



Step by Step Guide to Plan Your Deck

Decking Planner Guide



Welcome to the NewTechWood Deck Planner

We're excited to help you design your dream deck. This guide will walk you through each step of the planning process. Sketch your deck, choose boards, set out the layout, and download a materials list to request quotes from your preferred NewTechWood reseller.

What you'll need before you start:

- ☐ Overall deck size (lengths/widths in mm)
- ☐ Site notes (door thresholds, steps, downpipes, garden edges, pool, etc.)
- ☐ A simple sketch (optional) or a PDF/JPG/PNG plan
- ☐ An idea of your preferred board range/colour (you can change this later)

Good to know: You'll get an Item List PDF at the end (boards, clips and accessories). Use it to obtain a quote or to compare options.

STEP 1: Shape and Size of Your Deck

Open the Deck Planner and click **Start new project**. You can return later using your **Project ID** and **PIN** (shown on the Item List screen).



1.1 CHOOSE A SHAPE

Select the basic shape that best fits your vision and space. You can choose from:

- **Rectangular/Square:** A classic and straightforward option. Once selected, you'll proceed to the size tool.
- **L-Shaped:** Perfect for wrapping around corners or creating distinct zones. You'll then move on to the size tool.
- **Custom Shape:** For unique and intricate designs. Selecting this option will allow you to either upload your existing drawings or use our design tools. Click 'Next' after making your selection.

STEP 1: Shape and Size of Your Deck

Shape

Rectangular / Square

L-Shaped

Custom shape - Draw yourself

 Start new plan

< BACK

NEXT >

1.2 RECTANGULAR/SQUARE/L-SHAPED DECK

If you have a simple deck, use the Rectangular/Square or L-Shaped option, by adding all dimensions of the deck. You can also rotate the layout using the button on the sceeen.

1 SHAPE & SIZE

2 SELECT SURFACE

3 DESIGN LAYOUT

4 STRUCTURE

5 ACCESSORIES

6 ITEM LIST

1.1 Shape

1.2 Upload

1.3 Draw plan

2.1 Shape

2.2 Size

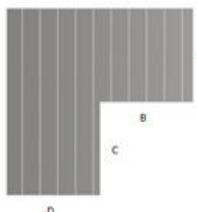
Shape

Rectangular / Square

L-Shaped

Custom shape - Draw yourself

Size



ROTATE LAYOUT 90°

A 2 m

B 2 m

C 2 m

D 2 m

 Start new plan

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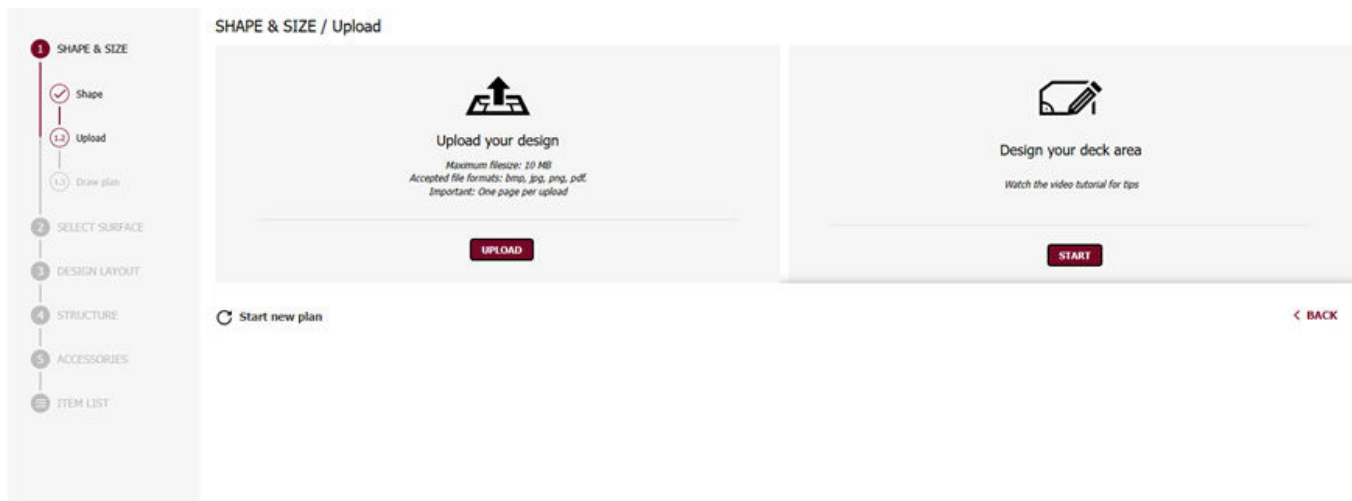
STEP 1: Shape and Size of Your Deck

1.3 UPLOAD DRAWINGS (FOR CUSTOM SHAPE)

If you've chosen a custom deck shape and have existing drawings, you'll now have the option to upload them.

