



Pakari TMD

Thermally Modified Decking by Sunset Moulding

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR OUTDOOR APPLICATION OF PAKARI TMD

Getting Started – Thermally Modified Wood is Still Wood

Once wood has been put through the unique process of Thermal Modification it is improved at the molecular level, taking on an abundance of new benefits; increased durability, stability, and even a reduction in the weight of the wood, to name a few. Besides the physical improvements, the Thermal Modification process also reduces the woods ability to absorb water, resulting in a product that does not shrink or swell to the same degree as unmodified wood.

Despite all of these great improvements created by Thermal Modification, it is very important to remember that while Pakari TMD has been modified, it is still wood. All though Pakari TMD looks like a high-priced hardwood, it is a softwood and can dent and scratch if handled roughly. For this reason we ask that you avoid over-expectations in regards to Pakari TMD:

- The Thermal Modification process increases the woods durability, but to keep Pakari TMD in optimal condition we recommended that it is given the same care and maintenance as other unmodified wood products.
- Shrinking and Swelling has been decreased in Pakari TMD, but it isn't concrete – wood is wood, and it will still move slightly.
- The Thermal Modification process turns the wood a rich chocolate brown color that is normally only seen in exotic hardwoods, but if left untreated under direct sunlight Pakari TMD will eventually fade to a natural silver tint. In order to keep Pakari TMD at its original chocolate brown color, it is necessary to coat it with UV protection.
- Pakari TMD is not intended to be used for structural applications, such as joists, beams, support posts, columns or other load-bearing applications. Any deck built with Pakari TMD must be supported by use of code-compliant material.
- Pakari TMD is not intended to have direct ground contact. We recommend all Thermally Modified products be installed at least 12-18" above ground.

Cutting, Drilling and Installation

Pakari TMD works well with standard woodworking tools, but it is important that special attention is given to saw and tool coarseness/fineness to better improve the end result. We recommend that all blades and routers have carbide tips. Saw speed will have an effect on the cut quality; generally, the higher the saw power, the better the cut quality. Use **dust masks and protective eye wear for safety as recommended by California Prop 65.**

Use standard residential deck codes to determine on-center space for decks and stair treads. Deck boards shall extend across a minimum of three joist bays and terminating board ends shall lie on joist centers. A gap of 1/16" to 1/8" between adjacent deck boards is recommended as Pakari TMD will display minimal swelling or shrinking. All installations should follow all local municipality code regulations.

All Pakari TMD is **intended to be installed "Ribbed" face up** for increased grip, comfort, and decreased checking and splitting. For this reason it has been graded on the "Ribbed" face, and defects could accrue on the smooth side.

Fastening

When fastening Pakari TMD we recommend that a hidden fastening system, such as the CAMO MARKSMAN PRO-X1™, be used. However, face-fastening with screws also provides excellent holding. Standard exterior grade coarse-thread screws work well with Pakari TMD. All fasteners should be applied a minimum of 5/8" from board edge and a minimum of 1" from board ends.

Nailing is not recommended when installing Pakari TMD due to the increased brittleness of all Thermally Modified wood.

Coating

Coatings are not necessary with Pakari TMD to protect the wood from decay; however, just like any wood product, if left untreated Pakari TMD boards may check or crack. This checking and cracking will have no effect on the long term durability or decay resistance of Pakari TMD. To help protect Pakari TMD from the natural weathering process, cracking and the silvering of the product due to direct sunlight and weather exposure, **a high-quality sealant with UV protection should be applied.** We recommend ZAR® Deck & Siding Clear Wood Sealer & Natural Toner Base, which will allow the beautiful wood grain of Pakari TMD to show and help protect against checking.

For optimal results against checking it is advisable to apply a coating before the installation of Pakari TMD. Usually a second coating will provide even further protection, and leads to the best results.

Maintenance

Because Pakari TMD is real wood, it is recommended that you **DO NOT use power-washing or harsh chemicals** in the cleaning process of your deck, as they can damage the finish of any wood products. A simple brushing once a year with soap and water will clean and extend the life of your deck. To enhance the products performance against fading and checking, we recommend coating your deck per recommendations of the coating manufacturer. Periodic inspection of the surface is recommended for optimal product performance and beauty.