



Timber Holdings Intl® Ipe Decking

Residential Deck Installation & Maintenance

Storage & Handling

Iron Woods® Ipe decking is supplied as partially dried lumber. Store the wood out of direct sunlight and allow the wood to acclimate and stabilize to the installation area's humidity before installing.

Some air-dried boards may show marks from sticker or breather strips. Generally these marks and water marks blend in when the sealer is applied. If still visible, they will dissipate during the next year as the deck fades.

We recommend carbide-tipped saw blades and high-quality drills for smooth cuts.

Spans/Spacing

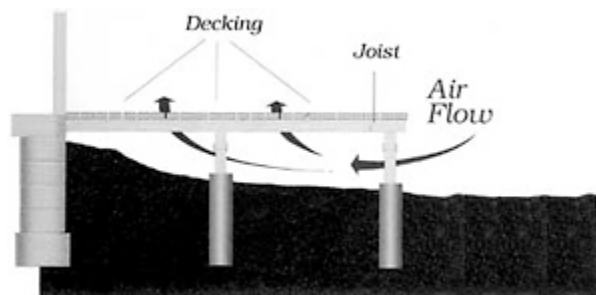
These spans are designed for Ipe and to allow for minimal deflection of the deck surface. For maximum spans and engineering data, you can contact us at 414-445-8989 or info@ironwoods.com.

Board Size	Load Size		
	40psf	60psf	100psf
1x4, 1x6	32	28	24
5/4x4, 5/4x6	42	38	32
2x4, 2x6, 2x8	62	56	48

Allow a 1/8" gap between deck boards for drainage and airflow. End-to-end butt joints are installed without a gap. Decking may shrink approximately 1/16" on 4" wide and 1/8" on 6" wide decking. In hot or dry areas you may experience additional shrinkage. End-to-end butt joints should be installed without a gap.

Deck Ventilation

Adequate ventilation of the deck is essential for long-term stability and to minimize cupping. Proper air ventilation allows air to flow in from outside the deck area, under the joists and up through the gaps between the deck boards. Allow a 1/8" gap between deck boards for drainage and airflow.



Fasteners

For screws, we recommend the high-quality, stainless steel "self-drilling" type, though coated screws may also be used. Using lower quality fasteners can cause black staining. To install Iron Woods® Ipe, you must pre-drill a pilot hole and countersink to avoid splitting, even when using self-drilling screws, and then fasten with high quality stainless steel trim head

screws, which are available at Iron Woods® dealers.

Finishing

Seal Iron Woods® Ipe immediately after installation to reduce the potential for surface checking. If installing over a prolonged period or during hot weather sealing after each phase is recommended. Be sure to seal all ends immediately after cutting with Anchorseal clear wax end sealer (available from your Iron Woods® dealer) in order to reduce end checking.

To maintain a **rich walnut color**, use a transparent penetrating oil based sealer with UV inhibitors in a trans-oxide pigmented "cedar tone" and reapply annually or as needed.

If you prefer a **silvery-gray appearance**, use a clear oil-based sealer for the first coat and then simply let the wood weather to its natural gray color. If you want to return silver-gray wood to the original color, use a "wood brightener". Careful power washing and/or sanding can help to remove the grayed wood.

“First Coat” Iron Woods® may be available by special order. These orders **come prefinished** with “First Coat” for those customers desiring to take the guesswork out of their first application of wood sealant.

To the best of our knowledge this information is accurate and based on industry best practices; however, due to the variance of products grown in nature, Timber Holdings Intl and its parent company Cecco Trading inc. cannot assume any liability or suitability for the use of these products and it is the sole responsibility of the installer to adequately test and determine the final applications. Follow all manufacturers recommended application instructions when using proprietary products.