Important:

- The accepted file formats are: .bmp, .jpg, .png, and .pdf
- Maximum files size is 10 MB
- Only one page per upload is allowed
- If your design is in Word or Excel, i export it PDF first



1.4 DRAW YOUR OWN PLAN (CUSTOM SHAPE)

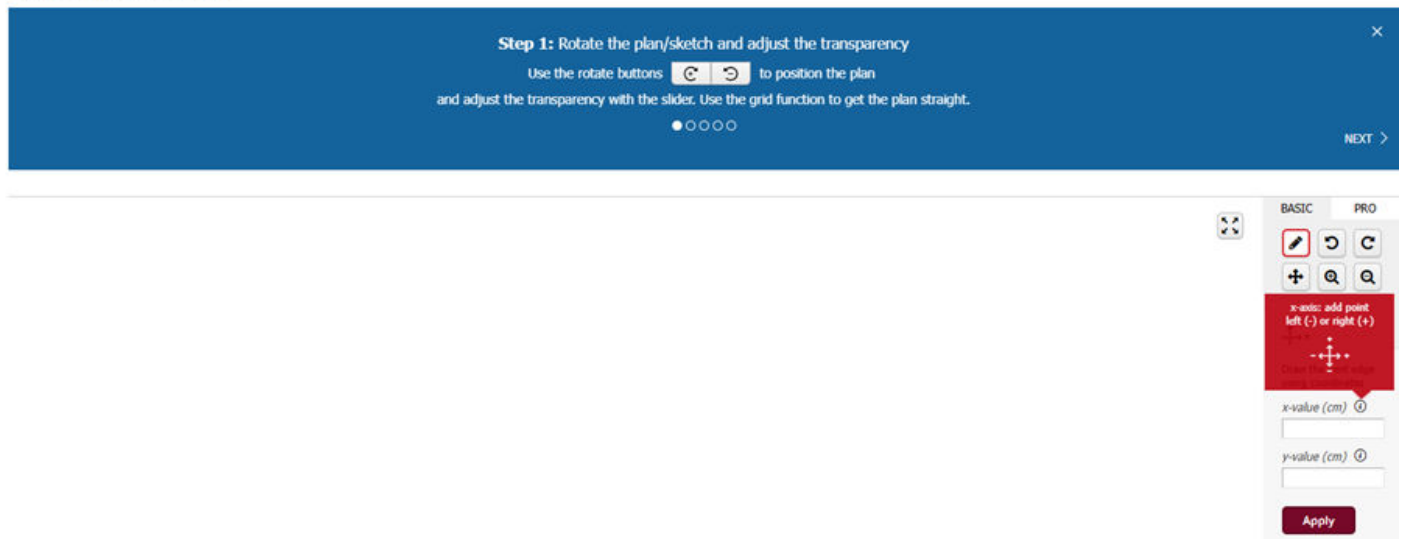
If you prefer to draw the deck plan, use the drawing tools. Manual drawing is best for simple shapes (primarily 90° angles) and when you know exact dimensions.

STEP 1: Shape and Size of Your Deck

Tips

- Use the scale at the bottom of the drawing area for positioning.
- Click the “?” icon to see how to place points using **X** and **Y** coordinates for precise layouts:

SHAPE & SIZE / Draw plan
Follow the instructions below



1.3 DESIGN YOUR DECK AREA

Be creative and define the exact footprint of your custom deck using our intuitive design tools.

PRO TIP: Hover your mouse over each tool icon to see its name and function.

We also have a helpful video tutorial available if you'd like some guidance on using these tools!

STEP 1: Shape and Size of Your Deck

Here's a breakdown of the design tools:

- **Pen Tool:** Click to place points and draw the outline of your deck. Use the 'Undo' and 'Redo' buttons to correct any mistakes.
- **Zoom Tool & Mouse:** Zoom in for detailed work or zoom out for a broader view.
- **Full Screen Mode:** Maximize your workspace for easier design.
- **Place Points (For PRO Users):** Precisely position points by entering the X and Y coordinates and hitting 'Enter'.
- **Adjust Angles (For PRO Users):**

Slice Tool: Divide areas to create interesting shapes or accommodate features like pools.

