

## **VEKAdeck INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Install VEKAdeck using sound building practices in accordance with your local building codes & the installation instructions below. VEKA does not accept responsibility or liability for the improper installation of our VEKAdeck product.

It is the responsibility of the installer to be sure VEKAdeck is the correct product for the intended use as the product may not be suitable for every application. With all deck designs being different, it is incumbent upon the installer to determine the exact requirements for each decking application.

It is VEKA's recommendation that all applications be reviewed by an Engineer, Licensed Architect or a Local Building Code Official before installation begins.

VEKAdeck can be installed with a small amount of readily available tools. Any tool used should follow their manufacturer's instructions. Below is a list of basic tools needed:

◇ Protective Clothing	◇ Shovel	◇ Screw Gun
◇ Safety Glasses	◇ Tape Measure	◇ Hammer
◇ Hearing Protection	◇ Framing/Speed Squares	◇ Cutting Saws
◇ Chalk Line/Pencil	◇ Leveling Tools	◇ Deck Fasteners

### **INSTALLATION PREPARATION**

- A. Sub-structure/framing must be properly secured to ground footings or building structure.
- B. VEKAdeck boards are not intended to be used as a load bearing member. VEKAdeck must be supported by a code compliant substructure.
- C. Before installation of deck boards, check to be sure subframe joists are level, structurally sound & that there are no nails or screws protruding.
- D. Proper subframe joist spacing is required for installation. Please see below for recommended joist spacing for VEKAdeck boards.
  - a. Maximum 16" on center for a straight span.
  - b. Maximum 12" on center for a diagonal span.
  - c. Maximum 12" on center span for stairs.
- E. For installations with obstructed air flow, a minimum 1/2" supported substructure should be placed over the surface the deck is built on.

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### **EXPANSION & CONTRACTION**

VEKAdeck will experience expansion & contraction as temperatures change from season to season. This expansion & contraction may lead to slight gaps, which may be noticed at the ends of the board or at spliced joints. The most significant expansion & contraction will occur where extreme temperature changes exist.

See the below recommendations to help reduce expansion & contraction when installing VEKAdeck boards.

- A. For best results keep VEKAdeck boards as cool as possible during attachment. Direct full sun exposure will increase board temperature & length.
- B. Cut & fasten VEKAdeck boards as soon as possible after cutting.
- C. Proper ventilation & air flow of the sub-structure should be considered.

Fastening VEKAdeck boards according to the below recommended spacing options should help to minimize expansion & contraction.

- A. Width to width spacing between boards should be at least 1/8".
- B. End to end spacing between boards should be at least 1/8".
  - a. Cold weather installation should allow additional spacing (up to 3/16").
- C. During a hot weather installation larger gapping can be expected. In this occurrence VEKAdeck boards may be installed end to end, in which case a double joist is required to fasten VEKAdeck boards to the joists.
- D. See our VEKAdeck Expansion & Contraction Chart for further gapping information.

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### **FASTENERS**

- A. For optimal performance, VEKA recommends using two #8 x 2 1/2" Stainless Steel Screws per joist for VEKAdeck board installation.
  - B. VEKA recognizes that numerous hidden deck fastening systems are available industry wide that may be compatible with VEKAdeck board installation.
  - C. VEKA recommends the installer reviews the selected fasteners manufacturer installation instructions, technical data, screw pull through and fastener strength before installation with your VEKAdeck product.
  - D. If the deck fastening screw does not penetrate the deck board (I.E., groove board applications) additional allowances for expansion/contraction should be factored into installation.
  - E. In some cases, the fasteners manufacturer may limit the VEKAdeck board length being used with their fastener.
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### **FASTENERS (CONT'D)**

- F. The installer is responsible to assess the fasteners capabilities relative to expansion/contraction, uplift & thermal movement of boards.
  - G. VEKA Inc. does not recommend the usage of an impact nail gun (or similar methods) as this may cause cracking to the VEKAdeck board around the fastener.
  - H. Follow the fasteners manufacturer's installation instructions for the method being used for your installation.
  - I. For optional fasteners, consult the VEKAdeck Fastening Options Document.
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### **GENERAL INSTALLATION**

- A. VEKAdeck boards are a one-sided product. Deck boards must be installed with the embossed woodgrain pattern side facing up, laying in the same direction of the walking surface.
  - B. Install 2 deck screws at each joist or use another VEKAdeck approved fastening method, See VEKAdeck Fastening Options Document.
  - C. Each screw should be placed 1/2" in from the edge & end of the board.
  - D. Drive screws to a minimum depth of 1 1/2" into the framing structure below the bottom of the VEKAdeck board. This will provide greater holding power & uplift resistance.
  - E. For best results, stagger splices & miters across the decking surface so they do not break on the same joist.
  - F. Butt joints should be installed over a double joist sub-structure.
  - G. For butt joints, be sure to trim cut factory ends to ensure squareness.
  - H. Do not scarf cut butt joints.
  - I. VEKAdeck boards should not be routed except for start/stop boards.
  - J. VEKAdeck boards used as stair treads shall be installed in a minimum two-span condition.
  - K. During installation, frequently check that the VEKAdeck boards are being installed straight, with consistent gapping & spacing by using a string line.
  - L. **WARNING:** When using hidden fasteners for your VEKAdeck installation, always use a beater board against the side of the VEKAdeck board. Do not strike the deck board directly with a hammer or rubber mallet, as this may cause damage to the VEKAdeck board.
  - M. Remove jobsite debris & other construction products from VEKAdeck quickly. Do not allow construction dirt & debris to sit on the VEKAdeck board surface.
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### **GENERAL INSTALLATION (CONT'D)**

- N. Variation of the installation methods must be approved & the cost for removal and/or replacement material from the result of a variation will be the contractor's responsibility.
- O. Failure to install VEKAdeck products in accordance with applicable building codes & these VEKAdeck Installation Instructions may lead to personal injury, affect your deck system performance & void the product warranty.
- P. Consult the VEKA OLP Installation Guidelines for further information.

### **CARE & MAINTENANCE**

Follow the below care & maintenance guidelines for your VEKAdeck product to maintain its look season after season.

- A. VEKA OLP Care & Maintenance Guidelines
- B. VEKAdeck Restoration Products Overview
- C. VEKAdeck Snow & Ice Removal Guidelines