



## Radiata Pine Decking Completing your home

Pukepine decking is produced from renewable New Zealand Radiata Pine and manufactured to standard (merch) grade or premium grade suitable for the most discerning application. Thorough treatment to NZS 3640 H3.2 standard with added mouldicide is applied to all our decking ensuring the full protection that a H3.2 treatment provides.

**Premium grade** decking is a first class product allowing for only small round defects on the best face which must not detract from the premium class finish of the deck appearance. Our scanning process will reject any unsuitable pith, wane, skip, holes, bark pockets, resin pockets and

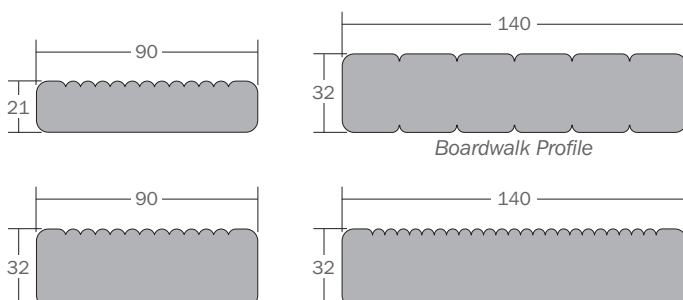
protruding edges thus ensuring a high quality consistent product reaches our clients.

**Standard grade** (Merch) decking may include some defects however these defects must not compromise more than a third of the cross section along the length of the board, any out of grade pith, bark pockets, splits and checking are not permitted.

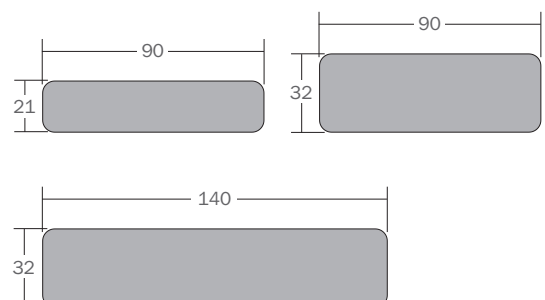
*All Pukepine decking is supplied as Treated Wet so we recommend following our Air Seasoning guide prior to installation to achieve best results once installed. Treated Wet products potentially shrink as they dry. Always build within building authority guidelines and specifications.*

### Available Profiles

#### GRIPTREAD



#### SMOOTH



# Care and Maintenance of Timber Decking

It is important that you clean your deck regularly to keep it in good condition. Keeping it free from dirt minimises mould on the timber surface. Once a year in the minimum, though every 6 months is even better.

## Cleaning

Depending on how you have finished your deck and/or if it is subject to heavy mould growth and dirt build up you could use warm soapy water (household detergent) up to a deck cleaner solution from your local hardware store. If so carefully follow all instructions applying deck cleaner to both vertical and horizontal surfaces of the deck and railings and allow the cleaner to sit for the recommended period of time.

## Washing down

A pressure washer is the best tool for the job. Pressure washers deliver a concentrated blast of water - so don't overdo it. Warning: Focusing for too long in one spot or holding the nozzle too close to the deck can damage the wood.

## Repairs

Drive any protruding nails flush with the surface of the board or replace them with deck screws. Repair or replace boards that are badly deteriorated.

## Finished Look

You can leave it to naturally weather, which means over time the timber will go grey or refinish it with a deck stain, paint or clear sealer. What ever finish you choose follow all instructions carefully and your deck should once again become a highlight of the home.



## Your Deck and the Environment

Timber decks are generally exposed to various natural elements therefore weathering effects will occur in your deck. Timber responses such as cracking, shrinkage and cupping may be noticed over time. The main causes of this are the movement of moisture into and out of the timber and the effects of sunlight on a regular basis. This does not reflect a fault in the product just a natural response to the environment. Neither is the structural integrity compromised by these visual changes. Decking surfaces develop checks and cracks due to the ultra-violet rays of the sun breaking down lignin in the wood fibre and the repeated wetting and drying of timber, this means that in time it can result in surface degradation and dimensional changes.

To reduce the effects of this on your deck we recommend following the Air Seasoning process before installation.

If decking is installed while wet there may be size variations between boards especially noticeable when butting ends together, this is a function of the timber responding to the moisture and swelling accordingly. We recommend using quality decking fasteners such as 12 gauge decking screws and consideration given to applying an oil based decking preservative to aid in water repelling.

## Reducing Timber Movement by Air Seasoning of Treated Wet Outdoor Timber Products

To minimise shrinkage due to the drying out of the moisture within the timber, and to keep the product in a minimum-distortion type condition, the following steps can be taken:-

- Timber should be filleted in a stack for a minimum period of three weeks – depending on weather conditions. Ends of timber should be supported to minimise bending and general distortion.
- The stack should be covered on top to prevent hot sun and rain from direct contact with the product but air movement must be retained to draw
- moisture from the timber. Sides of the stack must be left uncovered to allow the wind to move through the layers. The stack should be raised off the ground to allow air movement around the bottom layers and all grass, etc. should be kept clear.
- While these products are treated against decay, it is advisable when cutting ends, drilling holes or checking out, that the freshly exposed timber be treated with a liquid timber preservative.
- If the above processes are carried out, timber shrinkage after installation will be minimised and the product will give many years of reliable service.

*Pukepine Sawmills (1998) Ltd is not responsible for the quality of work carried out on the product/s by the customer and is not responsible for the design or construction of any structure that the products are incorporated in.*