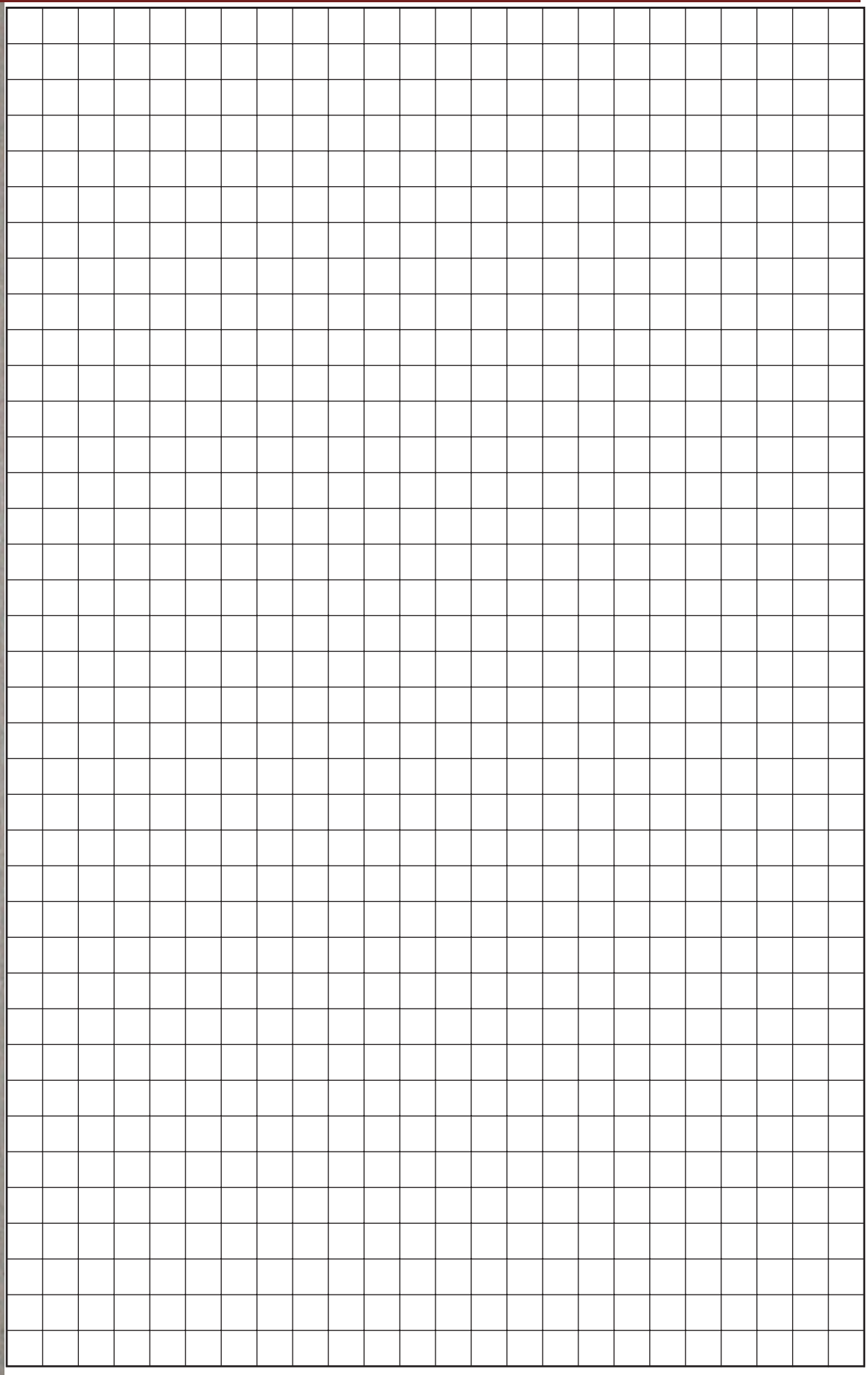
New Deck Construction

Step by Step Instructions

EVERX EXTRUDED WOOD PRODUCTS™

WOOD QUALITY

DECK PLANNING WORKSHEET



INTRODUCTION

EverX Radius Edge Decking has been independently tested and certified to meet or exceed the BOCA requirements for use as decking and stair treads when installed as recommended by the manufacturer's application instructions.

EverX is not suitable for structural use. It should not be used for primary load-bearing members such as posts, joists, beams or stringers. The same common sense precautions should be taken when handling EverX as with wood or other building materials. Dust masks and eye protection devices are recommended to avoid possible irritation from sawdust and chips. Gloves will help to protect the hands. Hands should be washed after doing construction work.

When looking to improve the value and appearance of your present home...few home improvements can compare to an EverX deck for usefulness, attractiveness and enhanced value. Decks offer outdoor living space for entertaining, sun bathing and dining. They furnish a wonderful expanded play area for children.

But the best news about a deck is that it is an ideal home improvement project for the typical homeowner. No advanced carpentry skills or complex tools are needed. Design is straight to the point and easy to follow. If you can utilize a few standard tools, then constructing a deck will be no problem. What's more, using QUALITY WOOD pressure-treated wood products for the substructure and EverX composites for the decking, railings and balusters will assure you of years of enjoyment, satisfaction and low maintenance thanks to the benefits of EverX composite wood technology.

This "Deck Ideas" booklet will supply you with enough information to help you design and build a beautiful deck. However, for additional information on deck construction, check your library for magazine articles or reference books and our web site www.everxdeck.com.

Considerations Before You Get Started…

Decks originally became popular as a way of adding outdoor living space on hillside lots. Today, many decks are built on level ground where they offer firm, dry footing close to the home. Decks can be built just inches from the ground or elevated several feet from ground level. They may be freestanding or attached to the home or other building. Before you begin actual deck construction, you need to take into account some of these basic considerations; anticipated use, air currents, existing design, sunlight, seclusion, view, security, access to home and terrain.

Building Code And Zoning Requirements...

Many areas require building permits and your plan may need to be reviewed by your local building code office to make sure that it meets the standards set forth in local codes. Make sure you comply with any setbacks specified in local regulations. Some communities have rigorous design guidelines and require review committee approval of alterations to the exterior of properties. Contact your local utilities to be sure that your proposed deck won't interfere with access to utility lines. Finally, don't interfere with the functioning or servicing of your septic tank if you have one.

Final Considerations...

How you plan to use your deck will determine the size of deck you need. For family meals and entertaining, select a large deck (or combination of decks) with plenty of space for tables and benches, and consider adding built-in benches along the railings to seat more people. An entry deck can be small, but make it large enough to stand and talk comfortably with guests as they arrive or leave.

Developing Your Design And

DESIGN

Decks involve six primary components: footings, posts, beams, joists, decking and railings. In planning for these, you have three primary considerations: purpose, structural stability, and appearance.

