

# Decking

Note the products covered under these guidelines are for domestic or home situations and are covered under Australian Standard AS 2796.1---1999 SECTION 4 LIGHT DECKING.

*For bridge and wharf decking refer to AS 3818.*

## **Prior to Installation**

Plan the gap you intend to leave between the boards. Keep in mind the boards will expand during the winter months. Our suggestion for minimum gap 4 millimetres for boards up 90mm, 6 millimetres for boards up to 140mm.

Ensure there is good sub-deck ventilation. If this is not possible mechanical artificial ventilation should be explored.

Coat the boards all round including the trimmed, or cut to length ends using an oil based preservative. Cutek is an ideal product. We can offer factory coatings so the product is ready for installation when it is delivered to site.

## **During and Post Installation**

Use a waterproof membrane (e.g Malthoide) between the joist and the decking boards.

Use a properly designed decking nail or screw, (we prefer a screw) which should be galvanised or stainless steel, depending on site conditions, for example stainless steel if in close proximity to salt water.

If the joist is a treated softwood the decking nail or screw should be at least 65 millimetres long. If a screw, the gauge should be at least 10.

Apply the second finishing coat for board protection. Clear Cutek will not prevent the boards greying off. A UV stabiliser, or tint, needs to be added to clear preservative to colour required.

## **Maintenance**

Regularly inspect the deck, further coatings maybe required not just to rejuvenate the finish, but to ensure also the long term life of the boards.