Installing Kebony Decking
Using the Step-Clip™
Hidden Fastening System

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Preparing for Installation

SAFETY GUIDELINES

Building a deck is a construction project, therefore you should wear protective clothing and safety equipment such as safety glasses, gloves, long sleeves, and a mask, particularly when cutting wood.

The installer is responsible for identifying and following all building codes and construction safety practices. Kebony accepts no liability or responsibility for the improper installation of this product.

Kebony decking may not be suitable for every application, and it is the sole responsibility of the installer to be sure that Kebony decking is fit for the intended use. Because all installations are unique, it is also the installer’s responsibility to determine specific requirements for each deck application.

Kebony recommends that all applications be reviewed by a licensed architect, engineer or local building official before installation.

STORAGE GUIDELINES

KEBONY

Kebony should not be exposed directly to the elements before installation. Kebony should be kept enclosed in its original packaging or re-wrapped if previously opened.

STEP-CLIP™

Step-Clip strips should be stored indoors before use. The strips install best between 40°F and 80°F (4°C and 27°C). Do not leave Step-Clip strips exposed to direct sunlight for extended periods of time on hot days as the excessive heat can affect flexibility.

KEY GUIDELINES BEFORE YOU START

- Framing should be square
- Framing should be level within ½” (3 mm)
- Start away from, and work toward the structure
- Each board must be secured across a minimum of two (2) spans. This means that each board must be secured to a minimum of three (3) joists
- Boards that run perpendicular to the primary boards, such as feature boards or picture framing boards, require additional framing and shimming
- Main boards oriented at angles other than 90° perpendicular to joists (e.g. 30°, 45°, etc.) are not permitted
- The side tabs on all Step-Clip strips must be oriented on the same side of the joists and flush against the joist to allow for linking subsequent strips together
- Inline boards require additional framing (sistering) that supports installation of a full Step-Clip strip because sharing Step-Clip strips between two inline boards is not allowed
REQUIRED TOOLS & EQUIPMENT

- Electric Saw (Table, Chop etc.)
  - With a fine carbide blade
- Utility Knife
- Measuring Tape
- #8 Stainless Steel Screws
- Level
- Pencil
- Drill (Cordless or Corded)
- Non-Marring Rubber Mallet
- 15° Coil Roofing Nailer or Roofing Hammer

MISC. ITEMS
- Chalkline
- Carbide Drill bit for Pre-Drilling
- Shims

WHAT’S IN THE BOX?

Step-Clip strips is supplied in two box sizes: one with 25 and another with 75 Step-Clip strips. Each box includes a corresponding set of coiled stainless steel roofing nails.

IT’S A SNAP!

BOX INCLUDES:

- **25** Step-Clip™ Fastening Strips 1-1/4” Stainless Steel Ring Shank Coil Nails
  - Installation Guide.
  - Approximate Coverage: 50 sqft (4.5 m²)
- **75** Step-Clip™ Fastening Strips 1-1/4” Stainless Steel Ring Shank Coil Nails
  - Installation Guide.
  - Approximate Coverage: 150 sqft (13.5 m²)

Check your Step-Clip strip count against your required coverage to ensure you have enough Step-Clips strips and nails for your project.
Kebony Boards

There are two Kebony deck profiles for use with Step-Clip strips:

1. **Grooved on One Side**
   - These boards are used where one side is exposed, such as a board on the perimeter of the deck, a starter board, or the leading edge of a stair tread.
   - There are typically very few of these boards in a project.

2. **Grooved on Two Sides**
   - These boards are used where both sides are hidden from view, either because there are boards on both sides or one side is against a part of the structure.

Review your design to make sure you have enough boards of each type for their respective applications.

**STEP A**

Representative deck layouts:

- **Fig. 1.** Two boards, Top and Bottom that run PERPENDICULAR to the MAIN boards - Go to STEP A
- **Fig. 2.** As above, but with nested FEATURE BOARDS - Go to STEP A
- **Fig. 3.** As Top Left, but with two FEATURE BOARDS - Go to STEP A
- **Fig. 4.** No PERPENDICULAR boards - Go to STEP B

This detail is for deck designs with PERPENDICULAR boards that are on the OUTER EDGE of the deck e.g. a “starter” board and/or part of a picture frame setup and/or have PERPENDICULAR BOARDS on the INSIDE of the deck (e.g. a “feature” board).