TABLE 1
Lumber Dimensions

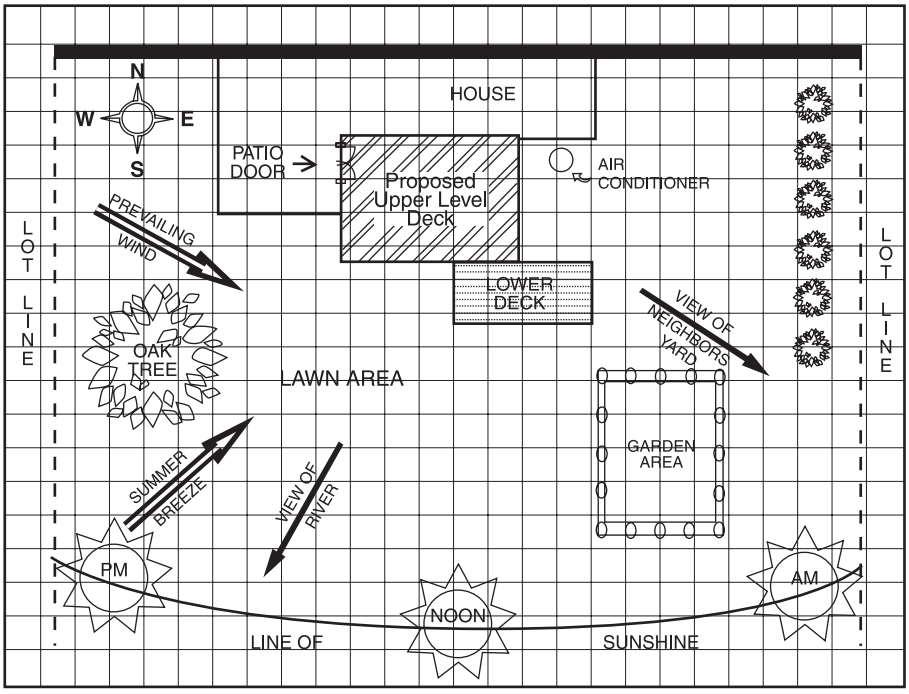
Nominal Inches	Actual Inches
1 x 6	3/4 x 5 1/2
5/4 x 6 EverX Decking	1 x 5 1/2
2 x 2	1 1/2 x 1 1/2
2 x 4	1 1/2 x 3 1/2
2 x 6	1 1/2 x 5 1/2
2 x 8	1 1/2 x 7 1/4
2 x 10	1 1/2 x 9 1/4
2 x 12	1 1/2 x 11 1/4

The distinctive characteristics of your deck will probably be most recognizable in your selection of railing and decking, but the position of posts and beams can have a crucial impact on the appearance of an elevated deck. In most cases, your decision is between several small pieces of lumber or comparatively fewer large ones. For example, a railing may be held by 2x4 posts spaced every 16 inches or less, or it may have 4x4 posts capped by a 2x6 spaced as far apart as eight feet. (Note: A 2x4 isn't 2"x4". Actual size of finished dry lumber is given in Table 1.)

Not all species of wood have the same strength characteristics. Ask your lumber dealer what species of treated wood is obtainable in your area, then refer to the tables on page three for appropriate sizing. Your best guide, at this point, is to look at assorted deck plans and survey decks constructed by friends and neighbors to assist in determining what you like best.

SITE PLANNING

Drawing a site plan, similar to the one shown below, will help you to get a feel for how well your new deck will fit into your surroundings. A well designed deck will blend with your home and landscaping. Design your deck to be an extension of your home by using architectural details that reflect your home's character. Be sure to consider traffic patterns as well as available views and your intended use when designing your deck. To achieve your desired look, remember to pay close attention to your choice of railings and steps as well as the landscaping around the base of your deck. Your local lumber dealer may be able to assist you in your design. Some may even offer computer aided design.



Estimating Materials Required

DESIGN ELEMENTS

To familiarize yourself with the components of a basic deck, please see pages 12 and 13 of this manual.

DECK SIZE
Enter overall dimensions of your deck.

JOISTS
Locate joist size and span using Table 2.

BEAMS
Locate beam size and span using Table 3.

POSTS
Locate post size using Table 4.

DECKING
Selecting a deck surface material.

ESTIMATING QUANTITIES
Assuming that your joists project out from your house, the following formulas will help figure your material list.

JOISTS
Divide length along house by 1.33 and add 1 to the result.

DECKING
Installed straight across joists:
$^{5}/_{4}$x6 EverX decking

Installed diagonally across joists:
Calculate square footage of your deck.
$^{5}/_{4}$x6 Factor = 2.1

Remember EverX decking is normally available in increments of 2' and sold in lengths from 8' to 16'.

DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS

Using the worksheet on page 24, draw a plan of your proposed deck.

Length ..... _____
(Along House)
Projection ..... _____
(Out from House)

Joist Size ..... _____

Joist Span ..... _____

Beam Size ..... _____

Beam Span ..... _____

Post Size
❑4x4 ❑ 4x6 ❑ 6x6

Decking
❑2x4 ❑2x6 ❑$^{5}/_{4}$x6

Length _____ /1.33 = _____
+1
Number of joists _____

Number of deck boards
Projection ____ * 2.1 = _____

Length _____
* Projection _____
= Sq. Ft. _____
* Factor _____
= Lineal Ft. of Decking _____

Diagonal decking may slightly increase the amount of decking material needed due to waste.

TABLE 2 - JOIST SIZE

JOIST SIZE	JOIST SPACING O.C.	MAXIMUM JOIST SPAN		
		SOUTHERN YELLOW PINE		PONDEROSA PINE
		#1	#2	#2
2X6	16"	9'	9'	8'
2X8	16"	12'	12'	10'
2X10	16"	16'	15'	13'
2X12	16"	19'	18'	15'

Joist Span = Spacing between Beams

TABLE 3 - BEAM SIZE

BEAM SIZE	JOIST SPAN	MAXIMUM BEAM SPAN		
		SOUTHERN YELLOW PINE		PONDEROSA PINE
		#1	#2	#2
(2) 2X6	4'	9'	7'	6'
	6'	7'	6'	5'
	8'	6'	5'	4'
(2) 2X8	8'	8'	7'	5'
	10'	7'	6'	5'
	12'	6'	5'	4'
(2) 2X10	12'	7'	7'	5'
	14'	7'	6'	5'
	16'	6'	6'	5'
(2) 2X12	16'	8'	7'	5'
	18'	7'	6'	5'
	20'	7'	6'	5'

Beam Span = Spacing between Posts

TABLE 4 - POST SIZE

BEAM SPAN	JOIST SPAN								
	4'	6'	8'	10'	12'	14'	16'	18'	20'
4'	- 4x4 -								
5'									
6'									
7'				- 4x6 -					
8'									
9'									- 6x6 -

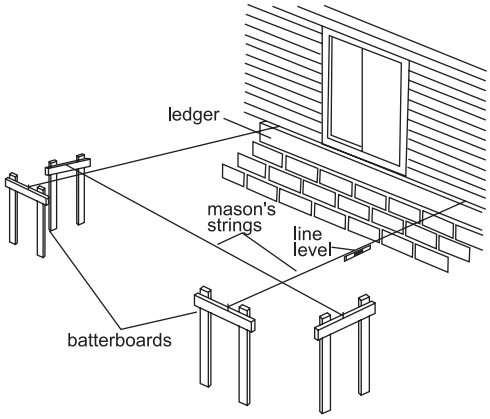
Table 4 is for posts heights up to 10'
Post heights over 5' require cross bracing

Notes for Tables #2 - #4:

1) All spans rounded down to nearest foot.
2) All Tables based on the following:
   40# Live Load
   10# Dead Load
   l/360 Deflection
3) For loads other than stated above or for deck heights over 10', please consult a professional Engineer or Architect.

