

Exterior decking: Garapa hardwood decking

Overview

Garapa is a South American hardwood timber.

We stock carefully selected 19x90mm and 21x140mm 1st Grade Garapa decking sourced from the best suppliers.

Our Garapa decking is machined from kiln dried timber.

With proper care it is very durable and excellent for use as exterior decking.

Installation

Our Garapa decking is smooth on both sides.

It is critical that the supporting joists comply with SANS 10082 safe span tables.

50mm bearers for good support are advisable.

Bearer spacing for 19mm is 450mm. Bearer spacing for 21mm is 550mm. Plank spacing of 4mm is recommended.

Fastening

We stock specialized Stainless Steel decking screws with a posi-drive head. A 4mm or 4.5mm drill bit is recommended for pre drilling. A 60mm screw length is recommended but 50mm can be used as well.

A specialist countersinking bit is recommended – it is difficult to countersink correctly with an ordinary drill bit.

Galvanised steel posi screws are NOT recommended due to their relatively short life span.

Hidden decking clips are an option. We recommend and stock the EasyClip clip system. It is critical that the clip system is installed correctly.

Finishing

After installation, Somerset Timbers Galseal must be applied to feed oil back into the timber. Various colours are available. This can be reapplied as necessary – a 2nd coat probably after 6 months and then yearly.

The use of surface sealers and varnishes is not recommended as this causes the timber to heat up excessively in hot conditions and does not allow the timber to breathe.

If no oil is applied, Garapa will fade to a light grey colour. Due to the density fine hair cracks are a characteristic of the timber as it dries over time. In very dry or UV exposed areas there is a risk of roughness and flaking.

Following correct installation and periodic maintenance, Garapa should provide a very long lasting, beautiful surface. It is very stable and our recommended hardwood decking.

Technical data

Dimension	19x90mm and 21x140mm
Colour	Yellow brown
Profile	
Density	750 to 850kg per m ³
Origin	South America
Hardness	1630 on Janka scale
Species name	Apuleia leiocarpa
Lengths	1.8m up to 5.4m in 300mm increments
Moisture	Kiln dried - beware of low cost air dried Garapa.
FSC	No - it is not possible to obtain FSC certification for this material.
Span	19mm: 450mm bearer to bearer 21mm: 550mm bearer to bearer
Recommended fastening	S/S decking screws 60mm EasyClip clip system
Finishing	Galseal