



STEP-CLIP® HIDDEN FASTENING SYSTEM - AUSTRALIA

Installation Instructions

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HELPFUL HINTS:

- Store Step-Clip strips indoors before use. The strips install best between 40°F and 80°F (4°C and 27°C).
- Use a non-marring rubber mallet to set the leading edge of the deck boards into the clips prior to stepping down on the opposite edge of the board. Tapping the boards at a 45 degree angle on the high edge works best.
- If “re-skinning” a deck, ensure that all joists are level to each other before installing the Step-Clip system. If not level, shim or shave joists as needed to get them within 1/8" (3.2 mm).
- Walking along joists and non-secured deck boards can be dangerous and is therefore not recommended.

TOOLS/MATERIALS NEEDED:

	Roofing Nail
	Hammer
	Non-marring dead blow hammer or mallet
	Safety Glasses

1. **NOTE:** If utilized, the outer edge (Starter) and divider boards that run perpendicular to the main rows of deck boards will require additional framing and should be shimmed approximately 1/8" (3.2 mm) to match the crown of the adjoining boards and the thickness of the Step-Clip strips. These boards should be fastened every 16" (404mm) using two, #10 x 2 3/4" color-matched capped composite deck screws or a Barrette Outdoor Living specific plug fastening system (Starter & Siesta profiles only).
2. Locate the first deck board at outer rim joist away from the house or structure and work towards the house. For outer edge board installation, do not overhang the board more than 1" (25 mm) widthwise or 2" (51 mm) lengthwise. For a 1" (25 mm) overhang, measure and mark a location 21-5/8" (549 mm) (or 21 7/8" if 3/4" overhang is desired)* from the outer rim joist on the outer joists that run perpendicular to the rim joist and snap a chalk line across the entire width of the deck. Position the Step-Clip strips with one edge along chalk line and fasten the first row of strips to each joist with a 1 1/4" (32mm), size #10 minimum stainless steel or hot dip galvanized roofing nail (Ring shank nails recommended - sold separately.) Using 2 nails between each set of clips (located within 3/4" (19 mm) in from each clip and a total of 8 nails per each four board strip). Alternatively for ground level decks, you may use three 45 x .01" (2.5mm) hot dip galvanized ring shank nails spaces equally between each set of clips with the outer two nails located within 3/4" (19mm) of each clip, for a total of 12 nails per each four board strip. **NOTE:** the side tabs on all of the strips should be orientated on the same side of the joists and flush against the joist to allow for linking subsequent strips together along each row of clips. Trim the overhang of the first row of Step-Clip strips flush with the outer rim joist. Slide the outer deck board securely into the first clip (ensure it is properly engaged in the groove of the board) and screw down the opposite, outer edge of the board at each joist location using color-matched, capped composite deck screws

or a Barrette Outdoor Living specific plug fastening system (Starter and Siesta profiles only).

3. Once the first board has been installed into the outer Step-Clip strip and proper alignment has been confirmed (measured for “square” on joists), position the remaining Step-Clip strips and fasten until all of the joists have been covered or install in four board increments. An interlocking tab is located at the end of each strip to allow for proper spacing along the length of each joist. The strip closest to house or structure will likely need to be trimmed and the final board fastened in a similar manner as the first board. Two inline boards cannot share a Step-Clip. “Sister” or add framing where butt joints occur then trim a single Step-Clip strip section to accommodate each board and attach separately to the additional framing.
4. Measure and trim each deck board to your desired length and place one edge of the board into the side of the Step-Clip strip adjacent to a previously installed board. Step down (or tap with a non-marring rubber mallet) on the opposite elevated edge of the board to secure it in place. You should hear an audible “click” sound as the clip engages with the groove on the edge of board. If a board does not properly engage the clip while stepping down on the elevated edge, strike the board above the clip with a non-marring dead blow rubber mallet to secure it in place. Repeat this process until all deck boards have been installed.
5. Align and secure interior boards with a composite deck screws or color-matched plugs and screws located at one end of each board (min. of 5/8" (16 mm) from board edge).

*When using a thicker fascia board (greater than our standard 1/2" (13mm) fascia), or when not incorporating a 1" (25 mm) overhang of the decking, adjust the alignment chalk line for the first course of strips accordingly.



Snap a chalk line across the deck joists at a mark measured 21 5/8" (549 mm) (for 1" board overhang) from the outer edge or rim joist.



Position the end of each clip strip at chalk line and nail strips to each joist with side tabs tight against the same side of the joist.



Score and trim each clip strip flush with the outer edge of the rim joist to facilitate Starter board installation.



Slide starter board tightly into first set of clips and secure with composite deck screws along the outer edge of board.



Interlock clip strips along each joist and fasten with roofing nails. Clip strips at opposite end of deck will likely need trimming.



Strips may be installed on joists all at once prior to installing decking or one row at a time for elevated decks.



Additional framing may be needed for inline boards (Step-Clips cannot be shared by inline boards).



Sister or add framing where butt joints occur then trim a single Step-Clip strip section to accommodate each board and attach separately to the additional framing.



Position boards along each row of clips and step down or use a mallet on the board at each joist location to secure it into place.



Align and secure interior boards with composite deck screws located at one end of each board (min. of $\frac{5}{8}$ " (16 mm) from board edge).