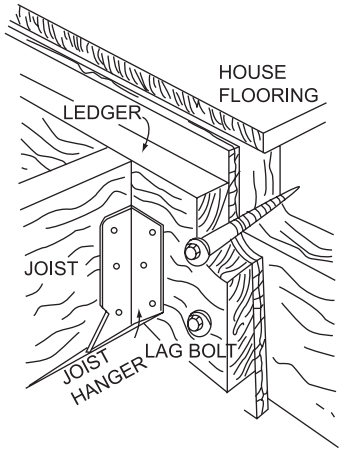
Step By Step Deck

STEP 1 - SITE LAYOUT

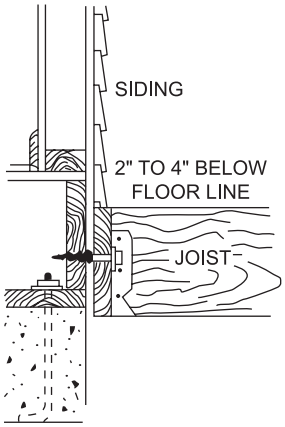


Determine the location of your deck in relation to the house. Roughly layout the deck area with a string. This will help you envision the proportions of your deck. Now is the time to make any final adjustments in the size of the deck. You will need to install "batterboards" to help square up the deck and to assist as a guide for excavation and post location. Batterboards are installed approximately 2' - 3' outside the perimeter of the deck as illustrated here.

STEP 2 - INSTALL LEDGER

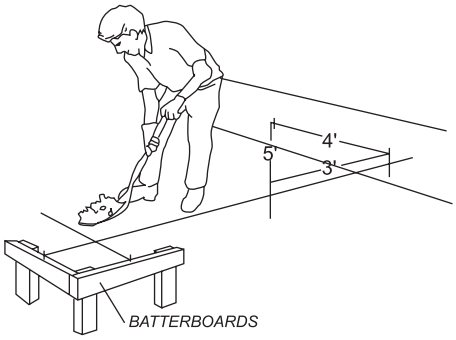


Install a ledger to anchor the deck to the house and to serve as a reference for laying out footings. The placement of the ledger determines the level of the deck floor. Remember to place the ledger low enough to allow for the thickness of the deck boards. The deck floor should be a minimum of 2" - 4" below the interior floor. The ledger must be securely fastened to the house. Using lag bolts into the box sill is the most common method of attaching the ledger. Placing a couple of washers between the ledger board and the house will allow space for drainage behind the ledger board. It is important that the ledger is positioned at the correct height and is level. If you are unsure how to do this crucial step, consult a professional contractor, or design your deck to be freestanding. This will eliminate the need for a ledger board.



STEP 3 - PREPARE SITE

Before preparing the site, you must square up the deck area. Use batterboards and mason's string to mark off the deck area and locate footings. Attach the string to the ledger and the batterboards making sure that it is level. Batterboards will be used to hold and adjust strings which define the deck area and height. Use a felt tip marker to mark the string 3' from the corner and 4' from the corner in the other direction. Adjust the string until the diagonal connecting these two points is exactly 5'.



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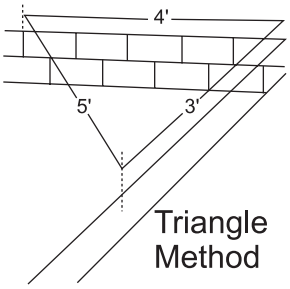
Building Instructions

STEP 3 - PREPARE SITE (continued)

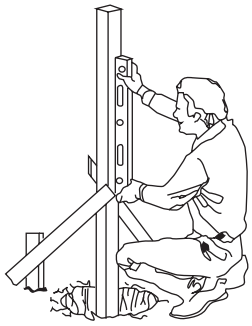


Triangle Method

This will create a 90° angle in the corner. This way of squaring a corner is commonly called the 3-4-5 triangle method.

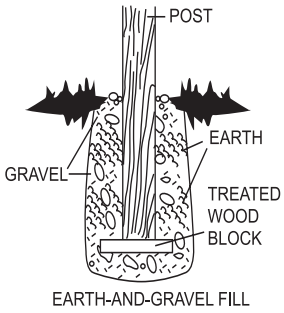
Decks usually will shade the soil beneath them to prevent most weed growth, but removing the grass and weeds first will make construction easier. After measuring and marking the deck area, remove sod from the staked area to a depth of 4"- 6". Replace the soil with sand or gravel and level the surface. To prevent weeds and unwanted vegetation from growing up through the deck, spread a sheet of polyethylene film or special landscaping fabric over the area. If you use polyethylene you will have to slit the poly to install the posts and to permit drainage of rainwater. After the posts have been installed, cover the sheet with gravel or bark chips.

STEP 4 - POSTS & BRACING



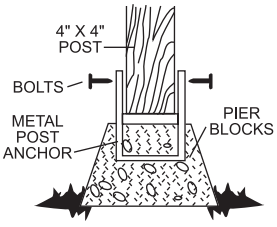
Measure in from the batterboard strings the distances given in the plan for the location of the posts. The post holes should be at least 2' deep and can be up to 4' deep. The actual depth depends on the height of the column and the depth of the frost line in your area. Posts need to be set deeper than the frost line to avoid heaving. Check with your dealer for requirements for depth and width of post holes. Fill the bottom of the hole with gravel and place a treated wood block or concrete block on the gravel. Set the posts in the holes, check for level and brace securely. Fill the hole with concrete or alternating layers of gravel and earth. Make sure the posts are plumb and in alignment with one another. Let posts set in concrete overnight.

Gravel Setting

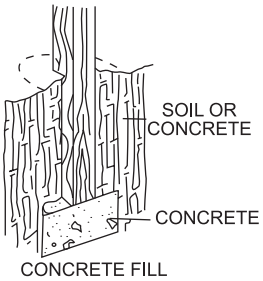


Setting posts in-ground is the method recommended, but there are several options available. If you have rocky soil, you may want to use one of the several types of pier blocks illustrated below. You do not have to dig holes when using pier blocks, and, depending on the type you choose, the posts can be attached in a variety of ways.

Concrete Footing



Concrete Setting



Post length is determined by measuring from the top of the deck to the ground plus the length of post set in the ground minus the thickness of the decking and the width of the joists. Height of posts that extend above the decking to support railings or benches is determined by adding the length of the post underground plus the distances from ground level to the top of the railing, bench or features, minus the thickness of the railing cap, seating boards or other materials. Do not cut posts to finished length yet. Allow extra length to accommodate settling.

