



# Ekodeck® Castellated Panel

## Installation Guide



No oiling, staining  
or sealing



UV Stabilised -  
Won't fade to grey



Won't splinter,  
cup or twist

[ekodeck.co.nz](http://ekodeck.co.nz)

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## INSTALLATION GUIDE

### Read this first

Being a composite product, Ekodeck Castellated Panels behave and have different characteristics to timber. To achieve a safe and long lasting Ekodeck Castellated Panel installation, it is important to read the following guide in full.

### Warnings

1. It is the sole responsibility of the homeowner, contractor or the installer to determine the specific requirements, effectiveness, suitability and safety with regard to any application or use of Ekodeck products.
2. Ekodeck Castellated Panels are not designed to be a freestanding product. They must be installed safely and correctly to fixed posts/rails.
3. The posts/rails must comply with all the relevant regulations and aspects of the Building Code of New Zealand. All supports must be securely anchored to the ground (not floating).
4. Ekodeck Castellated Panels must be mechanically fastened to each support. Any single piece of Ekodeck Castellated Panel must be installed over at least 2 spans (i.e. 3 posts/rails).
5. Ekodeck Castellated Panels should not:
  - A. Be used as a structural or load bearing member.
  - B. Be used in any potentially stressed situation such as a security or safety balustrade or decking.
  - C. Be applied directly to a solid surface such as concrete or brick walls.



Carry this side up



Install this side

### Safety

Always use proper protective clothing and safety equipment when cutting and drilling.

### Gaps & span

Centre-to-centre support spacing (max)*	600mm
Pre-drill	Required
Maximum unsupported overhang	150mm

### Natural variances & colour

Ekodeck Castellated Panels are made by combining reclaimed timber with a mix of new and recycled plastics. They are designed to have a variation of colour and tone from one panel/batch to another.



It is necessary to lay out your panels to ensure you have an even mix of both light and dark tones across the panels prior to cutting or installing to avoid large blocks of single tones. Panels cannot be exchanged or returned after they have been cut. If you do not accept the colour/finish of the panel, do not cut or install it.



Ekodeck Castellated Panels are subject to normal manufacturing variations and tolerances. Reasonable variances in panel dimensions are not considered a product fault and due care should be taken when installing to allow for these.

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### Cutting

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For best results, use hardwood blades.

When using a drop saw we recommend a 60-80 tooth blade for cutting.

For best results, it is recommended to trim all panels to length once fully fastened using a straight edge and circular saw. This ensures all panels are the same length for a clean finish.

### Thermal expansion & contraction

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Ekodeck expands and contracts in length with changes in temperature. This is normal behaviour of any wood plastic composite and is not a product fault.

It is most important to take this into consideration during installation of your Ekodeck Castellated Panels.

The amount of expansion and contraction you experience is dependent on several factors including:

- **Climate:** Installing in the peak of summer or winter or large changes in temperature between day and night.
- **Panel position:** If the panels are in direct sun light or part shade etc.
- **Panel length:** The longer the panels, the more they will expand and contract.
- **Fully fastened panels:** You will notice less movement in the panels once they are fully installed/fastened to the supports.

### General installation requirements

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Allow the panels to acclimatise to your site conditions. This allows your Ekodeck Castellated Panels to adapt to the ambient heat typical of your location.

### Thermal deflection

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Due to the nature of polymers this product may exhibit a slight thermal deflection between supports.

This can be caused by heat exposure to one side of a panel as opposed to the other.

The extent to which this occurs is dependent on several factors including climate and the direction which the panels are facing the sun.

This phenomenon is not considered a product fault.

### Installation & fastening

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#### Fixing Ekodeck Castellated Panels to timber supports

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Exterior-grade 10g screws of adequate length.

Pre-drilling the panels is imperative.

Screw off each panel every 600mm.

*Nailing is not recommended.*

#### Fixing Ekodeck Castellated Panels to steel supports

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High quality 10g screws that are appropriate for steel.

Pre-drilling the panels is imperative.

Screw off each panel every 600mm.

*Wing Tek screws are not recommended.*

### Cleaning your Ekodeck Castellated Panels

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It is recommended to clean your panels immediately after installation and periodically as you see fit:

1. Wash the panels with warm water and dishwashing liquid using a soft-bristled brush.
2. Rinse your panels off with a garden hose.

Cleaning requirements will vary depending on product use, surrounding environment and weather exposure. We recommend a general clean is performed at least annually.

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### Finishing Trims

To finish off the corner, edge or top of your new Ekodeck Castellated Panels, we recommend using one of the below aluminium trims, which can be purchased from your local Bunnings Warehouse.

### Aluminium Trim Options (all available from Bunnings)

Size	Length	Colour	Item Number	Profile
25x12x1.6mm	1m	Silver	0191477	
	2m	Silver	0191478	
25x20x1.6mm	1m	Silver	0191479	
		Black	0374800	
		White	0374814	
	2m	Silver	0191480	
		Black	0191544	
	White	0191545		

### Paint Colour Matches

Castellated Panel Colour	Item Number	Paint Colour	Spray Can
 Hazelwood	0745747	 Mission Brown	✓
 Carbon	0745746	 Black	✓