

Timber decking

Timber decking provides a different experience for children and wheel chair users. A raised walkway protects tree roots and soft soils and creates an interesting sound. Undulating the deck surface also adds interest.



- Posts should be a minimum of 75 mm x 75 mm and be planted to a minimum depth of 500 mm, concrete might be need to secure.
- Supporting beams between posts should be 75 x 200 mm with a maximum span of 3.11m, joist hangers must be used and be fully galvanised and fully

connected

- Decking boards of 50 x 150 mm can be used but must not span more than 1.1m, boards of 75 x 150 mm can span up to 1.6m, they should not overhang more than 200 mm. Deck boards can become slippery when wet: do not use chicken wire to resolve this problem. Seek advice, there are specialist deck treatments that can be used or non slip deck boards installed at the outset.
- All timber should be locally sourced, FSC certified, and pressure treated against rot and insects.
- Deck heights less than those specified in the safety standard EN1176 do not require a hand rail or a surrounding safe surface, though it is helpful for wheel chair users to have a timber edge to the deck to stop wheels slipping off.
- Narrow sections, diverting around obstacles and introducing interesting elements to the sides are further ways of enhancing a timber deck.
- This is likely to require planning permission.



Useful contacts

- Your land agent in relation to planning permission
- Forestry Civil Engineering for structural advice not given above and CDM regulations.