw head from showing on the deck surface.*

The "EB-TY" fastener (available from West Wind Hardwood, Inc.) is installed from the topside of the deck into kerf cuts made by a plate jointer, or a three winged router bit into the sides of the boards. The "Deckmaster" (800-869-1375) is a metal bracket fastened to the joist and screwed to the decking from the underside.

Nail Guns: Pneumatic finish nailers using stainless finishing nails have been used on 1 X 4 decking. Angle nails at 15 degrees towards the center of the board creating a clip effect. If the air driven nails cause splitting, lower the pressure and manually set the nail head. Use a bead of high quality exterior adhesive, similar to "PL Premium or PL 500", between the deck boards and the joists.

## Finishing:

***Seal Ipé immediately before installation to reduce the potential for surface checking. If you seal after installation and installing over a prolonged period or during hot weather, sealing after each phase is recommended.***

To maintain the natural rich walnut color, use a transparent penetrating oil outdoor finish with UV inhibitors in a trans-oxide pigmented “cedar tone” or “redwood tint” and reapply as needed. If a natural weathering to a silver gray is desired, use a clear oil based sealer after installation and forget about resealing; forever.

To turn silver gray wood back to the original color, use a “wood brightener” containing oxalic acid. Before application of sealers, brush and wash the surface to remove any dust, dirt and sticker residue.

Due to the density, do not over apply any sealers or a sticky surface may result.

## SPANING:

Nominal Size	40psf	60psf	100psf
1" x 4"	32"	28"	24"
1" x 6"	38"	32"	28"
5/4" x 6"	42"	36"	32"
2" x 4"	62"	56"	48"

To the best of our knowledge this information is accurate; however, due to the variance of products grown in nature, West Wind Hardwood, Inc. cannot assume any liability or suitability for the use of these products and it is the sole responsibility of the installer to adequately test and determine the final application. Follow all manufactures recommended application instructions when using proprietary products.