Delete Tool: Remove unwanted sections.

Angle Tool: Set points using coordinates and specific angles for advanced designs.



Once you're happy with your deck's shape, click 'Next' to move on to selecting your decking boards.

STEP 2: Selecting NewTechWood Decking Boards

Now it's time to choose the perfect NewTechWood decking boards for your project. You'll see our distinct ranges:

- **Avenue** (value without compromise, BAL-29 rated)
- **Terrace** (most natural look; BAL-29 rated, highest slip-resistance on reverse)
- **Coastal** (extra-wide board; BAL-29 rated highest slip-resistance on reverse)
- **Commercial** (Marina board / BAL-29 rated highest slip-resistance)

Click on a collection to explore the available colours within that range.

Once you've chosen your desired board and colour, click 'Next'.



Terrace Decking



Coastal Decking



Commercial Decking



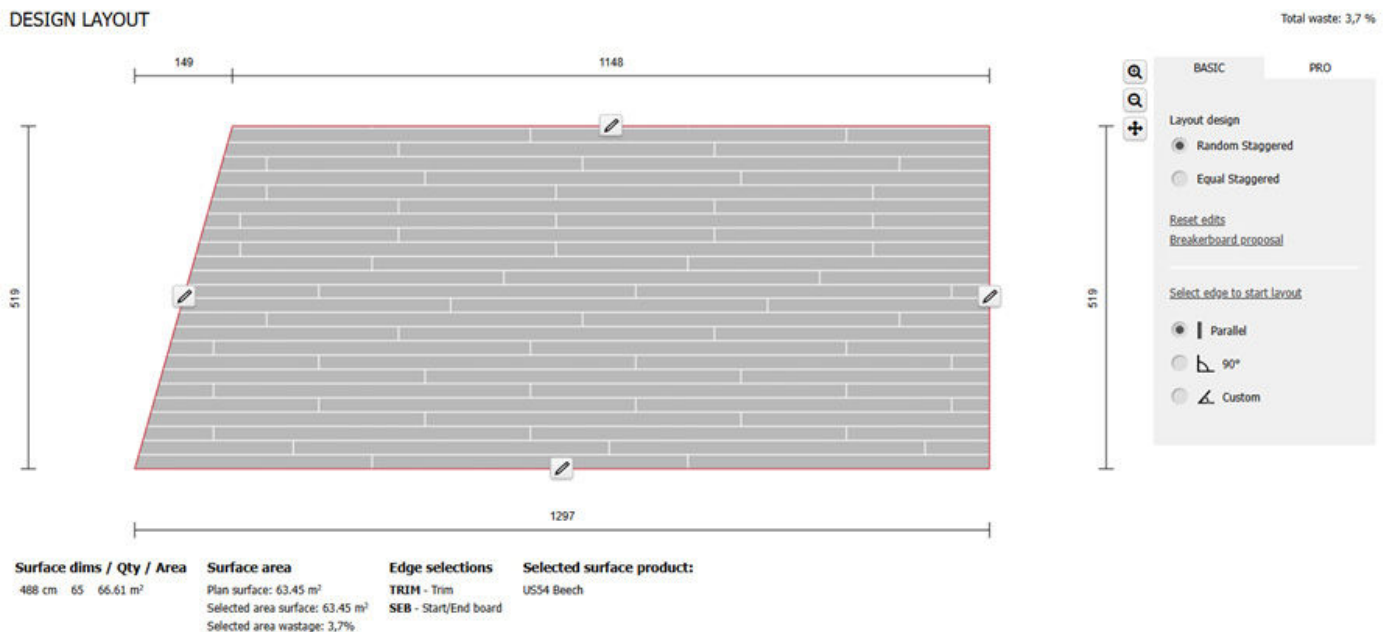
Avenue Decking

STEP 3: Design Layout

Let's plan how your chosen decking boards will be arranged.

3.1 LAYOUT DESIGN OPTIONS:

You can choose between different layouts. Start with selecting one edge. Click on it and choose Parallel, 90 degrees or custom angle.



- **Select Starting Edge:** Click on the edge of your deck where you want the layout to begin.
- **Choose Layout Type:**
 - Parallel** (runs with the selected edge)
 - 90°** (perpendicular to that edge)
 - Custom angle** (enter any degree)

- **Choose a staggering pattern**

Random Staggered

This layout involves staggering the boards randomly. While it might not always have a perfectly uniform appearance, it's often the most efficient way to minimize material waste.

