

## Tips for Installing Gossen PVC Decking

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=0XZq-zMaKmo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0XZq-zMaKmo)

- TOOLS NEEDED
  - 96 tooth Circular saw using a carbide-tipped blade.
- JOIST SUBSTRUCTURE
  - Joist spacing - Do not exceed 16" O/C for perpendicular and 12" O/C for diagonal board installation.
  - Consider picture framing by installing trim board/s around the perimeter of the deck, which keeps water and debris out of the fascia/rim joists. Involves extra joists and blocking.
  - Apply a liquid preservative, which contains copper naphthenate, to all pressure treated end-cuts.
  - Use Ledger Board Flashing & Isolation Barrier Tape [www.yorkmfg.com/index.php/residential/flashing](http://www.yorkmfg.com/index.php/residential/flashing)
  - Secure the ledger board(thru the rim board) to the house floor joists [www.deck-lok.com/ledgers.htm](http://www.deck-lok.com/ledgers.htm)
  - Recommended slope for proper drainage is 1/16" per linear foot away from the house.
  - Ensure that all deck joists are crowned correctly and that all joists are level across the top.
    - Grabber Joist Jaw video [www.grabberman.com/Media/TechnicalData/403.wmv](http://www.grabberman.com/Media/TechnicalData/403.wmv)
  - Ensure all the deck joists have solid blocking. Secure railing posts [www.deck-lok.com/railposts.htm](http://www.deck-lok.com/railposts.htm)
- STAIR TREADS/SUBSTRUCTURE
  - Do not exceed 10" on-center for stair treads (stringers). [www.deck-lok.com/stair-stringers.htm](http://www.deck-lok.com/stair-stringers.htm)
  - Do not use side fastening clips on stair deck board installations.
    - Use Hidden Fasteners [www.gossencorp.com/cortex-hidden-fastening-system.php](http://www.gossencorp.com/cortex-hidden-fastening-system.php) or [www.starbornindustries.com/pro-plug-pvc-product](http://www.starbornindustries.com/pro-plug-pvc-product)
  - Overhang should not exceed 1/2."
- FASTENERS (Options)
  - Face Fasten, Hidden Screws with Plugs (Recommended method; the best board-to-joist connection)
  - Hidden Fastening Systems [www.gossencorp.com/cortex-hidden-fastening-system.php](http://www.gossencorp.com/cortex-hidden-fastening-system.php) or [www.starbornindustries.com/pro-plug-pvc-product](http://www.starbornindustries.com/pro-plug-pvc-product)
  - Side Fasten, Clips (with grooved deck boards)
    - Grabber Deckmaster G5 three-leg Clips [www.grabberman.com/Media/TechnicalData/453.pdf](http://www.grabberman.com/Media/TechnicalData/453.pdf)
    - Face Fasten within 1/2" from the end of EVERY board, entire square-edge trim and stair boards.
  - Face Fasten, Stainless Steel Screws
    - Starborn Headcote #8 stainless steel screws [www.starbornindustries.com/headcote](http://www.starbornindustries.com/headcote)
- VENTILATION
  - Minimum 1/4" space from any solid structure, includes around posts.
  - Minimum 6" between bottom joist and ground
  - Recommended side-by-side deck board spacing of a minimum of 1/8".
- EXPANSION AND CONTRACTION
  - Face Fasten within 1/2" from the end of the Board. • Butt joints must be tight (do not gap). • Minimum 1/4" space from any solid structure • Stagger butt joints and miters across Deck surface. • Double joist or scab in additional framing at butt joints. • Install Boards as soon after cutting as possible.
- RIMBOARD (FASCIA) Thickness-5/8", length-12', width-7-1/4" or 11-1/4"
  - Use SplitStop Fascia Screw Installation System [www.splitstop.com/PRODUCTS/composite.asp](http://www.splitstop.com/PRODUCTS/composite.asp) or StarBorn DeckFast Fascia System [www.starbornindustries.com/deckfast-fascia-product](http://www.starbornindustries.com/deckfast-fascia-product) . Both pre-drilling tools create an over-sized hole for the fascia screws to accommodate for expansion/contraction.
  - • Fasten Boards within 1/2" from the edge/top/bottom of the Board. • Use 2 screws every 12" for the 7-1/4" wide Boards. • Use 3 screws every 12" for 11-1/4" wide Boards. • Fascia Boards must be fastened along its full length and width to a supporting structure of the Deck. For example 11-1/4" Boards must attach to a minimum of a 2"x10" rim joist.