

AERATIS INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Aeratis Products must be installed in accordance with installation instructions to qualify for, and maintain the product warranty. These recommendations and requirements are in no way meant to supersede local or national building codes. Before installing, check all applicable building codes. For videos and other resources, please visit the Aeratis website(www.aeratis.com).

AERATIS PROTECTIVE FILM AND PRODUCT INSPECTION

In an effort to effectively communicate with end users, each board of Aeratis is shipped with a protective/ installation reminder film. Notice that all Aeratis porch boards are double-sided. Make sure to read and remove the film PRIOR TO INSTALLATION. Make sure to inspect each Aeratis board prior to installation. If the board is damaged on one side, simply flip the board over and use the other side. If the board is damaged on both sides, please set the board aside for replacement. The installation of a damaged board is not covered under the Aeratis Warranty.

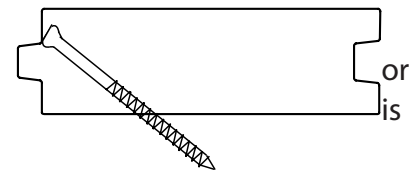


GENERAL INFORMATION AND ACCLIMATION

Aeratis products may be installed on either covered or uncovered porch applications. For best results, pay close attention to the slope and ventilation suggestions as this can help limit standing water and extend the life of your joists system.

Store Aeratis porch flooring in the environment in which the product is going to be installed for a minimum of 24 hours prior to installation. Make sure the boards are supported, at a minimum, every 24" during storage. It is best practice to remove the protective film and inspect each board at this stage of your project. (NEVER leave the protective film exposed to light and UV longer than 24 hours as in certain conditions this can potentially cause some discoloration.)

It is best practice to use a KDAT (Kiln Dried After Treating) joists provide ample amount of drying time for the joists prior to installation. It is common for treated wood to be delivered moist or even wet. As these joists dry, they may shrink. This issue can manifest itself in the visual appearance of the porch floor in the form of gapping. To reduce the risk of shrinking or unsightly joints appearing where the boards meet, it is best practice to lay all of the Aeratis boards out on your structure, or flat surface, and allow them to reach an ambient temperature, in addition to using dried wood joists.



TOOLS

For cutting and ripping Aeratis products, you can use a standard miter saw, circular saw, jigsaw or table saw with carbide saw blades (make sure the blade is sharp). A standard router and router bits may also be used. The best method of installing Aeratis is by using a pneumatic flooring nailer. This can be purchased or rented at a local rental center. You will need a screw gun and the correct bit for the screws selected to be used on the starter, finishing and potentially, for the boards that are over the ledger board next to the house. **Please note: you cannot use a hand help finish nailer to install Aeratis, this will void the warranty.**

FASTENERS

While no specific brand of fastener is **required**, we recommend stainless-steel as the best-practice choice in all installations. Also, when it comes to the size screw, we recommend the #7 over the #8. This provides a greater margin of error for the installer. However, we do recommend the use of a pneumatic nailer over the screws. The pneumatic nail guns are more consistent and help create a much better installation than screws. This is because of the variation of angle that can come with human error when using screws to install.

- GRK #7 or #8 x 2" stainless-steel trim-head screws (Pheinox™ RT Composite™) or the GRK #7 or #8 x 2" Climatek coated Trim™ Head (uses T-10 starhead bit)
- Simpson Strong Tie type 305 Stainless-steel (Trim-head Decking Screw 305 or 316 #6, 7, or 8).
- Pneumatic flooring nailer with T or L barbed cleat nails (best practice to use a construction adhesive if you are using a pneumatic nailer) 2" stainless-steel is best practice.
- **Pneumatic flooring stapler with 2" 15 or 18-gauge 1/2" crown stainless-steel flooring staples with construction adhesive is the #1 recommended fastening method to install Aeratis T&G products.**
- Finish nails installed by hand or by hand nailer **CANNOT** be used when installing Aeratis porch boards. This will void the warranty.



Please note, you cannot use a hand-held pneumatic stapler, framing gun or finish nailer. Aeratis is too dense and the nails may not penetrate the material, nor does it have the holding power needed for exterior flooring. Also, FINISH NAILS are **not acceptable** fastener and the use of finish nails will void the warranty.

PREPARATION

Aeratis recommends leaving a 1/4" gap where the product meets any wall, column, or vertical surface. Leaving this gap will allow spacing for the porch/home to settle or move with the changing of temperature and weather. When Aeratis porch flooring is fastened to a wood joists it should be installed in a well-ventilated application creating continuous airflow around the joists. FAILURE TO DO SO CAN ACCELERATE THE DECAY OF YOUR WOOD Joists. If your installation is a waterproof install, make sure you completely seal up any gaps where your Aeratis boards meet structures using a clear 100% silicone product.

Aeratis porch flooring must be properly supported with structural blocking and framing under columns or structural supports to prevent sagging and possible structural failure over time. Also, make sure all joists are flush with one another and are continuously sloped away from the main structure. If one joists is higher or lower than the others, it may be reflected in the porch surface. Please note: most joists can crown after installation. Many of these joists can crown 1/8 of an inch. If the proper slope is not observed, it can result in a level surface with ponding water.