STEP 3: Design Layout

Equal Staggered

This option creates a clean and organized look with all board ends aligned at consistent intervals. Keep in mind that the amount of material waste can vary depending on the board length and the chosen stagger.

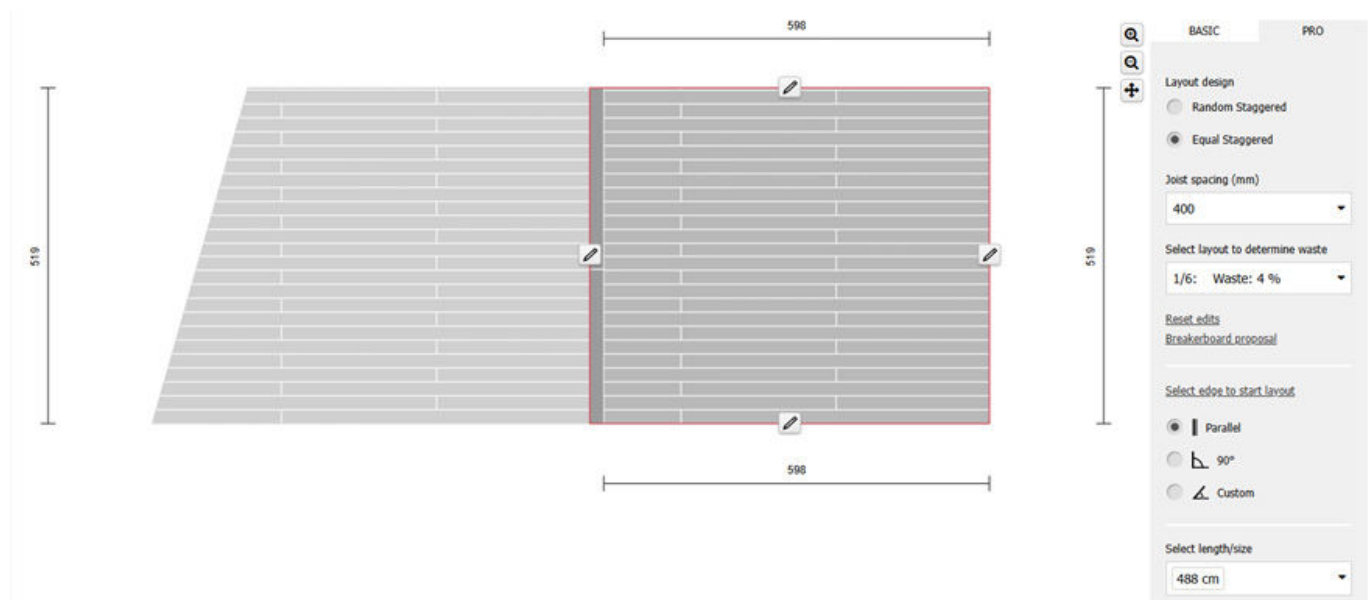
SAVING TIP: Try a few directions/angles. Some layouts reduce offcuts, lowering cost. Off-cuts can also become benches, steps, or planter surrounds.

3.2 BREAKER BOARDS (TO REDUCE WASTE AND CREATE NEAT LINES)

A breaker board is a board that runs across the deck to split long runs. This hides expansion gaps and often reduces waste.

How to add in the planner:

- Go to PRO tools.
- Use Divide area and choose an orientation (90° to board direction or Parallel).
- Click the edge where the breaker board will sit and select Single or Double breakerboard.

