

## Storage and Handling

For best results, Nova Decking should be kept out of direct sunlight and not exposed to weather before installation.

Once a decking package is delivered to the job site, make certain the boards are not sitting in direct contact with the ground by placing a few pieces of lumber underneath the bundle.

Properly acclimate floor boards by removing the packaging and adding space between each board.

Store boards in a covered well-ventilated area with similar conditions to the install location for 7 to 14 days prior to installation. If a covered area is not available a loose tarp may be draped over the unwrapped and spaced boards while it is acclimating.

## Required Equipment

Nova Decking can be easily crosscut with a good quality chop saw using a carbide-tipped blade.

Ripping can be done on a standard table saw, using a well-aligned high quality fence and a carbide-tipped blade.

When drilling, always use the highest quality drill bits available.

Fasteners should be pre-lubricated for easiest assembly.

If screwing through the face, a countersink bit with a positive stop, such as the Starborn Smart-Bit, should be used so all screw heads achieve a consistent depth.

Routing or planing can be done with either high speed steel or carbide cutters. Feed speed should be fairly slow.

When using a router be sure that the cutter head is spinning with the cutting face into the material.

Sanding may be necessary before a final coat of finish is applied.

## Finishing Options

In order to help prevent surface checking, cupping and discoloration, we require that T&G porch flooring be finished on all sides with an appropriate and sufficiently-pigmented oil-based product, prior to installation.

Finishing on the underside of your deck will reduce potential cupping by inhibiting moisture from absorbing into the wood.

Especially in dry, sunny conditions, finishing must be done prior to exposure to weather.

If a natural silver color is desired, finishing can be done with a nanotechnology water seal product such as Seal Once from UC Coatings.

For best results, apply the treatment according to the manufacturer's directions.

To maintain the natural color, a high quality penetrating oil finish with UV inhibitors should be used.

## Product Resource Information

### ExoShield Premium Wood Finish

Recommended Exterior Wood Finish  
[www.novausawood.com](http://www.novausawood.com)  
503-419-6407

### UC Coatings, Anchorseal, Seal-Once

[www.uccoatings.com](http://www.uccoatings.com)  
[www.seal-once.com](http://www.seal-once.com)  
1-888-363-2628

### Starborn Industries

Headcote Screws, Smart Bit,  
ProPlug Fastening System  
[www.starbornindustries.com](http://www.starbornindustries.com)  
1-800-596-7477

## Installation Questions

If you have any question whether or not your specific application will be warranted, please call the experts at Nova Wood Products.

If your installation is not approved, a member of our staff will be happy to provide suggestions on how to modify your install so it is completely covered by our 25-year limited warranty.

## Safety Concerns

Safety glasses and a dust mask should always be worn when working with hardwood lumber. We recommend an active carbon filter dust mask. Some people may have an allergic reaction to hardwood dust. Remove wood slivers immediately to prevent infection.

## Warning

Drilling, Sawing, sanding or machining wood products generates wood dust, a substance known to the State of California to cause cancer. Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a dust mask or other safeguards for personal protection.

## Disclaimer

Our tropical decking products are carefully manufactured and inspected to ensure quality. However, these products are natural wood products and are subject to variations in weight, density, color, grain and performance. Wood decking is subject to dimensional changes as the moisture content in the wood fluctuates with humidity in the air. Swelling, shrinkage, checking, and other movement of individual pieces are normal occurrences in wood decking. Local building codes must be consulted when building an exterior deck. Most counties require building permits.



# Nova Hardwood T&G Porch Flooring

## Installation Guidelines

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[www.novausawood.com](http://www.novausawood.com)

BE SURE TO COMPLETE THIS CHECKLIST:

- Material stored out of direct sun and weather
- Material allowed to acclimate at site
- T&G porch flooring in covered areas only
- Adequate ventilation under deck. Install T&G Porch Flooring at least 16" above ground level.
- Span of 16" max on joists
- Stainless Steel Fasteners Screwed, nailed, or stapled through the Tongue of each board at a 45 degree angle at each joist
- Pre-drilling required
- End cuts are sealed with wax
- Appropriate and sufficiently-pigmented oil-based finish on all sides
- Enjoy your new porch!