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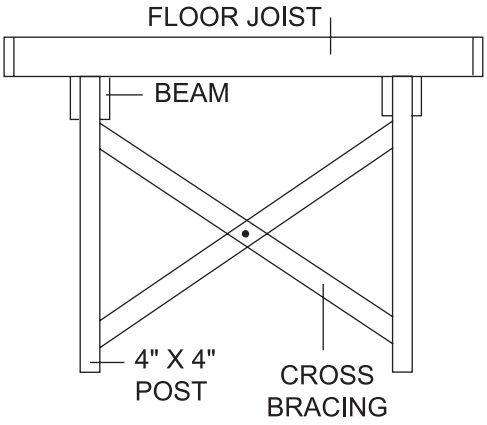
STEP 4 - POSTS & BRACING (continued)



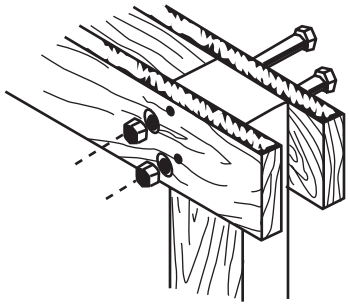
Perimeter posts over 5' high from ground to deck level need to be braced. While there are several methods of bracing, cross bracing is the strongest and is the method we recommend. In cross bracing, 2x4 or 2x6 boards run diagonally from just below the beams on one post to approximately one foot above ground level on the neighboring post. If the diagonal distance is less than 8', use 2x4; if 8' or greater, use 2x6.

On corner posts, run the brace to the outside corner of the post, secure with $^3/_8$"x 4" lag screws or $^3/_8$"x $5^1/_2$" carriage bolts. Trim the end flush with the post. Braces that meet at middle posts are cut to meet at the center line of the posts (leaving a slight gap for drainage), and attached with lag screws or carriage bolts. Where braces cross between posts, fasten them with a single $^3/_8$"x $3^1/_2$" carriage bolt.

STEP 5 - ATTACHING BEAMS & JOISTS

Attaching Beams to Posts

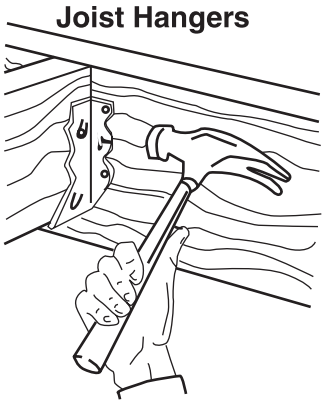
Use a string and level to find the desired deck floor height on the posts. Subtract the thickness of the deck boards and joist (use actual dimensions not nominal) to determine the correct height for securing the top of the beam to the post. Make a mark on all four sides of the post at this point. Use carriage bolts to fasten the beams flush with the mark. You can cut the posts that do not serve as railing supports before attaching the beams. We recommend using double beam and post construction, but you have the option of using 4" thick beams and attaching them to the posts with readymade connectors.



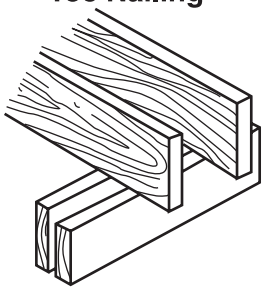
Attaching Joists

It is important that the surface of the deck has a rock-hard feel, especially elevated decks. To achieve this, we recommend that joists be spaced a maximum of 16" on center. Joists are attached to the ledger with joist hangers or by toe nailing. They must also be attached to the beams and ribbon joists.

Joist Hangers



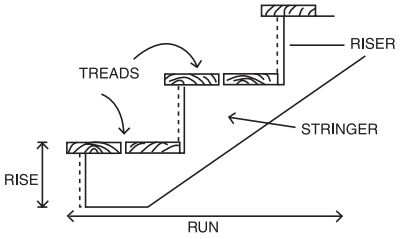
Toe Nailing



Blocking consists of 2x6 pieces nailed between joists to prevent buckling or twisting. Measure and cut blocking and nail through joists into ends of the block pieces. For ease of nailing, snap a chalk line across the joists where the blocking will go and stagger the pieces to the left and right of the line. Blocking should be installed every 2' - 3' along the joists.

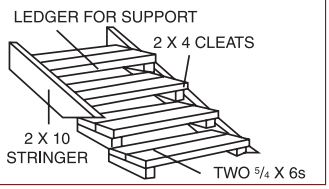
STEP 6 - STAIRS, TREADS, & RISERS

Stair construction ...the nightmare of do-it-yourself deck building! Not necessarily. Probably no aspect of deck construction requires more care and thought than building a set of stairs. The following discussion is intended to help remove the mystery that surrounds designing and building stairs.



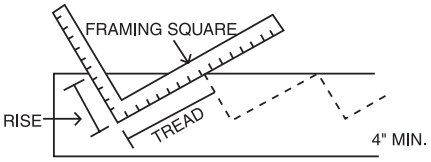
First decide where and how wide your stairs will be. They should be at least 3' wide, but will often look and work better if they are wider. Check your local code for any special requirements for stairs. You need to determine what size of lumber to use for the treads. Treads are that part of the stairs that you step on. Using multiple pieces is normally better than one wide one as they allow for drainage and tend to cup less. Common sizes used for treads are two $^{5}/_{4}$x6 EverX decking boards.

Cleated Stairs



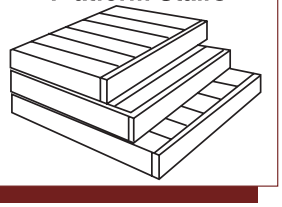
Calculate the total rise by measuring the distance from the ground to the top of the deck surface. Remember to take into account any slope in the ground. Divide the total rise by 7 to get the approximate number of risers. For example, if your deck is 36" from the ground...36"/7=5.142... This means that you need 5 risers. To find the exact height of each riser divide the total rise by the number of risers. Example; total rise=36"/5 risers=7.2". In our example you need 5 risers of 7.2". You can round 7.2" to $7^{3}/_{16}$" for ease of laying out your stairs. The small difference can be made up on the bottom riser. The number of treads is equal to the number of risers minus one. When figuring the tread width, you may want to allow for a nosing or overhang. The total run is equal to the number of treads multiplied by the tread width.

Some rules of thumb to keep in mind as you figure out your steps are that tread widths of 9" to 11 " and riser heights of 7" to $8^{1}/_{2}$" are the most common. The width of one tread plus the height of one riser should equal 17" - 18" or the width of one tread multiplied by the height of one riser should equal approximately 72" - 75". Stringers should be spaced a maximum of two feet apart.



