Apex

CRITICAL INSTALLATION POINTS

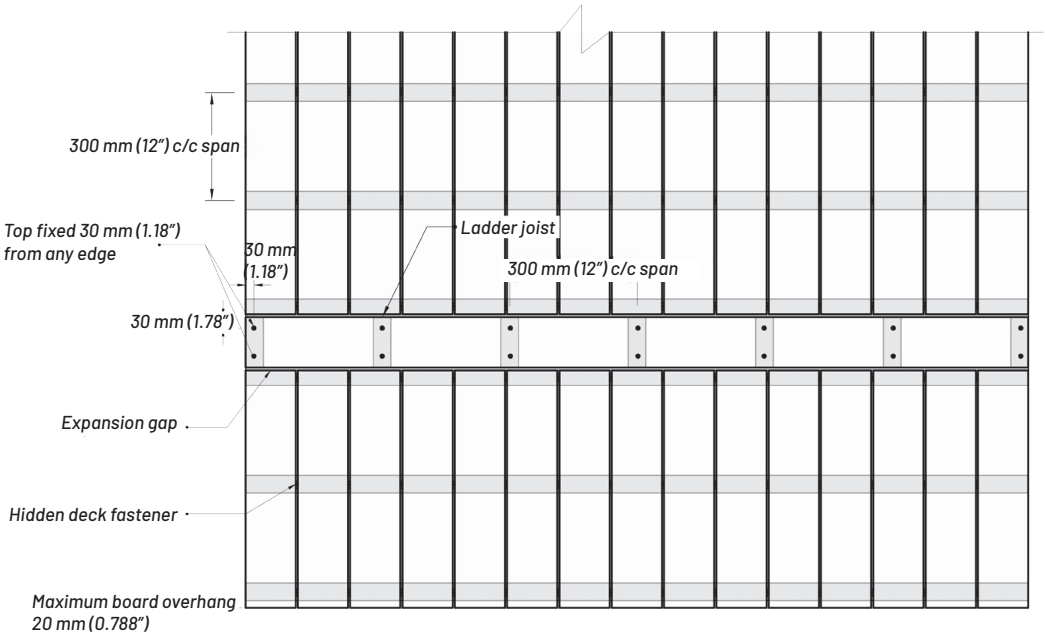
BEST PRACTICE TIPS TO ENSURE A SUCCESSFUL APEX INSTALLATION

This summary of critical installation points in no way replaces the full Apex installation guide which is available for download on **www.eva-last.com.** It is recommended that you download and familiarise yourself with the full installation guide.

CRITICAL INSTALLATION POINTS

- **Substructure:**

- Plan your substructure to align with the intended deck layout.
- Ensure your substructure is level and secure.
- Use appropriate spans. The maximum centre-to-centre span for Apex is 300 mm (12 ″). This span is suitable for residential applications and most other applications. Consult an appropriately qualified professional for spans above this maximum or for load cases greater than 4 kPa (0.580 lbf.in^2).
- Support boards along all cut edges.
- Use double joists at all butts joins so that both board edges are fully supported.
- Use noggins between joists where breaker boards are used. The spans between noggins must not be greater than the maximum centre-to-centre span of Apex.
- Do not overhang boards by less than 10 mm (0.379″) or more than 20 mm (0.788″) from a support edge.



Apex

CRITICAL INSTALLATION POINTS

- **Fastening:**

  - Use two fasteners (hidden clips or top fixings) at every joist.
  - Maintain a fastening (hidden clips or top fixings) edge distance of 30 mm (1.182") from any board edge.
  - When top fixing boards, ensure a spacing of 30 mm (1.182") between fasteners.
  - Do not over-tighten any fasteners. The torque setting of your driver must be less than 30% of the maximum allowable.

- **Ripping:**

  - Do not rip groove boards thinner than 60 mm (2.113") or square edged boards thinner than 90 mm (3.554").

- **Trim or Fascia:**

  - Always install your trim or fascia beneath the lip of the boarder board.

- **Expansion:**

  - Apex can expand and contract at a rate up to approximately 50% more than typical wood-plastic composite materials.
  - To allow for an appropriate expansion gap per board, multiply the length of the board (**L**) by 0.07 (0.000039) and by the difference between the installation temperature and the possible maximum temperature of the boards (Change in temp.):

    Change in board length = **L** x 0.07 (0.000039) x Change in Temp.

    Example: Change in board length = 5.45m x 0.07 x (36 - 18) | (18' x 0.000039 x (96.8 – 64.4))
    Change in board length = 6.87 mm | (0.270")
    Expansion gap = 6.87mm / 2 | (0.270" / 2)
    Expansion gap = 3.43 mm (0.135") (either end of the board)

  Please refer to the appropriate Section in the full installation guide for more information on this topic.

  - Use the same method to estimate maximum gap size (when boards are fully contracted) to ensure this is suitable for the project.
  - Where the expected temperature range is high consider using lighter coloured deck boards to reduce the required expansion gap.
  - To further reduce the expansion gap, boards can be cut to shorter lengths.
  - Breaker boards must be used between boards that are installed end-to-end to assist in controlling expansion and contraction.
  - Use boarder boards around the perimeter of an installation to further assist in controlling expansion and contraction.
  - Do not use grooved decking boards for stairs, breakers and/or boarder boards, only use square edge boards.

Before installing, please ensure you have downloaded the latest installation guide by scanning this code.