



On site Handling

SIMDeck Bamboo (cognacCETCH and espressoXTR) should be stored in dry, well-ventilated and covered area. Keep the boards at least 100mm off the ground by stacking boards on timber gluts and cover the decking with a tarp to protect the boards from sunlight.

Decking Installation

cognacCETCH and espressoXTR bamboo decking are decking products designed to be installed per the guidelines provided and outlined in the Australian Standard 1684: Residential Timber – Framed Construction and AS1720: Timber Structures – Design Methods.

Design methods above are based on residential project installation, any commercial project application will require additional support or adjustment in installation guide.

Installation Preparation

- The surface below the decking should be clear of weeds, debris and excessive moisture to ensure better performance of the boards. Adequate ventilation of the underside of the decking and good surface drainage is necessary to ensure better performance of the boards.
- Ensure good ventilation of the ends of the boards by keeping at least 20mm space at walls and obstacles and avoid closing the terrace on the sides.
- Simmonds recommends boards be placed minimum 100mm above the ground like normal timber decking.
- End sealing is needed when boards are cut to prevent checking and splitting.

Installation Methods and Requirements

Install the boards on sub frame joists with maximum 462.5mm centre to centre or a divisible of the board's length. To ensure proper installation, it is recommended to align the ends of the boards directly on a joist.

Boards can be either fixed on the sub-frame by provided clips or by using screws through the surface of the boards.

The boards are pre-finished with WOCA® water-based oil for transportation. We recommended applying an additional water-based oil coat within 4 to 8 weeks of installation.

Option 1 – Clips Installation Method

- Determine the surface side of the boards (smooth or reeded surface).
- Pre-drill screw holes in the side of the first board; or use the starter clips.
- Insert decking fastener in the groove of the decking board then screw it to the joist to maintain a 5mm expansion space between boards.
- Use fasteners according to the width of the boards and joist spacing.

Option 2 – Screw Down Installation Method

- Determine the surface side of the boards (smooth or reeded surface).
- Pre-drill the screw holes 20mm from the side of the board. Always use 2 screws to fix both sides of the board (left and right).
- Use stainless steel decking screws of minimum 5x50mm to fix the decking.

Maintenance After Installation

The boards need to be cleaned and maintained every 6 to 12 months. The frequency of maintenance depends on the weathering process and the cleaning habit, so we recommend doing maintenance every 6 months in areas with harsh climate and high humidity.

Before maintenance, the boards should be thoroughly cleaned using a commercially available deck cleaner, applied as per the manufacturer's or supplier's instructions.

We recommend using WOCA® water-based maintenance oil or similar water-based oil to maintain the performance of the boards. Maintenance methods should follow the coating manufacturer's or supplier's instructions.

Do Note

cognacCETCH and espressoXTR bamboo decking are all-natural products, similar to normal timber decking, and their appearance may vary in colour, grain and appearance as they weather over time. The original colour will eventually fade and become greyish when exposed to sunlight. To maintain its original colour, regular maintenance should be done with exterior water-based decking oil (refer to above section "Maintenance After Installation").

As SIMDeck Bamboo products contain natural fibres, as it weathers, there may be some dimensional changes, such as cupping of the board. Some surface checking and grain lift may arise due to different drying characteristics of the surface and cross-cut ends. This phenomenon is normal for most wood species and does not affect the durability and stability of the boards. To minimise the above-mentioned, we recommend regular maintenance (refer to above section "Maintenance After Installation").

Decking installation around pools or near saltwater

If installing SIMDeck Bamboo around pools or near saltwater, it is important to note the following:

- cognacCETCH and espressoXTR bamboo decking are natural products like traditional timber decking, with an inherent risk of formation of grain lift in areas of high humidity. This is a natural phenomenon for natural products and is minimised by SIMDeck Bamboo's patented treatment process.
- A more frequent maintenance regime will be required in areas like swimming pools and near salt water to reduce the formation of grain lift. If grain lift does occur, we recommend

cleaning, sand, and re-oiling using a commercially available deck cleaner and water-based decking oil according to the manufacturer's or supplier's instructions.

Fixings

Before fixing, decking should be coated on all six sides as per installation requirements. All bolts, screws, framing anchors, and other hardware are required to be hot dip galvanised or stainless-steel. Electroplated fasteners are *not suitable* due to the early breakdown of the plating.

The table below lists the nail size for fixing the deck. Each board should be fixed at every joint crossing with proprietary ss clips, two screws or nails. Nails or screws should be located at least 12mm from the board edges.

Due to the density of SIMDeck Bamboo, we recommend pre-drilling before installing screws or nails.

When bullet head nails are used, they should be driven flush with the surface. Do not punch and fill.

Fixings within 1000mm of a pool or moist area should be stainless steel.

Product	SIMDeck Bamboo Espresso XTR/ Cognac CTECH
Grade	Select Grade
Thickness	20mm
Joist Span	462.5mm (can be reduced to suit set length end match to join on joist)
Nailing	50 x 2.8 Galvanised Bullet Head 50 x 2.8 Galvanised Dome Head Machine Driven
Clip	Dasso fastener DS-08A with 30 x 4.5 SS screws
Screw	50 x 5 SS CS Screw to pre-drilled screw holes

Protective Finishes

Any application of coatings should be applied in accordance with the coating manufacturer's recommendations. In addition, Simmonds recommends using coating products with mould inhibitors, preferably light-colour pigments.

- All sides of the board covered before installation
- End sealing when boards are cut, pre-installation

Additional Note

While all due care is taken to ensure the accuracy of the installation instructions, actual installation may vary due to a variety of elements such as location, sub-frame and installation procedures. If you have any questions, please consult with Simmonds Lumber.



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