Now that you know the tread width and the riser height, you are ready to lay out the stairs on the stringer. You will need a framing square to mark out the stairs. A handy item to have is a set of stair gauges. They are small gauges that clamp onto the square to set the rise and run and ensure that all steps are marked the same. Stair gauges are available at most building supply dealers. Position the square, as illustrated, with the tread width on one leg and the riser height on the other leg. Mark along the outside of the square. Move the square up the stringer so that the next riser starts where the tread left off and mark the next tread and riser. Continue this process until all treads and risers are marked. When you mark the bottom riser mark and cut it short of the actual rise by the thickness of one tread. This will ensure that all risers are the same height. For cut out stringers, use a circular saw to cut out the marked areas. For cleated stairs, attach a 2x4 cleat on each tread line. On cleated stairs the treads will attach to the top of the 2x4 cleats. If you plan to close in the risers it is easier to do it prior to installing the treads. Closed risers are normally made from 1 " boards. Stringers must be securely attached where they meet the deck and need support where they meet the ground. At the ground level, posts may be used to attach the stringers to and may serve as supports for the stair railing. A small concrete pad can also serve as a suitable support for the stringers.

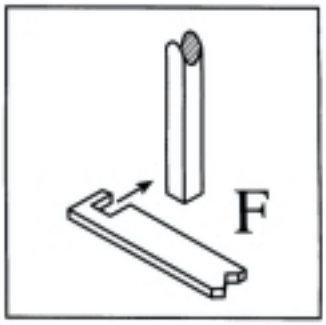
Platform Stairs



Stairs can be attractively designed to wrap around a corner of the deck. Setting your stairs on an angle will add visual interest to your deck. Stairs can also be built by creating a series of platforms, each one lower than the previous one.

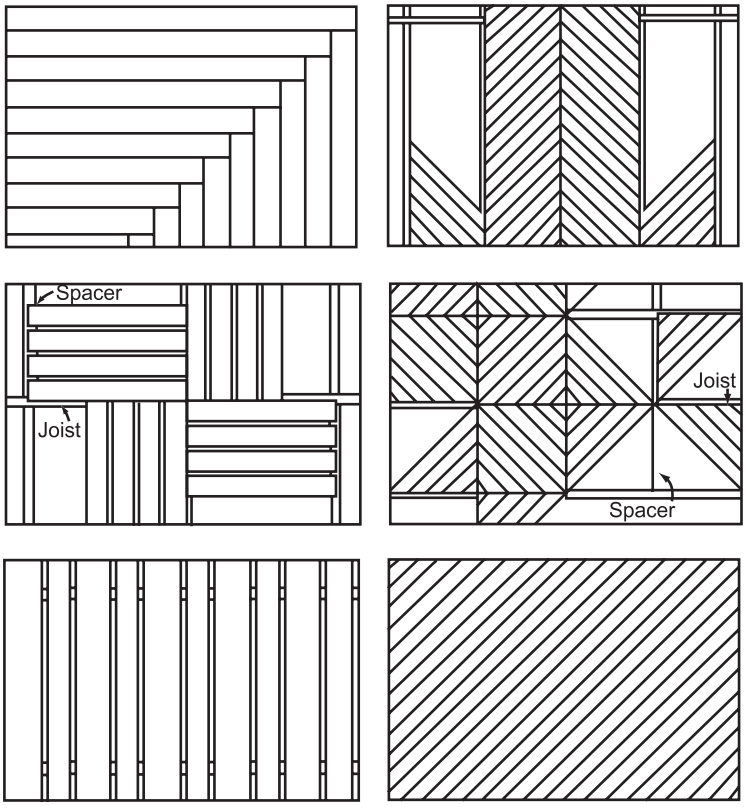
STEP 7 - INSTALL DECK BOARDS

EverX decking will be one of the deck's most visible features, so make every effort to lay decking boards straight and in line. Additionally, for best appearance and ease of installation (pilot hole and counter sinking is not needed) we recommend using 2 1/2" OMG FastenMaster Trap Ease composite wood deck screws. If the homeowner prefers a fastening system "Hidden by Design", we recommend Deck One Stealth Decking Fasteners. If using other coarse thread deck screws, best appearance and ease of fastening is achieved by pre-drilling a pilot hole and countersink prior to driving screws. Screws should be driven flush with the EverX surface. Do not over drive. Use 2 fasteners per deck board at each joist. Install the EverX 5/4x6 deck boards starting at the edge of the deck furthest from the building, working back toward the building. Notch deck boards to fit around the 4x4 pressure-treated rail posts. See figure F. Additional blocking may be necessary on 4x4 for fastening deck boards. After all of the decking has been attached snap a chalk line flush with or up to 1 1/2" out from the deck framing and cut with a circular saw. Joist Span - 16" on center (12" on center for diagonal installation) Side. Gapping - 1/8" minimum. End Spacing - allow a minimum of 1/16" gap for every 20 degrees F° of difference between installation temperature and the hottest temperature expected.



In addition to laying straight planking, you can choose from a variety of different patterns, some of which are shown below, for attaching decking. Parquet patterns, diagonal or herringbone designs all add visual interest to the surface of your deck. These attractive patterns usually require slightly more material than straight planking. More cutting and attention to precision is required. Special framing may be required to support some of these patterns.

Sample Patterns

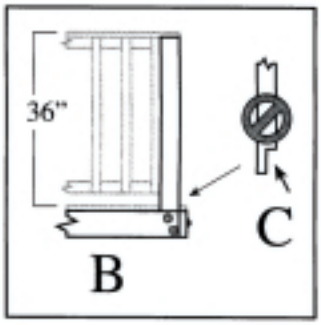


STEP 8 - RAILINGS, SPINDLES & POST SLEEVES

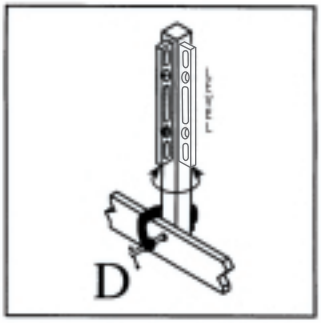
EverX Railing - Installation Instructions

Prior to construction, check for special code requirements in your area. Common railing heights are 36" or 42" depending on application. Structural support for EverX railing should come from either the continuation of deck support posts that extend up through the deck floor or railing posts that are bolted to the outside joists or rim joists. Never span more than 6' between railing posts. Install railing posts before deck boards are fastened to the joists. For proper railing alignment, do not notch railing posts. Predrilling and countersinking of all EverX deck and railing components is essential to the successful installation of the EverX system.

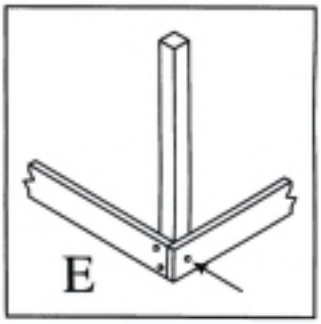
Step 1: Determine the number of railing posts needed for your deck. Example - a 12' x 16' deck attached to a building along one 16' side of the deck. Each 12' end will have a continuous rail requiring three posts, 12' ÷ 6' = 2 posts plus 1 starting post. The 16' side will have a 12' long rail section leaving a 4' opening for access to the deck. 12' ÷ 6' = 2 posts, the corner post from the 12' end rail will act as the starting post. Eight posts total (3+3+2) will be needed for the example deck. See figure A. Note: Maximum post space is 6'.