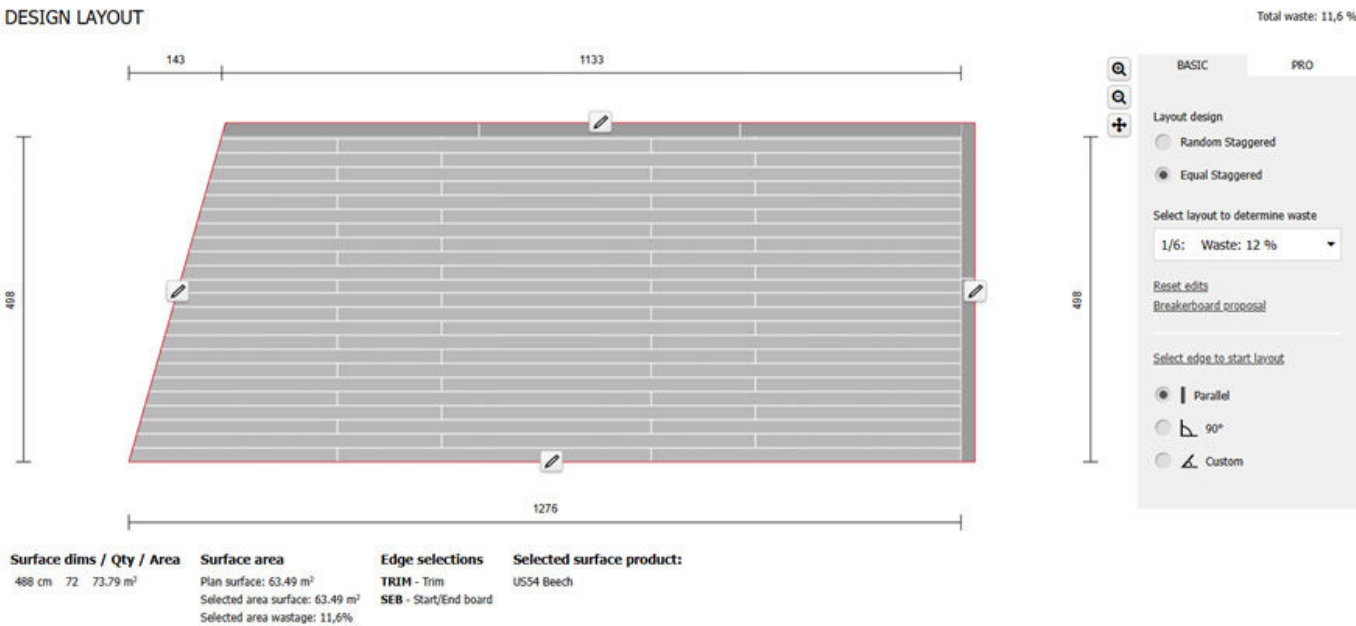


STEP 3: Design Layout

3.3 PICTURE FRAMING (OPTIONAL BORDER)

If you want to include Picture framing in your deck design, click on the edge of the deck and choose between options: No picture frame, single or double picture frame.

The tool will automatically add edge boards to the edge of selected side of the deck. By selecting edge boards, they will be added to the calculations.



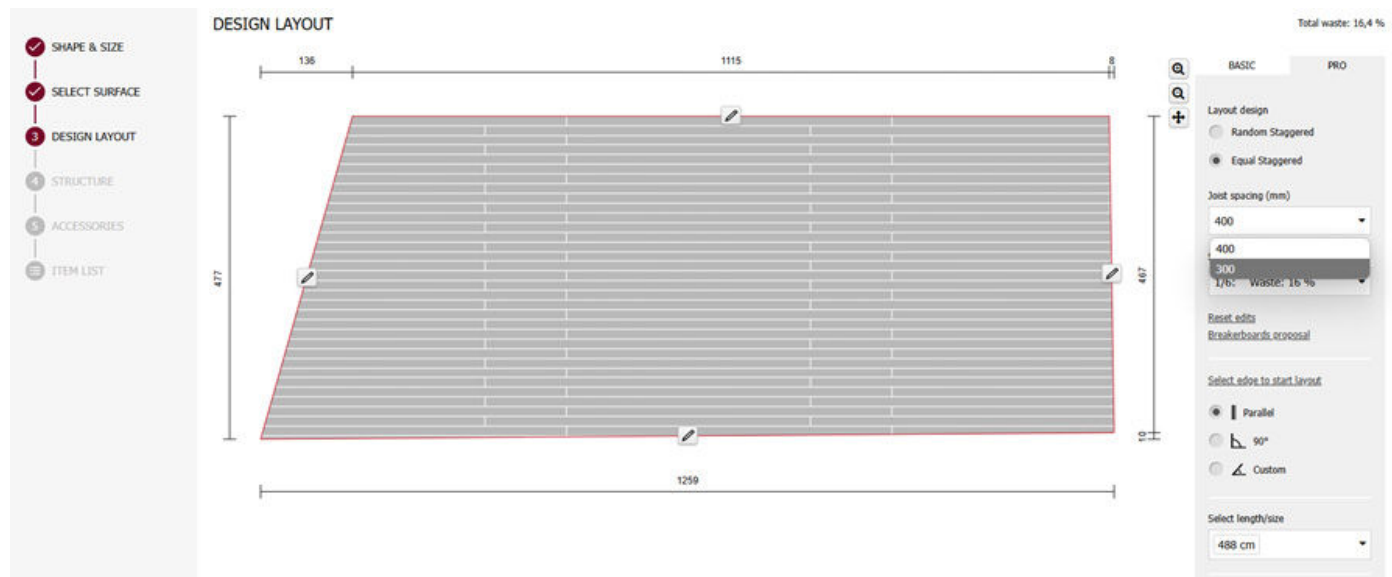
STEP 3: Design Layout

STEP 3B: JOIST SPACING (IN PRO TOOLS)

