**Fundamental 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 very limited with kiln-dried boards.
Safety should be one of your main concerns when installing decking and/or flooring. We recommend wearing protective eyewear, 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 have safety concerns.

Pre-drill pilot holes and countersink for all screws, using high quality #10 (or greater) stainless steel screws, with a minimum screw penetration into joist of 1-½”.

Face screwing or edge screwing are the most effective methods of installation. It is important that every joist is fastened through the face of the board.

Do not use hidden clip fasteners or nails!

Creating a slope for drainage poses no chance of standing water.

If a minimum ground clearance of 18” is not obtainable, we recommend installing 5/4 X 4 decking.

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 18”, 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.

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We recommend narrower spans, for a sturdier Hardwood deck.