Step 2: Pressure-treated 4x4's provide the structural strength for your EverX railing. The length of each post is determined by adding the joist width plus the 1" thickness of the EverX decking plus the finished railing height minus the 1" thickness of the cap rail. The 12' x 16' example deck is constructed using 2x8's as joists. The actual width of a 2x8 is 7-1/4". The finished rail height for the example deck is 36". See figure B. The 4x4's should be cut to 43-1/4" lengths (7-1/4" + 1" + 36" 1 "). Do not notch the 4x4 pressure-treated railing posts. See figure C.

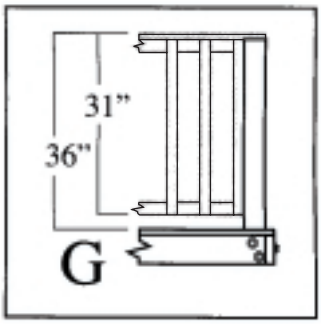


Step 3: Position, plumb with a level, and clamp the rail post on the interior face of the joist. Check again that the post is plumb using a level. 4x4 pressure-treated railing posts should be bolted to the rim joists or outside joists using two 1/2" x 6" hot dipped galvanized carriage bolts. See figure D. Corner posts use a third carriage bolt inserted through the joist adjacent to the joist with two bolts. See figure E.



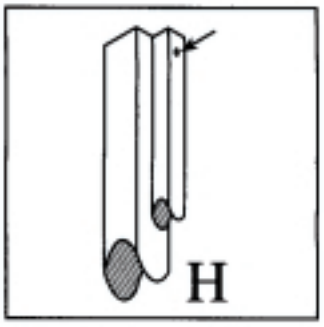
Step 4: Cut a 4x4 EverX Post Sleeve to length for each of the rail posts. In the example deck they would be cut to 35" (36" rail height - 1 " thickness of EverX deck boards). The tops of the treated post and post sleeve should be even.

Step 5: Determine the 2x2 baluster length. In the case of the example deck, a 36" finished rail height will require 31-1/2" balusters (36" - 1" thickness of cap rail - 3-1/2" space between the deck surface and bottom rail). See figure G.

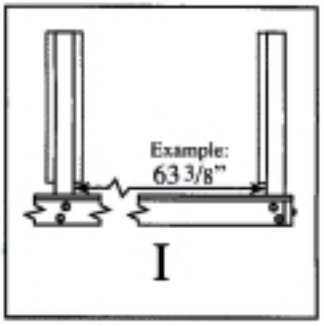


STEP 8 - RAILINGS, SPINDLES & POST SLEEVES (continued)

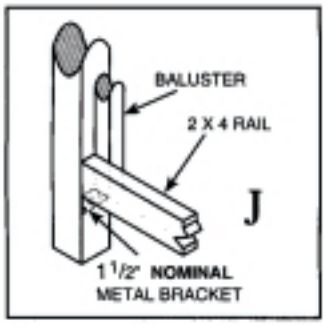
Step 6: Slide a trimmed to length EverX Post Sleeve over each 4x4 pressure-treated rail post. Locate a 2x2 baluster on the side of the post that the rail is attached to, 3/8" from the outer face of the Post Sleeve. The top end of the 2x2 baluster should be even with the top end of the EverX Post Sleeve. Fasten the baluster, drilling through the post sleeve, to the 4x4 pressure-treated post using three #8 x 3" flat head screws. See figure H. Repeat for each point that a rail section is attached to a rail post.



Step 7: Determine the length of the 2x4 top and bottom rails by measuring the distance between posts at the deck surface. See figure I. For the example deck, this measurement would be 63-3/8". Attach a 1-1/2" nominally-sized metal angle bracket at each end of the bottom edge of both rails using two #8 x 1" Pan Head Screws. Be sure to predrill. See figure J.

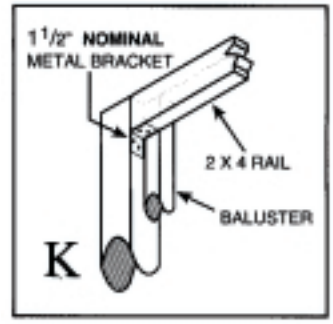


Step 8: Locate the upper edge of the top rail even with the top of the baluster and post sleeve so that the rail is on the interior face of the baluster, toward the center of the deck. Fasten the rail to the post assembly with the angle bracket using two #8 x 1-1/2" Pan Head Screws. Be sure to predrill. Position the lower edge of the bottom rail even with the bottom of the baluster on the post assembly. Fasten the rail to the post assembly with the angle bracket using two #8 x 1-1/2" Pan Head Screws. Be sure to predrill. See figure K.

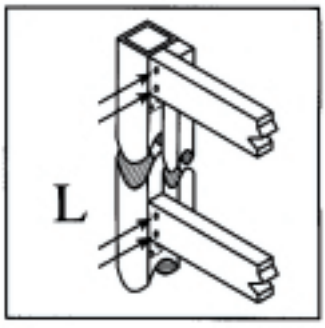


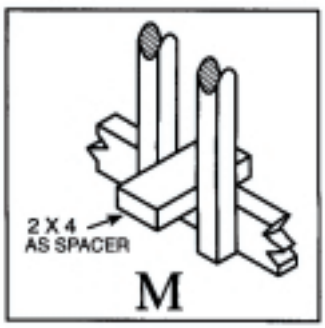
Step 9: The final connection of the EverX rails is completed by carefully predrilling and countersinking through the ends of the top and bottom 2x4 rails into the 2x2 balusters attached to the post assembly. Fasten the rails to the balusters using 2-1/2" flat head screws. Do not over tighten screws. See figure L.

Step 10: Attach EverX balusters to the 2x4 top and bottom rails by predrilling & countersinking; fasten with 2-1/2" flat head screws. Most building codes allow a maximum space of 4" between balusters. Using a 2x4 block will create a 3-1/2" space between balusters. See figure M. The 12' x 16' example deck will require fourteen 2x2 EverX balusters for each of the six 63-3/8" railing sections. 84 balusters total (14 x 6) will be needed to complete the example deck.

