

Build a Deck

- Easy to follow step-by-step guide
- Important and handy tips
- Materials check list
- Project cost estimator



Before you begin your exciting new project, please read through this entire pamphlet carefully and estimate and assemble all the materials you will need for the project and gather your tools and equipment together. Refer to the checklist and estimating form on the back panel of the pamphlet to assist in this preparation. If you require any help, please don't hesitate to speak with one of Colli's experienced trade team.

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TIMBER AND HARDWARE 1969-2009

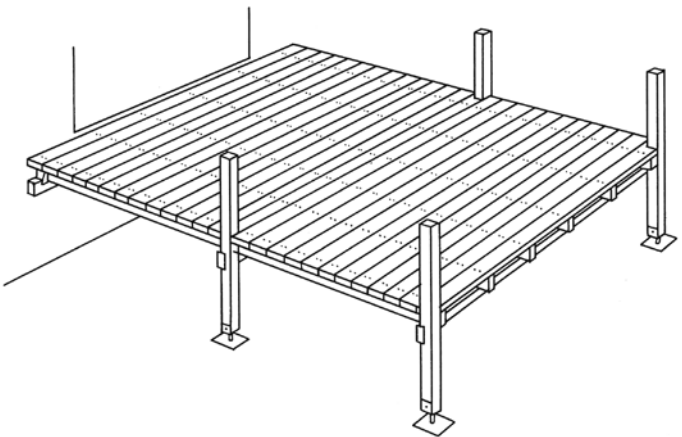


DIY Decking made easy

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Choosing timber

Depending on the finish you want and your project budget, Colli carry a wide range of suitable timbers to choose from. Widely used, treated pine timber will be sure to give you long term peace of mind as it is both extremely well priced and very durable. Similarly, although costing a bit more, you'll also find Australian hardwoods to be very durable and maintain their appearance with minimal maintenance. If you are having trouble deciding which timber will be best for you, drop into your local Colli store and talk about your requirements with one of our experienced and friendly staff.



Preparing the site

- Before beginning, it is advisable to check your house site plan to ensure there are no water, gas, sewerage or drainage lines under your proposed deck site. If there are any of these lines, you will need to mark their position before you dig your footings to avoid any unnecessary accidents.
- Next, consider how your site will drain excess water. The last thing you want is for surface water to be lying stagnant underneath your new deck. If drainage will be an issue, it may be necessary to install Agi Pipe or similar drainage pipe to channel water away from under deck area.
- Rake the ground clear of excess debris and lay out some weed control mat if you think weeds may cause a problem later.
- Determine the final position of the deck against the house, and your required floor height.
- Mark out your deck and the desired floor height using string lines (Fig 1). Check for square by measuring the diagonals (Fig 1) - They must be equal in length and the sides must also be equal and parallel. You don't want to discover your deck is not square further down the track!

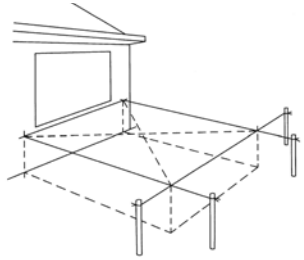


Fig 1 Position the deck, layout with string line and check for square by measuring the diagonals.

Setting the posts

- Lay out the positions for the posts in lines every 1800mm out from the house at 1500mm centres (Fig 2).
- Dig post holes of sufficient size to allow at least a 300mm x 300mm x 300mm concrete pad to be poured for the post stirrup bracket (Fig 3).

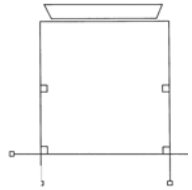


Fig 2 Layout the posts - note spacing as shown.

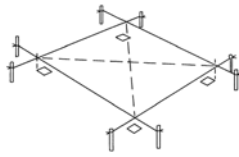


Fig 3 Dig post holes

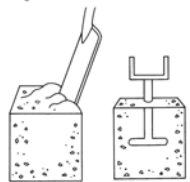


Fig 4 Setting the posts.

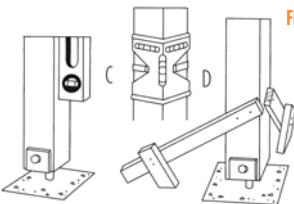


Fig 6 Brace the post.

Fig 5 Check vertical levels.

- Mix some concrete according to the manufacturer's instructions, allowing a generous amount to fill each post hole. Pour concrete into the hole and set a stirrup bracket in the centre of the concrete pad allowing approximately 75mm clearance between the ground and the bottom of the post (Fig 4).

- Now, remember to check the post is vertical using either spirit level or a post level (Fig 5).
- You will need to temporarily brace the post (Fig 6), ensuring that it remains level, and allow to set for 48 hours. Note: Colli also stock fast set concrete mix. Simply pour the mix into the holes and add water. The mix will set in approximately 15 mins.
- Your posts should be cut to length, whilst taking into account the desired finished handrail height of your deck (Fig 7). Note that some posts may be concealed underneath the finished deck.

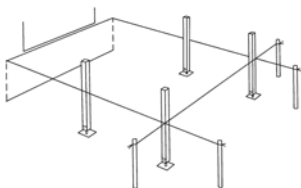


Fig 7 Cut posts to required height of handrails.

