

DIY Decking Kit - Just Add Timber



Instructions to Build Decking

with the KDK1E DIY Decking Kit

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SIMPSON Strong-Tie before you get started...



Buying Your Timber

To ensure that your deck frame is sturdy and stands the test of time, we recommend that you use 44×144 mm section treated timber to build the decking frame.

Kit Contents

Item	Quantity	Purpose		
Structural Screw	16	Connect Outer Decking Frame Joists Together	<u>↓</u>	
Angle Brackets	8	Reinforce Outer Decking Frame	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
Joist Hangers	16	Attach Supporting Joists to Outer Decking Frame	6.	
Coated Decking Screw*	400	Fix Deckboards to Outer Decking Frame and Supporting Joists	A MAMAMAAA~	
Square Twist Nail*	200	Install Angle Brackets and Joist Hangers to Decking Frame		

This decking kit contains sufficient components to build a deck frame and install deckboards to cover an area approximately 9m². Please ensure you have all of the components before you begin building. Timber for the frame and deckboards are not included.

* Please note, there may be a surplus number of these components depending on the size and width of your deck, the deckboards you use and the spacing of the supporting joists. The kit contents cover the maximum requirement you will have.

before you get started...



Useful Tips

Dry Run

It's a good idea to have a dry run before you begin. Lay out the timber frame and then place the deckboards in position leaving a gap of 3-5mm between each deckboard. This way you can be sure that the boards all fit neatly over the frame. If the deckboards do not cover the whole frame, or overhang the frame, you may want to make the deck slightly smaller or larger to get perfect coverage.

Deck Board Spacing

Always leave a gap of 3-5mm between each deckboard, this not only allows for expansion of the wood, it also lets rain drain away easily and air to flow through the boards, helping them to dry out more quickly. You can use the square twist nails (included) as spacers.

Joist Spacing

The centre of each supporting joist (see below) should be spaced at a maximum of 400mm from the centre of the neighbouring joist, this is to prevent the deck from bowing and provides the correct strength.

Use a Deckboard to Cover the Frame Sides

Where the outer frame of the deck is exposed, you may prefer to fix a deckboard to the side of it to provide a more aesthetic finish.





Step 1: Building the Outside Frame

- First, decide on the shape of your deck. This kit contains enough connectors and fastenings to build a 9m² decking area. Start by building the frame that will support all of your deckboards.
- Lay out the frame and ensure that you have the timber cut to the correct length and size (remember to test out the deckboards at 3-5mm spacings). We recommend using 44mm wide by 144mm high treated timber. The treatment helps prevent warping when the timber gets wet.



A) Begin joining the corners together. Install 2 x structural screws through the outside face of the corner (where each outer frame joist meets another). Use a set square to make sure the corners are straight.



B): Install 1 x angle bracket directly to the inside face of the frame, fixing into the joist using 8 x square twist nails (included).

Repeat steps A-B for each corner of the frame.

Optional Leg: If you want the deck raised slightly off the ground to help prevent the frame from rotting, you can install legs. On a square deck we suggest one in each corner. Take an offcut from the 44x144mm joist and make a piece long enough to allow 40mm clearance off the ground. We recommend that you paint or varnish the end of the timber that comes into contact with the ground.



C) Optional: If you want the deck to be raised from the ground slightly, position an offcut of timber as shown above. A clearance of 40mm from the ground is sufficient.



D) Optional: Fasten the leg to the inside corner of the frame using 2 x structural screws, positioned diagonally as shown above. Install 1 x angle bracket to the inside face of the frame and the wide face of the leg using 8 x square twist nails.







A) Spread the joists out so that are evenly spaced apart and ensure that the gap between the joists is no more than 400mm. Mark on the outer frame in pencil the position of the joist.



B) Place a joist hanger so that it lines up with the marking made in step 2A. Line up the bottom edge of the joist hanger against the bottom edge of the frame. Squeeze the hanger together so that the sides are vertical and hit the speed prongs with a hammer. Nail the hanger into the frame through the 6 nail holes.



C) Repeat step 2B until all of the joist hangers are in position and are installed to opposite sides of the frame. Ensure that the hangers line up ready for the joists.



D) Place the timber joist in the hanger as shown above. Hit the side speed prongs into the timber joist to provide additional grip. Drive a nail into the side of the supporting joist, through the hole next to the speed prong.



E): Repeat step 2D until all of the supporting joists are fastened in place.

You should now have a completed frame with each joist supported by a joist hanger at each end. The top of each joist should be flush to the top of the outer frame.



Step 3: Fixing the Deck Boards to the Frame



A) Lay out the deckboards first, starting from the front of the deck frame. Ensure that both ends of each deckboard finish over a joist (so there is something to fasten down to).



B) Where the overall length of the deck is greater than the length of the deckboard, cut the deckboards down to size. Make sure that the join between two deckboards occurs over a joist so both boards can be screwed into position.



C) Starting from the front edge of the deck frame, place a board flush with the front.





E) As you fix the remaining deckboards, maintain a gap of 3-5mm between each one. The nails included can be used as a guide to the spacing.



F) To finish the deck, place one of the deckboards vertically along the front of the frame and fix to the frame with decking screws. This will hide the screws and improve the appearance of the deck frame.







Structural Screw



Angle Bracket and Nails



Decking Screw



Joist Hanger

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Also available: the DIY Utility Kit

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- Strong: designed for use with 38 x 89mm timber, the result is incredibly sturdy.



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