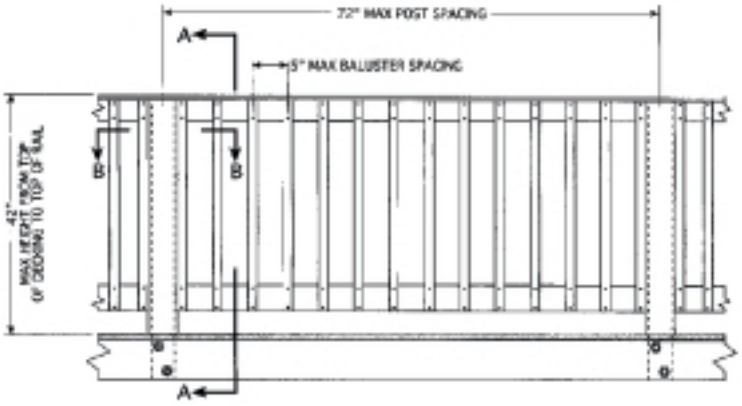


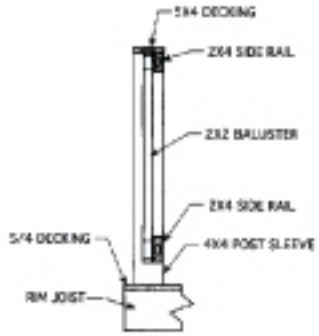
Step 11: 5/4x6 EverX is used for the cap rail. Three 12' pieces will be needed for the example deck. Cap rails that meet at corners should be cut at 45° angles to create 90° miter joints. Fasten to the 4x4 pressure-treated rail posts using 3" flat head screws. Cap rail should be attached to the EverX 2x4 top rail using 2" flat head screws every 16". Remember to predrill and countersink prior to driving screws.



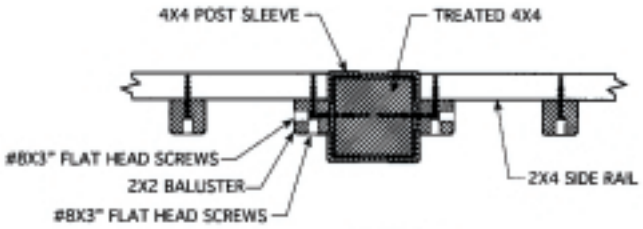


STEP 8 - RAILINGS, SPINDLES & POST SLEEVES (continued)





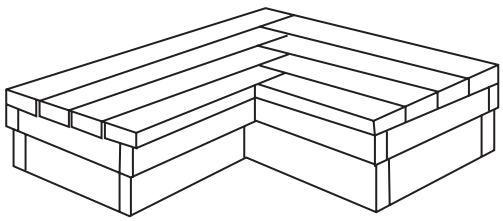
SECTION A-A

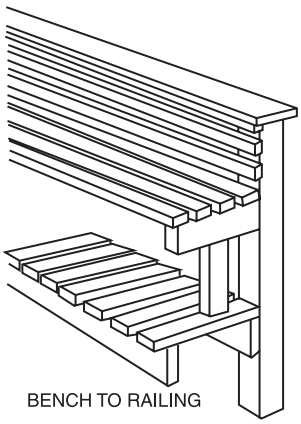


SECTION
(NOT TO SCALE)

Adding Benches

Built-in benches are a very practical and functional way to provide seating on a deck. Benches can be free-standing, consolidated into railings, or combined with planter boxes. Seats should be at least 15" wide and 15"-18" above the deck floor.



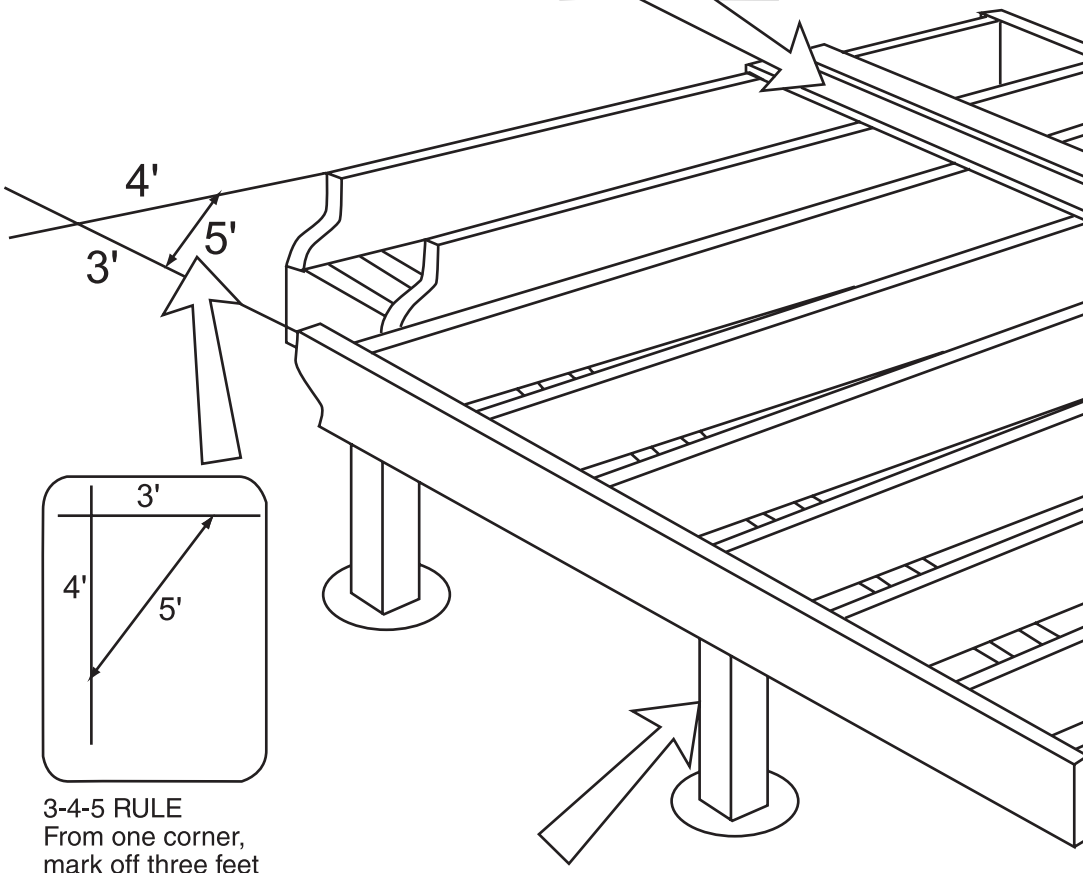


BENCH TO RAILING

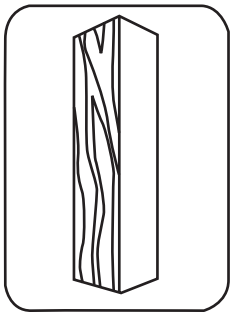
An Overview Of Deck

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

EverX composite Decking

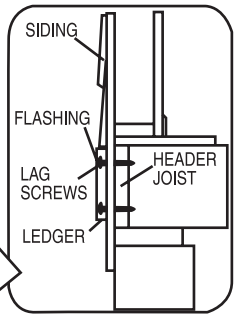


3-4-5 RULE
From one corner, mark off three feet in one direction, and four feet in the other using a black felt tip pen. Adjust the strings until the distance between these two points is exactly five feet. Repeat for all four corners.



