



11944 N. Reed Road  
Hayden, Idaho 83835



**Kayu® International, Inc.** is the global leader in tropical hardwood decking. A Direct Importer of the finest Tropical Hardwoods for the U.S. and Canadian markets, founded in 1994; providing decades of High Quality Hardwood, Dependable Service at Affordable Prices. Our warehouses are stocked year round and are strategically located on the West Coast, Mid-west, South-West and East Coast.

### Fundamental Installation Guidelines

We've outlined some fundamental guidelines to assist you with the process of installing your decking, being mindful that each project is unique and the details vary from build to build. Please consult with a professional deck installer in your area.

All wood is subject to expansion and contraction as the moisture in the environment surrounding the wood changes. KAYU® boards are skillfully kiln-dried, board to board, resulting in highly consistent results. Unlike air-dried boards, shrinkage is limited with 100% kiln-dried boards.



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Legendary Performance™

## KAYU® Hardwood Decking Installation Fundamentals

**Start Living Your Dream, Build with KAYU®**





## Maximum Allowable Decking Spans:

We recommend narrower spans, for a sturdier Hardwood deck

KAYU®-Decking	
Nominal Size	100 PSF on Center
1X4	<b>18" on center</b>
1X6	<b>18" on center</b>
5/4X4	<b>18" on center</b>
5/4X6	<b>18" on center</b>

## Storage and Handling:

Before installation and finishing, place your covered KAYU® hardwood on 4" blocks above ground, keep clean, dry and out of direct sunlight. Do not store outdoor wood in a heated area.

Do not cut Metal anywhere near KAYU® Hardwood during the installation process, avoiding MPCC (Metallic Particle Corrosion Contamination).

## Finishing:

Prior to installation, seal decking with a high quality penetrating oil, such as, Messmer's UV Plus for hardwood on all four sides. The initial sealing will penetrate into the wood and put a barrier slowing water in or out of the wood. Sealing only one side will create uneven moisture flow which increases the likelihood of cupping. One coat initially is needed, even if you prefer to silver over time. Your oil should have protection from UV Rays and Mildew. End seal every board with a wax, like Anchor Seal, Asap after cutting.

In order to bring back the original color of the deck, a periodic cleaning and a new coat of oil will be necessary. The rate at which maintenance is needed, depends largely on the degree of exposure to direct sunlight, the climatic conditions, preference of deck color and the frequency at which any cleaning and hardwood oil treatments are applied. Once a year, in Spring, is the standard guideline for deck maintenance.

Similar to other exterior wood products, with time, KAYU® Hardwoods will gradually fade to a silver-gray patina color. After the initial seal/stain, if this is preferred, leave all four sides unfinished and allow to weather naturally. In this state of condition, maintenance on your deck will be as low as any other deck product on the market.

## Spacing:

KAYU® decking is skillfully kiln-dried for consistency, board to board, using a highly sophisticated process of computer and operator controlled heat and humidity to adjust and regulate the drying of the hardwood. Excessive Moisture will cause the boards to expand slightly and Hot/Dry will shrink slightly. Unlike air dried boards, shrinkage is very limited. Please refer to our website pdf document on informing you, why kiln drying is far superior to air-dried.

Install 6" (5-1/2" net) decking with a minimum gap of 1/4" between each deck board. 4" (3-1/2" net) decking should have a minimum gap of 3/16" between each board. In addition, allow 1/4" from any structures such as foundations or rail posts.

Normally expect 5-1/2" wide decking boards to expand up to 1/8" and shrink about 1/16" with maximum 1/3" movement. 3-1/2" wide, up to 3/16" movement.

In more demanding applications, such as boat docks, decks built closer to the ground and decks with less airflow, a minimum gap of 5/16" for 6" decking and a minimum of 1/4" for 4" is necessary.

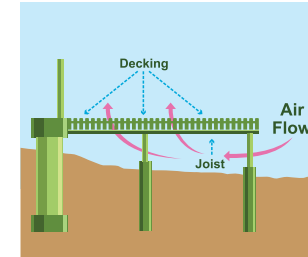
For Optimum decking, space with 5/16" for all applications whether it be 5-1/2" or 3-1/2". This will allow debris to drop through and wood to have better temperature and moisture balance.

KAYU® decking does not shrink or expand end to end (unlike composite decking), therefore neatly trim ends, end seal with wax and butt together.

## Ventilation and Air Flow:

Building codes are constantly changing and they can vary by state, county, city, town, and/or district. Contact your local Building Inspection Department to ensure compliance of decking installation.

Allowing adequate ventilation is extremely important for proper air-flow to reduce the potential for cupping and surface checking ( see diagram).



For maximum long-term stability, install the deck with a minimum ground clearance of 24", ensuring at least two sides of the deck are open. Also it is very important to have at least 50% unrestricted air-flow at all times.

Create a slope for drainage posing no chance of standing water.

If a minimum ground clearance of 24" is not obtainable, we recommend installing 5/4" X 4" decking. For decks closer than 36" add a Vapor Barrier and space joist 12", which adds fasteners. Apply a coat of wax End sealer to the underside of boards.

## Fastening:

Pre-drill pilot holes same or slightly less than screw shank, not the whole width of screw. Use self-drilling screws and try without pre-drilling joist for better hold.

Countersink all screws, using stainless steel, high quality #8 minimum (#10 is better), Bugle Head. If using Kreg Jig through the edges, Use #8 Trim Head, stainless steel screws, with a minimum screw penetration into joist of 1-1/2". Don't use drill bit or screws that come with the Kreg Jig.

Face screwing or edge screwing are the most effective methods of installation. Edge screw on 5/4" decking only. It is important that every joist, is fastened through the face of the board. Face screw 5/8"-3/4" from edges of boards.

## Safety:

All our woods are non-toxic and only water is used when drying/manufacturing. Safety should be one of your main concerns when installing decking and/or flooring. We recommend wearing protective eye-wear, dust masks and gloves during installation. When using a saw, always cut away from your body. Check with your local department of Building and Safety before you start a project and/or have safety concerns.