

# Balau decking

## Overview

We stock carefully selected, legally sourced, 19x90mm 1st Grade Reeded **Bangkirai** Balau decking sourced from the best suppliers in Indonesia and Malaysia. Our Balau decking is machined from kiln dried timber.

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

## Pre installation

Ensure joists are spaced at a maximum of 450mm centre to centre. If joists are SA Pine, ensure they are SABS S5 Graded and the treatment is minimum CCA H3.

Joist spans must comply with SANS 10082 safe span tables to ensure a solid deck. 50mm wide joists for good support and secure screwing are recommended.

We recommend that joists are oiled with Waksol (heavy wood oil) prior to decking installation. We recommend that the underside of the decking is pre-oiled with Galseal.

## Installation and fastening

Balau should be laid smooth face **upwards** for general decking purposes. If laid with the grooves on top, sanding and oiling is more difficult, water collects in the grooves, and screws are difficult to hide and countersink neatly.

Space boards at 4mm (use our deck spacers). Ensure screw lines are straight. Cut deck boards square. Use a stagger pattern when using multiple lengths. Use double joists at joints. We stock specialized Stainless Steel decking screws with a torx-drive head. A specialized countersinking and pre drilling tool must be used. A 60mm screw length is recommended.

Use a dedicated electric/battery screwdriver with a medium torque setting to ensure screws are not over tightened.

Galvanized steel pozi drive screws are NOT recommended due to their relatively short life span.

Hidden decking clips are NOT recommended. If any movement occurs in Balau decking after installation it may lift decking clips.

## Finishing

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

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, Balau 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, Balau should provide a very long lasting, beautiful surface.

## Technical data

<b>Dimension</b>	19mm x 90mm
<b>Colour</b>	Yellow brown
<b>Profile</b>	 Reeded finish on 1 side.
<b>Lengths available</b>	1.8m up to 6.0m in 300mm increments
<b>Span</b>	Max 450mm bearer to bearer *Recommended 400mm
<b>Density</b>	850 to 950kg per m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Fastening</b>	S/S decking screws 60mm <small>(Clip systems must not be used for Balau.)</small>
<b>Origin</b>	Indonesia and Malaysia
<b>Hardness</b>	1640 on <a href="#">Janka scale</a>
<b>Species name</b>	Shorea
<b>Moisture content</b>	Kiln dried Beware of low cost air dried balau.
<b>Certification</b>	SVLK Indonesia Legal Wood
<b>Finishing</b>	Galseal