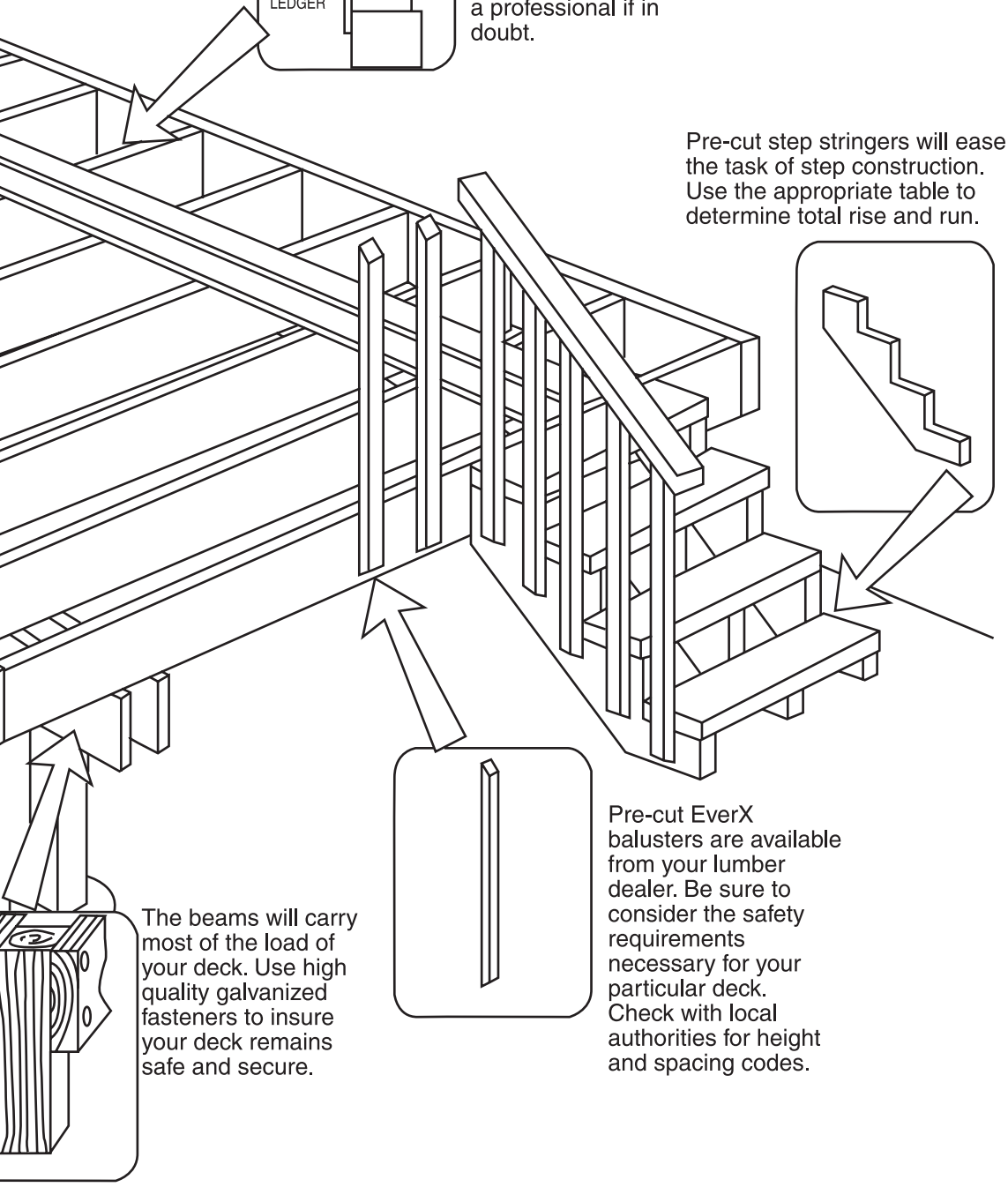
Location, climate, and deck height will determine the best method for setting the deck posts. Check with a professional to decide which method is best for you.

Construction Details



Your type of home will determine the best method of deck attachment. The ledger board must be securely fastened. For safety, check with a professional if in doubt.

Pre-cut step stringers will ease the task of step construction. Use the appropriate table to determine total rise and run.



Pre-cut EverX balusters are available from your lumber dealer. Be sure to consider the safety requirements necessary for your particular deck. Check with local authorities for height and spacing codes.

The beams will carry most of the load of your deck. Use high quality galvanized fasteners to insure your deck remains safe and secure.

MAINTENANCE AND WARRANTY

Upkeep and Maintenance tips

EverX is a low maintenance building material that will provide many years of enjoyment. Periodic cleaning is all that's required to keep your outdoor project looking good. Cleaning *EverX* is easy when soils are promptly addressed. Follow these simple steps to care for your *EverX* deck.

1. Wash your deck periodically with water from the garden hose, even if it appears to be clean. A quick rinse can prevent the build up of airborne pollen and debris that can sustain mold and mildew growth.

2. Deal with spills quickly! Hose off or wipe up stains immediately. Do not allow stains to penetrate the deck's surface or bake on under direct sun.

3. If you use a barbecue grill on your deck, keep a splatter guard beneath it, as grills are a major source of grease stains and burns.

4. Soap and water will maintain the appearance of *EverX* in most cases. If grime, ground-in dirt, or rust marks become a problem, use a cleaning product with a phosphoric acid base.

5. Mold may form on any surface where moisture is prevalent, where there is heavy shading, or where pollen and debris are allowed to collect. To eliminate mold, use conventional deck wash and cleaning products containing sodium percarbonate (oxygen bleach).

6. Grease and oil stains can be treated with commercial degreasers. Use spot removers or petroleum based thinners sparingly on stubborn grease and oil stains; they will attack the embossed grain pattern if not neutralized with a water wash.

7. For stains that have been allowed to penetrate the surface of the board and set, or have been baked by the sun, abrasives like steel wool, soap pads, or medium grit sandpaper will be necessary to remove permanently stained material. This may remove the embossed grain texture and expose unweathered *EverX.* Over time, the sanded area will age to match the rest of the deck.

8. Use a plastic shovel to remove snow from your *EverX* deck. Metal shovels or scrapers are likely to cause gouge marks. Calcium chloride can be used to melt ice. Rinse the deck with water when the temperature rises above freezing to prevent buildup of calcium chloride residue.

EverX Limited Warranty

EverX Extruded Wood Products will not rot, decay, check, splinter, or suffer termite damage for a period of 20 years from the original consumer purchase. See the limited warranty certificate for details at our web site www.everxdeck.com

DECK PLANNING NOTES AND SHOPPING LIST

Needs	✓Checklist
Gloves	
Chalk line	
Level 2' minimum	
Hammer	
Circular saw, Mitre saw	
Square	
Tape measure	
Drill and Drill bits	
Deck fasteners	
Posts	
Bracing material	
Gravel	
Cement	
Pier blocks	
Mansons string	
Batter board material	
Ledger boards	
Lag bolts	
Beams	
Carriage bolts	
Floor joists	
Joist hangers	
Cross bracing material if needed	
Decking	
Railing	
Balusters	
Stairs Stringer materials Riser materials Tread material Cleats	

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