Choosing the right joist spacing ensures accurate quantities and a solid deck. In PRO tools, select your joist spacing to match:

- the decking range/profile you've chosen, and
- whether the project is residential or commercial.

IMPORTANT: Always follow the **NewTechWood Installation Guide** and your local building codes. If in doubt, ask your installer or reseller to confirm the correct spacing for your board/profile.



NOTE: The appropriate joist spacing depends on both the type of joists you select and the NewTechWood decking boards you are using.

STEP 4: Structure

Now let's define the structural components of your deck.

4.1 CHOOSE JOISTS

The planner includes generic joists (timber or metal) for quantity guidance. Your builder will select actual joist size/grade to suit site conditions.

4.2 FASCIA & END/EDGE BOARDS

Add fascia (to finish exposed edges) and edge/start-end boards where required. These are typically used to create a finished look around the perimeter of your deck.

This deck planner includes the matching edge/fascia options for each range, so they're captured in the Item List.

Note on board types: Some edge boards can be used both as start/end boards and as fascia. Confirm the exact board code and usage with your reseller when ordering or check our Decking Installation Guide.

STEP 5: Item List & Next Steps

Once you finish with design layout, click on Generic joist option and the planner will generate an approximate Item List (boards, clips, accessories) based on your design.

Download / Print / Email the PDF and send it to your preferred reseller for a quote.

Or submit a quote request via the NewTechWood website.

The planner includes a standard board gap (5.5mm) in the calculations. If you want smaller gap between the boards, discuss it with your builder. Smaller gap (3mm) won't influence significantly number of boards required.

MATERIAL —

☐ GENERIC JOISTS

FRAME DESIGN —

☐ Single Layer

GENERIC PACKAGE

joist Generic multi ✓

Structure Joist / Rim Joist

Generic joist with unknown technical values. Provide span lengths coordinated with the structural engineer/technician. Note that no liability is assumed for incorrect technical values. Ensure proper selection of connectors – no connectors are included.

joist

More

If you want to proceed with custom product selection, click here:

☐ Create your own package

Start new plan

[< BACK](#) [ACCESSORIES](#) [ITEM LIST](#)

SAVE AND RELOAD YOUR PROJECT

On the Item List page, note your Project ID and PIN. Use Load project next time to revisit, tweak colours/layouts, or try different ranges without starting again.

STEP 5: Item List & Next Steps

Please note that the specified quantities are based on accurate calculations and do not include any reserve quantities.

Vendor area

Your selections have been saved

Your plan is ready for download

With the Plan-ID and the Pin-Code you can always load the saved plan!

Plan-ID: EN25000547
Pin-code: 6D9A97

[DOWNLOAD PDF INSTALLATION PLAN](#)

QUICK GLOSSARY

- **Breaker board** – a board running across the deck to split long runs; helps control expansion and reduce waste.
- **Picture framing** – a border around the deck using edge boards for a finished look.
- **Fascia** – a finishing board that covers the outer face of the subframe.
- **Joist spacing** – the centre-to-centre distance between joists that support your decking.

TIPS FOR USING THE DECK PLANNER

- **Measure Accurately:** Double-check all your measurements before entering them. Precise measurements are essential for an accurate design and material estimate.
- **Experiment with Options:** Don't hesitate to try out different shapes, materials, and layout options to find the perfect combination for your needs and to explore ways to minimize material waste.
- **Check spans:** Match your joist spacing to the exact board/profile
- **Ask for help:** Your reseller or installer can validate quantities and details
- **Save Your Progress:** Use your Project ID and PIN Code (found in the Item List section) to save your work and return to it later.
- **Contact Support:** If you have any questions or need assistance, contact [NewTechWood Australia](#), we're here to help you.

IMPORTANT

- This guide is for planning only. Construction should follow the NewTechWood Installation Guide and local building regulations.