

# Southern Pine LUMBER

Co.

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## Fastener Guidelines

### **#1 Dense Decking, Tropical Decking and SunDeck 2x6"**

Description: #10x3" Stainless Steel Bugle Head Beaver Bite Screw

Drive Tip: #2 Square

(#10x2-1/2" for 5/4x6 deck boards)

Screws are the most commonly used fasteners for decking; they have a higher "pull out" factor over most nails. Pre-drilling is recommended\*, though not required when using the Beaver Bite style screws. The bugle head design allows countersinking to a desired depth. Thanks to the ingenuity of some, there are automatic-fed screw guns that allows you to fasten an entire deck or dock without the hassle of being on your hands and knees. Ask the manager for details.

Description: 16d Stainless Steel Ring Shank Nail 3-1/2" (type .304 or .316)

Nails are widely used as a decking fastener; a 16d ring shank nail serves you with a much better grip than a common nail (smooth shank). Pre-drilling is required when you are close to the end of a board to avoid splitting.

### **Composite and Plastic Decking 5/4 or 1"**

Description: #10x2-1/2" Stainless Steel Composite Deck Screw

Drive Tip: #2 Square

(#10x3" for 2x6 deck boards)

When using products such as EverGrain, Trex, Boardwalk, TimberTech and Ecoboard a composite deck screw is highly recommended. A composite screw consists of a coarse thread approximately 2/3 of the screw length from the tip, switching to a fine thread for the remainder of the screw, topped off with a bugle head. The use of a regular counter-sinking screw will require pre-drilling and countersinking in order to avoid the mushroom look.

A composite deck screw uses the coarse thread for bite on your frame, and the fine thread to pull down the residue displaced by the screw giving you a clean countersunk look without the hassle.

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## Fastener Guidelines (Continued)

### Ipe Decking 5/4 or 1"

Description: #7x2-1/4" Stainless Steel Woodpecker Screw

**Drive Tip: Torx Drive T15**

South American hardwoods are becoming increasingly more popular. The longevity and beauty of Ipe make it a highly desired decking product.

Ipe is one of the hardest species of decking in the industry, over three times stronger than red oak, therefore special screws such as the Woodpecker is highly recommended.

Increase the quality of your installation by using a #10 countersinking bit with a 1/8" pilot drill bit. It is important to stop once you have gone through the deck board with the pilot hole since drilling into the substructure will weaken the holding strength of a screw. After installing the screw, finish your project by using an Ipe wood plug for a hidden fastener look.

### Southern Pine Lumber Plastic Seagrass Grating

Description: #12x2-1/2" Stainless Steel Pan Head Screw

**Drive Tip: #3 Square**

Using the pre-formed holes in the grating insert the recommended screw until the pan head comes into a light snug contact with the grating. Be careful not to over tighten the screws or you will cause the grating to crack.

\*Whether you are using screws or nails, you should always pre-drill if close to the end of the boards in order to help avoid splitting.

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