

## **RADIAL TIMBER PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS**

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### **Decking – 32mm Boardwalk**

#### **1.0 PRODUCT**

Radially sawn Boardwalk Decking can range in thickness of 32mm and was primarily developed for use in public areas or where longer spans between joists/bearers are required. Radial Boardwalk Decking is profiled from back sawn bevelled edge boards. Back sawn boards behave consistently and can be identified by the alignment of growth rings, which are basically parallel to the broad face of the board. Boardwalk Decking is seasoned, dressed and typically available in two widths.

#### **2.0 SPECIFICATIONS**

##### **2.1. Species:**

Boardwalk Decking is typically sawn from naturally durable regrowth hardwoods such as Silvertop Ash, Southern Mahogany or Yellow Stringybark (ie. Class 2 durability). Other species (including Class 1 durability) may also be available on request. Both Class 1 & 2 timbers are deemed suitable for use as decking in Australian Standard AS 080-1693.



**Figure 1**  
(Radial Boardwalk Deck in cross section)

##### **2.2. Profiles:**

Boardwalk Decking has traditionally been available in widths of 105mm or 135mm and as a 32mm thick product (**NOTE:** the wider 135mm profile may not always be available). Radial sawn boards have the sloping sides that help prevent debris build up but other conventionally sawn (ie. square) profiles may also be available from *Radial Timber Sales*. All Boardwalk Decking is seasoned and features a smooth dressed finish on all sides.

##### **2.3. Lengths & Availability:**

Due to demand for other products, only limited quantities of Radial Sawn Boardwalk Deck are kept in stock. As such, other conventionally sawn profiles may be available in lieu of the radial sawn. All boards are supplied in random lengths of between 1.8 and 5.0m but some shorter lengths may be included (av. lengths approx. 2.7 to 4.0m but more shorts should be expected than for other radial decking products). Short packs containing lengths between 0.9m and 2.4m are available on request. Set length orders incur a 30% surcharge but may not be possible due to the limited production runs.

### 3.0 FIXING & APPLICATIONS

#### 3.1. Fixing Recommendations:

**Setting up:** Radial Boardwalk Decking should be laid wide face up. Gaps should be left between boards to allow for swelling during wet weather. The amount of swelling (or shrinkage) will vary depending on the width of the board, the species of timber and local climatic conditions. Joists should be spaced at max. 650mm to 700mm centres.

**Installation:** For most “typical” installations, 6mm to 7mm gaps should be left between boards but also consult *Radial Timber Sales* for site specific recommendations (eg. in areas subject to high moisture such as south facing decks or in bush settings, it may be advisable to increase the spacing between boards to allow for additional swelling).

**Fixings:** Boards may be gun nailed but hand nailing with 65mm long twisted shank nails or screw fixing with 50 to 65mm long batten screws is preferred and care should be taken close to ends to avoid splitting (pre-drill all holes if hand nailing). All fixings should be galvanised or stainless steel and all profiles require 2 fixings per board per joist (position nails approximately 20mm to 25mm in from the outside edge of the board).

**Seasoning & Storage:** Some surface checking may occur if timber is exposed to the weather but these non structural cracks are typical in most Australian hardwoods (NOTE: unprotected west facing decks may be subject to extreme temperature changes and therefore, timber is more likely to check or move). It is also normal for hardwoods to leach red/brown extractives during heavy rain periods. Extractives tend to be less prominent in lighter species but it is advisable to cover or protect walls and paving until all extractives have leached (can vary depending on rainfall but will generally continue for up to 6 months). Packs should be stored up off the ground and under cover or protected with an additional tarp to prevent swelling. If wetting does occur, allow a min. of 24 hours for timber to dry before fixing.

#### 3.2. Suggested Applications:

Boardwalk Decking is a robust alternative to 19mm thick decking, or higher traffic commercial areas, and has been used in: houses, apartments, restaurants, parks, boardwalks and fences.

For images of BOARDWALK DECKING visit: [www.radialtimbers.com.au](http://www.radialtimbers.com.au)

### 4.0 FINISHING

All exposed, externally fixed decking will tend to fade to a silver grey colour if left uncoated. The degree of greying will vary depending on the amount of exposure to sun, wind and rain. The timber used in this above ground product has natural durability and when used in conjunction with good building practices, should generally not require additional treatment against decay.

Native timbers should be offered some weather protection while acclimatising to local conditions. Radial Timber recommends the application of an oil based sealer or decking finish on external timber (especially if being fixed during extreme weather conditions). There are a variety of treatments, stains and coatings available and most can be applied prior to or shortly after fixing. For more detailed information, please refer to Radial Timber “Finishing Recommendations” at: [www.radialtimbers.com.au](http://www.radialtimbers.com.au) or phone: 03 9768 2100.