**Guidelines**

Naturally durable Nova Batu porch flooring is kiln dried and has very good dimensional stability. Reducing the opportunities for dimensional change to the material is the key to long term performance of your Lightning Brand porch flooring

Close attention to proper porch design is as important as correct storage and installation techniques and will ensure optimum performance for decades to come. Tongue-and-groove flooring must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to maintain the product's 25-year warranty. The recommendations below are in no way meant to supersede local or national building codes. Therefore before installing please check all applicable building codes.

**Material Application**

**Spacing:** Tongue-and-groove products do not allow spacing for ventilation between boards, which is why only covered installations and adequate ventilation underneath the deck are required.

Install porch flooring boards with 1/2" spacing around all fixed structures (i.e. walls, posts or columns). The space created can be covered by your choice of Lightning Brand exterior trim boards.

**Span:** The end of each flooring board must be adequately supported by a joist. Install on a maximum joist spacing of 16" when boards are installed at a 90 degree angle to the joists.

When installing on an angle, joist spacing should be on 12" centers.

For best porch appearance and strength, end butted joints should be staggered to prevent direct alignment of the ends.

Final joist spacing should only be determined after consulting local building codes.

**Slope:** When installing T&G flooring a slope away from the building structure is required to ensure water does not pool/puddle on the porch. The slope can be created by gently angling the substructure 1/4" per Lineal Foot away from the building structure.

To ensure that water properly drains, allow for a 1" overhang of boards on the end of the porch. Always ensure boards are properly end-sealed to retard moisture migration into the exposed ends of the boards.

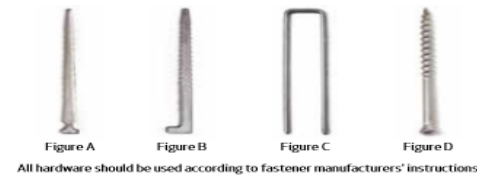
**Ground-side Ventilation:** When using T&G porch flooring ensure that you build your porch so that the surface is at least 16" above the ground. In wet areas or over water, additional clearance is recommended.

Nova Brand porch flooring is not rated for ground contact. Direct contact of this product with the ground or with concrete may lead to failure.

There must be adequate air circulation underneath the deck in order to prevent cupping and warping of boards.

In close to ground applications, 60" or less above ground, a vapor barrier is necessary to prevent moisture from absorbing into the underside of the boards.

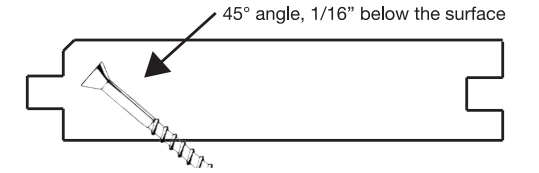
**Fasteners:** Several different options are available for fasteners and for fastening techniques. These include stainless steel screws, 1/2" crown flooring staples, barbed or serrated flooring T or L nails/cleats.



We recommend stainless steel screws, through the tongue or through the face of every board at every joist.

When fastening through the tongue, ensure that the fastener is inserted at a 45 degree angle just above the top of the tongue and through the flooring board to the joist. Take note to correctly set the fastener just below the surface of the board to allow for the next board to fit flush. The depth of

the fastener should be approximately 1/16" below the surface.



Self-tapping stainless steel screws are available but may require pre-drilling.

Pre-drilling is always required on the ends of the boards.

We do not recommend the use of non-stainless fasteners since they will cause discoloration near the fastener. Do not use carbon-steel screws.

**End Sealer:** Nova T&G porch flooring is always end-sealed during manufacturing to help prevent splitting and checking on the ends of boards.

When trimming flooring to length, we require that the boards are end-sealed as soon as reasonably possible after cutting and prior to installation.

A clear, water-resistant wax should be used.

**Corner Applications:** It is recommended that you run a Batu S4S trim board from the corner of the house off the edge of the porch, then butt all other tongue-and-groove boards to the angled board. It is best practice to face screw these boards at the ends (if hidden fasteners are desired we recommend a plug system). When fastening the miter jointed boards please ensure you pre-drill and apply a clear, water-resistant wax end sealer before fastening and installing.