1. These will require additional framing.

2. There are two ways to secure the first board or interior boards to the framing:
   a. Using Step-Clip strip in a different orientation.
   or
   b. Face fastening the boards with screws.
      - Face fastening requires shimming the deck boards with - (3 mm) shims (in order to match the crown on the adjacent boards that are using Step-Clip strips)
      - You can optionally make some Kebony plugs to hide the fact screws using commercially available plug cutters

3. Go to STEP B - follow all instructions except adjust for the fact that you only need the first set of clips. You can trim off the remaining part of the Step-Clip strip after you’ve secured the one board you need.
STEP B

This detail is for installation of OUTER EDGE/STARTER boards or stairs that are in the same orientation as the primary deckboards, (i.e. NOT perpendicular to main boards).

Stairs Note: Stair treads must be secured across a minimum of two (2) spans. This means that each board must be secured to a minimum of three (3) joists.

1. Locate the first, edge/starter deck board at outer rim joist away from the structure and work towards the structure.
   a. Do not overhang the board more than 1” (25.4 mm) width wise or 2” (50.8 mm) lengthwise.
   b. To achieve a 1” (25.4 mm) widthwise overhang:
      • measure and mark a location 22” (559 mm) from the outer rim joist
      • snap a chalk line across the entire width of the deck

2. Position the Step-Clip strips with one edge along the 22” line.
   a. Fasten the first row of strips to each joist with a 1-1/4” (32 mm) stainless steel ring shank roofing nail.
   b. Use 2 nails for each pair of clips located within 1” (19 mm) of each clip, for a total of 8 nails per each Step-Clip strip.
     Note: Remember that the side tabs on all of the strips should be orientated on the same side of the joists and flush against the joist to allow for linking subsequent strips together.

3. Trim the overhang of the first row of Step-Clip strips flush with the outer rim joist.
3. Slide the outer deck board securely into the first clip.
   a. Ensure it is properly engaged in the groove of the board.

   b. Screw down the opposite, outer edge of the board at each joist location using #8 Stainless Steel screws.
      • You can optionally make some Kebony plugs to hide the face screws using commercially available plug cutters

4. Once the first board has been installed into the outer Step-Clip strip:
   a. Check for proper alignment and confirm that board is square across all joists.
   b. Proceed with positioning the remaining Step-Clip strip on the joists.
   c. Go to STEP C
      • Remember that the side tabs on all Step-Clip strips must be oriented on the same side of the joists and flush against the joist to allow for linking subsequent strips together
      • Step-Clip strip use a tongue and groove design for inline connection to each other. (Simply slide the tongue into the groove and continue to fasten the Step-Clip strip.)
These will require additional framing.

1. Specifically, sistering of joists, where each joist has its own full length Step-Clip strip.

2. Remember: Each board must be secured continuously across a minimum of two (2) spans. This means that each board must be continuously secured to a minimum of three (3) joists.

3. The sistered joist must be long enough to accommodate a full Step-Clip strip.
   - Both the primary joist and the sistered joist must each have a full Step-Clip strip.

4. The end of the first board must not exceed the width of either the primary or sistered joist.

5. Continue with installation of your main boards.
   - Go to STEP D
1. Remember that the side tabs on all Step-Clip strips must be oriented on the same side of the joists and flush against the joist to allow for proper linking together of subsequent strips.

2. Step-Clip strips use a tongue and groove design for inline connection to each other.
   - a. This ensures proper and consistent spacing.
   - b. Simply slide the tongue into the groove and continue to align the Step-Clip strips on the joists.

3. Position the remaining Step-Clip strips:
   - a. And fasten until all of the joists have been completely covered.
   - b. Alternately install in four-board increments. One row of Step-Clip strips supports four boards across the deck.

4. Use 2 nails for each pair of clips 2 located within 1" (19 mm) of each clip, for a total of 8 nails per each Step-Clip strip.

5. Measure and cut each deck board to length.
   - a. Place the outer edge of the deck board into one side of the Step-Clip strip.
   - b. Step down or tap down with a non-marring rubber mallet on the opposite elevated edge to secure the board in place.
   - c. You should hear a clear, pronounced ‘click’ as the clip is secured into the edge of the board.

6. Repeat #5 above until all boards have been installed. Remember that the last board may require that it be ripped to width and/or follow the same installation procedure as used for a starter board.
Thank you for purchasing Step-Clip for Kebony, the hidden fastener system that will speed and simplify the installation of your Kebony deck.

Please read these instructions carefully, and if you have any questions, e-mail: SCsupport@kebony.us or call: +1 855.230.5656