



BWDEPOT



**BWDepot Decking
Wizard
Report - #104**

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Conditions

Below are the installation conditions that you provided to the Decking Wizard. These are the key factors that affect performance and guide the best choices for decking type and fastening system.

AIR-FLOW VARIES

Low airflow varies across different parts of the deck. Some areas may have limited circulation, creating a higher potential for trapped moisture, while other sections may allow adequate airflow. This variation can still increase the likelihood of movement-related issues such as cupping and influence fastening performance.

PARTIALLY COVERED BY ROOF

We will assume the deck is partially covered by a roof, leaving some areas protected from sunlight and weather while others remain exposed. Performance considerations may differ between the covered and uncovered portions, depending on their level of exposure.

“Brazilian Hardwood Decking isn’t a commodity—it takes understanding each project’s conditions and limitations to choose the right wood and fastening system for optimum performance.”



Analysis

When a deck is **partially covered by a roof**, there are two ways to approach performance considerations. On the covered portion, **cupping is far less of a concern**, since cupping requires both **sunlight from above** and **moisture imbalance from below**. The uncovered portion, however, still requires careful attention to species selection and fastening methods due to direct exposure.

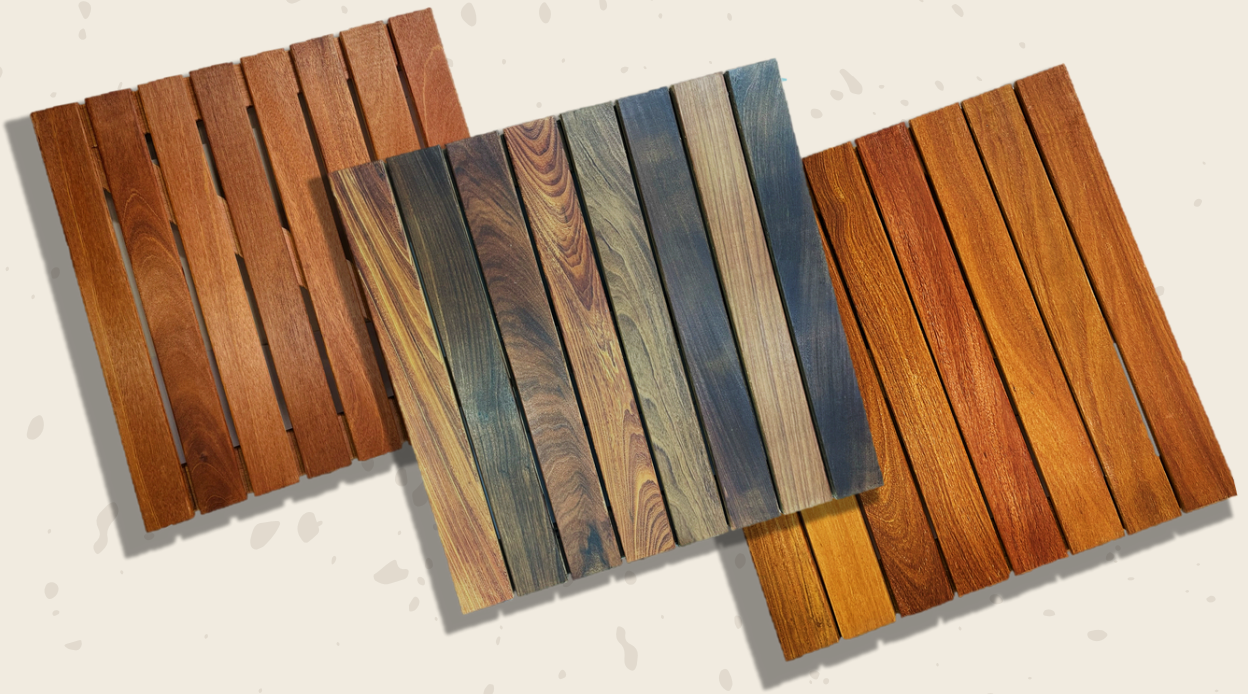
Some customers choose to use a **different product or species under the covered portion** to differentiate it from the exposed area. Others prefer a **single species throughout** for a seamless and consistent appearance. Both approaches are valid, and the best choice depends on the desired balance of function, appearance, and cost.



Recommendation: Deck Tiles

Deck Tiles can be a good solution under a variety of coverage conditions. While they may not be strictly necessary in this case, they are worth considering due to their proven functionality in installations with sunlight exposure and if limited airflow beneath the deck.

Click any of the images to redirect to more details, galleries, and installation information



DECK TILES

Recommendation:

Tongue & Groove Porch Decking

In covered portions of a deck, Tongue & Groove options provide an appearance that feels like an extension of the home. A popular example is **Ipe 3.5" Tongue & Groove Porch Decking**, which features a tight interlocking profile. This system must be installed under roof cover, since water cannot always drain effectively between the joints. The roof protection also helps to **minimize expansion and contraction**, supporting long-term stability of the installation.

Click any of the images to redirect to more details, galleries, and installation information



TONGUE & GROOVE PORCH DECKING

Recommendation: Standard Decking Species

When it comes to **standard decking**, any of our hardwood species can be a viable solution. The key factor to consider is how much sunlight the exposed area will receive. For example, **Tigerwood and Brown Balau** perform exceedingly well in **covered or partially shaded** areas, where exposure is limited. In contrast, species like **Garapa, Ipe, and even Massaranduba** are **versatile enough** to perform reliably across all levels of sunlight exposure.

Click any of the images to redirect to more details, galleries, and installation information

MASSARANDUBA



BROWN BALAU



Recommendation:

Bottom Grooves (Kerf)

1x6 and 5/4x6 boards can be bottom-grooved to **reduce cupping** and stress caused by uneven moisture exposure. By allowing the underside of the board to **expand and contract more evenly** with the surface, grooves help limit warping. Bottom kerfing is especially valuable for decks installed over **under-deck drainage systems** or have reduced air-flow below or where hardwood will make **extended contact with beams, blocking, or waterproof membranes**.

Brazilian Wood Depot has offered this service for many years with consistent success. While it is **not a guarantee against cupping**, it has a proven **track record of improving performance**. We only recommend bottom-grooved boards when conditions call for it, but in many of these cases it is the right choice. **Consult with your salesperson for more information.**



Fastening Considerations

A variety of fastening methods are acceptable in these conditions, but the best choice depends on the species selected and sunlight exposure. For instance, Ipe and Garapa perform exceptionally well with hidden fasteners, making them an ideal fit for a clean, seamless look.



In contrast, with species like Cumaru and Brown Balau, it is recommended to use surface fasteners such as stainless steel screws or screws with matching plugs—both of which Brazilian Wood Depot can provide. For more context and detailed guidance, see the video below.



**ALL OF OUR INSTALLATION GUIDES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE
IN SPANISH, CLICK HERE.**

Next Steps

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