

# CHOOSE THE RIGHT DECKING TIMBER.

**At Austim we want our customers to be happy with their timber deck from day one and for years to come!**

Whilst all of these timbers are suitable for decking, some will perform better than others in full weather exposed situations. Refer below for further information.

	External Weather Protected	External Weather Exposed
Merbau 140x19mm	✓	✓ T
Merbau 90x19mm	✓	✓ T
Merbau FJ 90x19mm	✓	✓ T
Jarrah Std & Btr 130x20mm	✓	Not suitable
Jarrah Std & Btr 85x20mm	✓	✓
Silver Top Ash 135x19mm	✓	Not suitable
Silver Top Ash 86x19mm	✓	Not suitable
Qld Spotted Gum 135x19mm	✓	✓ M
Qld Spotted Gum 86x19mm	✓	✓
Blackbutt 135x22mm	✓	✓ C. M
Blackbutt 86x19mm	✓	✓ C
Batu 90x19mm	✓	✓
Fiji Mahogany 140x21mm	✓	✓

**Potential performance issues:** Timber is a natural product, variation in colour and characteristic from piece to piece is to be expected. Timber is hygroscopic, changes in climatic conditions, exposure to sun and rain result in expansion and contraction predominately in the width of timber decking. Some movement, checking and cracking is to be expected particularly in fully exposed conditions. All hardwoods contain tannins and can leach when exposed to moisture.

T : More susceptible than others to leaching of natural timber tannins (dark oily residue that can stain adjoining surfaces), coating prior to installation and careful detailing can minimise this.

M : Excessive movement possible if deck is not properly coated, has poor ventilation or lack of ground clearance.

C : Excessive surface checking possible if deck is not well coated and regularly maintained.

Remember careful planning, installation and a regular maintenance program are important whichever timber you select.

Austim strongly recommend all decking, no matter the application or specie, is coated on all four sides prior to installation. Re-sealing any cut & exposed ends will help reduce movement and tannin leach. Ground clearance and airflow are both very important to ensure a well performing deck.

**AUS-TIM**  
SUSTAINABLE TIMBER SOLUTIONS