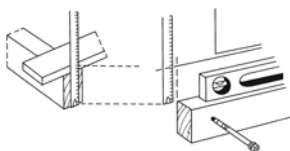


Fig 8 Measure decking and joist thickness.

Fitting bearers

- Measure the thickness of your decking, joist and bearers (Fig 8).
- Against the house wall, measure the required thickness down from the intended floor height of the deck (Fig 8).

Height of decking and joists

- Fix a bearer at this level against the wall using Mungo bolts for masonry walls and coach screws for timber walls, both of which are available from your nearest Colli store (Fig 8). Use a bolt or screw every 450mm along the bearer to ensure stability. When fixing to a timber wall, try to screw into internal structural timbers whenever possible as this will provide added strength.
- Fix the remaining bearer to the posts using either a housing joint or framing anchor (Fig 9).

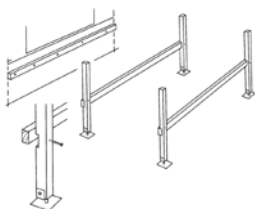


Fig 9 Fix bearers to posts.

Fitting floor joists

Now, fix the joists across the bearers at 450mm centres using framing anchors (Fig 10).

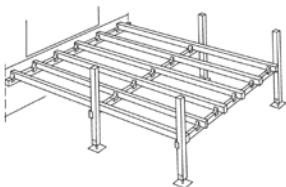


Fig 10 Fix joists to bearers with framing anchors.

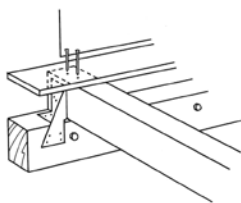
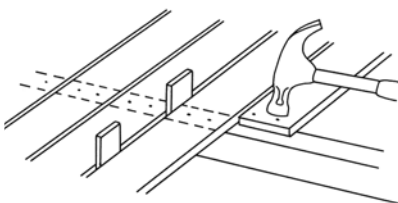


Fig 11 Nail or screw the decking board across the joists.

Fitting decking

- Beginning next to your house wall, lay the initial decking boards across the joists. Nail the decking to each joist with two galvanised nails (Fig 11). You must remember to ensure that you take great care with the nailing process, as the decking surface will be the most visible part of your project. Alternatively, you may also wish to fix the decking with galvanised screws.
- Find some scrap wood that is approximately 5mm thick, which can be utilised as spacers between each decking board to ensure a neat and uniform finish (Fig 12).

Fig 12 5mm spacers between each decking board. Ensure joints sit over a joist. Note: Using a nail gun is the preferred option, this saves you time and prevents splitting and damaging the decking timber.



- Ensure that all joints in decking timbers are over a joist (Fig 12).
- Finish the deck by using a nail punch to set the nails below the level of the timber surface (Fig 13) to avoid any accidents later on.
- Finally, trim the excess from the end of the deck flush with the ends of bearers by using a chalk line to snap a straight edge and a circular saw to trim the timbers (Fig 14).

Fig 13 Send the nails below the timber surface with a nail punch.



Finishing the deck

Congratulations, now it's time for the finishing touches. There are a wide range of finishes available for your decking timber, from oils to paints, all of which are designed to protect and enhance the look and feel of your new project. Colli stock a wide range of these finishing products and our experienced team will be more than happy to work with you in finding the exact product to suit your requirements.

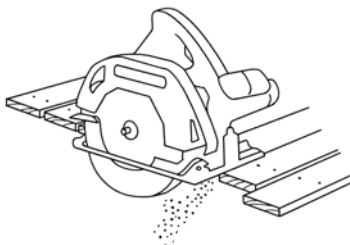


Fig 14 Trim the deck timbers. Note: Use Timber Reseal on any exposed CCA timber ends, this protects any exposed CCA timber from rot and fungi.

Project Cost Estimator

Materials Description	Quantity	Cost
Decking & Posts		
Post Stirrup		
Wall Plate		
Bearers & Joists		
Battens (optional)		
General Purpose Concrete		
Galvanised Bolts/Screws		
Galvanised Nails		
Framing Brackets		
Timber Finish/Paint/Timber Reseal		
Equipment		
Chalk Line & String Line		
Square		
Spirit Level or Post Level		
Spade or Post Hole Digger		
Hammer/Nail Gun		
Measuring Tape		
Power Drill/Drill Bits		
Circular Saw or Hand Saw		
Shifting Spanner/Sockets		
Decking Oil/Decking Oil Applicator		
Total		

All the materials you need for this job are available at Colli, your DIY specialist.

Disclaimer: Please note that this brochure is designed as a guide only - if you have any queries, please consult one of our Colli Team Members for further assistance. The information provided in this brochure is done so on the understanding that Colli Timber and Hardware is not liable for any loss or damage which is suffered or incurred, for any personal injury or property damage as a result of using the information contained in the Colli DIY Projects brochure. Colli Timber and Hardware advises you to call in a qualified tradesperson, such as an electrician or plumber, where expert advice and services are required.

Note: Please ensure you comply with local council laws or regulations before undertaking any DIY project.

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Public Holidays, 8am - 5.00pm

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Fax 9249 2701

KELMSCOTT

115 Brookton Hwy
Tel 9390 4499
Fax 9390 8033

PORT KENNEDY

2 Blackburn Drive
Tel 9524 6222
Fax 9524 6211

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