

# Guide for Installer

## Natural Product

Extreme Timber products are manufactured from timber which is a natural product and it will react to climatic changes during the life of the product. We attempt to minimise the effect these changes may have on the appearance of the product but resin bleed, raised grain, surface checking or uneven swelling may occur as a result of climatic conditions. To reduce the risk of adverse effects in the wood fibre we recommend the following guidelines.

## Installation requirements:

Follow standard preparation methods for installation of treated timber, and store off the ground in a dry well ventilated area.

1. Ensure the board is equal to the original size or has the correct moisture content (8-14%) prior to installation.
2. The area where the timber is to be installed should be cleared of all building debris and should NOT have low spots where water can pool. If there are areas where water can pool it should be filled so water can run away from under the deck, preventing moisture from being trapped.
3. If installing over soil or natural land. The land should fall away from the building allowing water to run away.
4. Any timber exposed through drilling, cutting, notching or ripping must be re-coated with an approved preservative sealer (e.g. Tanalised Ecosoil).
5. Even though eXtreme Joist timber is H4 treated and can be installed with ground contact, it is best practice to install your joists/bearers onto pedestals or packers to allow for cross flow ventilation under the sub frame. This will also limit the chance of trapping water under your deck.
6. It is highly recommended that joist protection is used on all joists and bearers to give further protection against moisture ingress.

## Limitations and Tips

- eXtreme Joists are **NOT** to be used in critical use applications, for example piles that require H5 preservative treatment.
- eXtreme Joists should not be subject to permanent contact with water, if the install application will be subject to permanent wetting the timber will require H5 or higher preservative treatment.
- Ventilation is the key when building low to the ground. Any precautions that can be taken will help not only the sub frame but the decking products as well.
  - not fully enclosing around the edges will allow for cross flow ventilation.
  - having the correct spacing between decking boards.
- It is NOT recommended to use timber decking lower than 300mm to the ground. If timber decking is used there is a higher chance of checking/splitting, cupping and decay over time. To limit this you can use thinner boards. ie 86-90mm instead of wider 135-140mm boards, seal all faces with an oil/stain before installation to limit the affects of moisture being absorbed from the ground.

**\*For further low to ground frame and deck installation information download the Wood Solutions Domestic Timber Deck Design [www.woodsolutions.com.au](http://www.woodsolutions.com.au)**

## Painting tips for exposed eXtreme Joist applications

As good as a coat of primer and two top coats sounds we recommend the paint wet film thickness are measured with a wet film comb during its application to ensure adequate volume of paint is applied and complies with the paint manufacturer's guidelines. For example 100mu wet film thickness; note this varies depending on manufacturer.

## Colour Selection

The use of a **light coloured topcoat is essential**. Ideal paint colours should have a LRV (light reflective value) of 30 or greater.



## Effects of Moisture

When boards have been exposed to periods of either high humidity or rain prior to installation or once installed and painted, moisture may penetrate the wood fibre causing the board to **expand or swell slightly**. If this occurs it should be left in its current state to dry out until it returns to the original profiled size.

Moisture content should be monitored prior to installation, with the **moisture content** of the board to be between **8-14%**. **Store boards in a dry well-ventilated area**, and prevention measures should be used to minimise the impact of raising moisture from underneath the boards when stored.

## Maintenance gives long term performance

All extreme timber products should be regularly inspected to ensure they are performing as intended. If the installation environment has changed due to movement in the structure it may cause moisture entrapment and elevate the risk of decay.

**For further technical information and eXtreme Joist span tables please visit the website**

[www.extremetimber.com.au](http://www.extremetimber.com.au)