Install Aeratis porch flooring on joists no greater than 16" on center (10" on center for stair applications). it is highly recommended to install Aeratis perpendicular to the main structure. This will help promote water runoff away from the structure and reduce ponding or puddling. If you are looking to make your installation waterproof, you are **required** to run the Aeratis boards perpendicular to the structure (Boards should not be

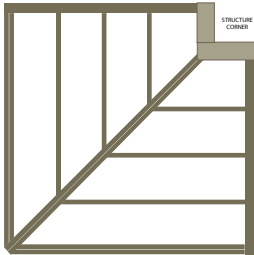
AERATIS

Aeratis T&G Installation Guide

installed parallel to the structure on a waterproof installation). It is best practice to slope Aeratis 1/4" per foot away from the structure to maintain continuous drainage away from the main structure.

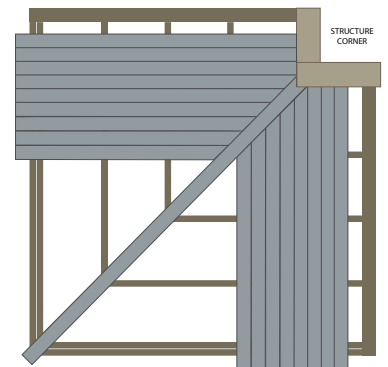
INSTALLATION

Square your first board to the house and fasten into place (you may want to consider ripping the groove off of this first board if it is going to be exposed). If you are using screws to fasten Aeratis to the joists, insert the screw just above the tongue at a 45° angle or less and counter sink the screw a minimum of 1/16" into the material. NOTE: If the tongue cracks, you are putting too much pressure on the tongue and you should reduce the angle of your screw. Take the next Aeratis plank, line up the groove to the tongue and slide it into place. Make sure the boards are completely snug together and the bottom surface is flush with the joists and then fasten it to the joists. Also, your fastener must be completely counter sunk into the material. The tongue and groove must be completely clear of all debris for each board to go together completely. It is best practice to leave an overhang between 2" to 2-1/2" beyond the rim joists.



CORNER APPLICATIONS

It is recommended that you run one or two Aeratis boards from the corner of the house off the edge of the porch, then butt all other boards to the angled board. It is best to secure this board at an angle every 12 inches on both sides of the board. Securing just one side of the "breaker board" is not acceptable. Additional framing may be needed in wrap-around applications.



TRIM

Attach the desired Aeratis trim pieces using Aeratis approved PVC GLUE and a trim head screw every two feet. It is always best practice to allow your trim pieces and Universal Porch Plank (UPP), if used, to be in direct sunlight, uncovered and un-stacked and in direct sun for 24 to 48 hours prior to cutting and installing. Trim pieces should be installed with 2" #7 trim head screws and PVC glue. Make sure NOT to get any glue on the surface of the trim boards. Aeratis trim pieces should not be installed using a trim nail or finish nail.

MITER JOINTS AND BUTT JOINTS

Secure miter joints and butt joints with screws, and only use an Aeratis approved HOT PVC GLUE. This will help eliminate gapping in the event of settling, or changes over time, in the framing structure. Face screws can be avoided if glue is used and two trim head screws are used at the joint at a 45° degree angle, pulling the two boards together. You must glue the board with the butt-joint to the adjacent boards on either side of the butt-joint. If possible, it is better to change the direction of the boards using a sleeper system on top of the framing rather than install with butt-joints.



PARALLEL VS PERPENDICULAR

It is always best practice to make sure your Aeratis boards are run perpendicular to the structure (make sure the boards are running the same direction as the desired direction of runoff water.) If you are running the boards parallel, you will want to make sure that you pay close attention to the acclimation and butt-joint video at https://www.aeratis.com/installation_videos. If you are installing Aeratis parallel to the structure, you are **required** to glue on all butt joints with an Aeratis approved PVC glue. PLEASE VISIT BUTT JOINT INSTALLATION VIDEO AT https://www.aeratis.com/installation_videos. Make sure you order the PVC glue at the same time you order your Aeratis boards. Make a special note: YOU WILL HAVE TO SQUARE THE ENDS OF EACH BOARD BEFORE INSTALLING IN AN APPLICATION USING BUTT JOINTS. Failure to address butt joints properly can result in gapping and **will void your Aeratis warranty**. If you have questions about the right way to secure a butt joint, see additional information at www.aeratis.com.

VENTILATION

It is best practice to ventilate your wooden framing structure. Keep in mind that wood is an organic material and is subject to deterioration under overly wet or dry conditions. If your joists are kept too wet or moist, the holding power of the fasteners could be compromised. If the wood is kept too dry, dry-rot can occur and your fasteners can fail. Aeratis does not require ventilation to maintain the warranty, however, pay close attention to the ventilation requirements for the products used as the substrate.



STARTING AND ENDING BOARDS

If a picture frame boards or a trim pieces are not going to be utilized to cover the end boards, the first and last board will need to be modified if you don't want the tongue and groove to be visible. This can be done by ripping the tongue off the last board and the groove off of the first board. Use #7 2" screws to fasten these boards securely to the joists.

PICTURE FRAMING

It is recommended to only use Aeratis UPP for picture-frame installations. It is recommended to secure the framing to support the picture-framing first. Then install the Aeratis T&G boards using a recommended installation method. While the T&G boards are being installed, it is required to remove the protective film from the UPP boards and store them in direct sunlight unstacked for 48 hours minimum. If you can put them on a dark surface such as a roof or an asphalt drive-way it would be best. Once the picture-frame boards have been acclimated in direct sun, follow miter and butt-joint installation instructions above.

INSTALLATION QUESTIONS

If you have any questions as to whether or not your specific application will be warrantied, you can fill out our pre-installation warranty on the Aeratis website at www.aeratis.com. If your installation is not pre-approved, a member of our staff will contact you with suggestions on how to modify your install so it is completely warrantied. As always, additional information is available at www.aeratis.com.