

# Installation: Expansion Gaps & Spacing

## Key Concept

WPC Boards expand and contract with temperature changes

### Joist and Clip Spacing

The recommended spacing between clips is **30cm**

The joist spacing should be **30-35cm** to ensure proper load-bearing and stability.

### Expansion Gap Between Boards

When connecting two boards end-to-end, you must leave an expansion gap of **5-10 mm**.

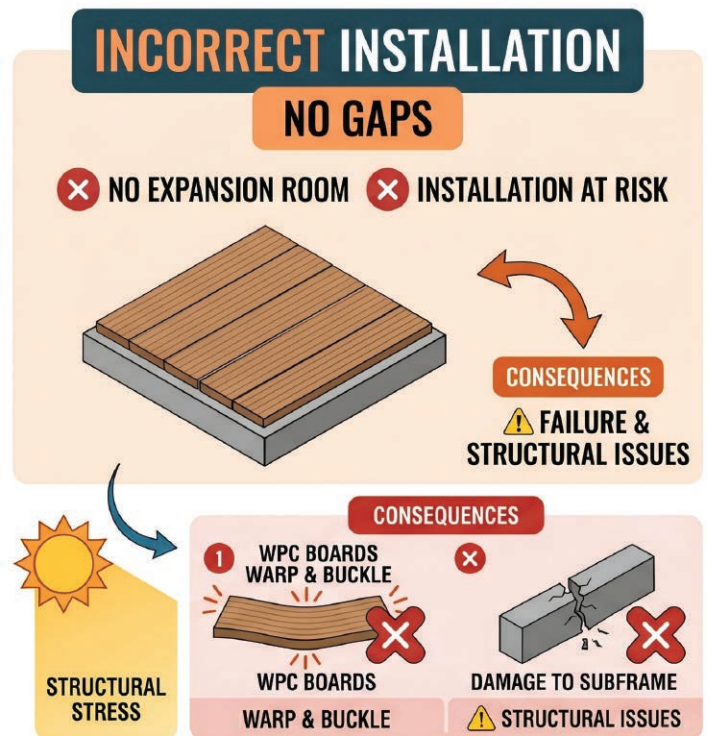
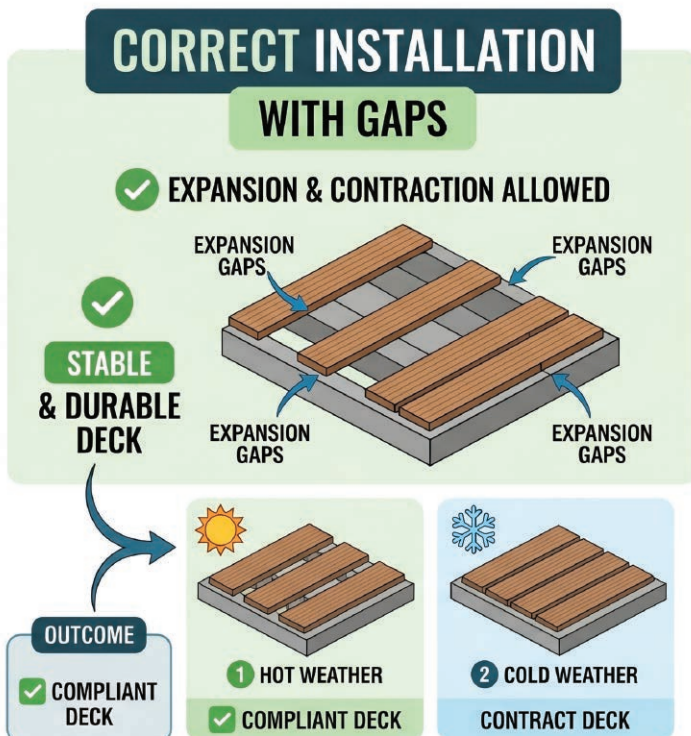
This space allows for natural thermal expansion and contraction of the decking.

### Board End Joint Support

Use separate joists for each board end—do not share joists or clips, and do not leave ends unsupported.

### Joint Extension Method

Stagger joist extensions—do not align or join them in a straight line, as this can cause thermal expansion to warp the decking.



# Installation: WPC Decking Fixings Table

This table calculates the **estimated** number of clips required based on common deck dimensions. Calculations include a 10% contingency for waste or lost screws

Deck Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Approx. Dimensions (m)	Joist Centres	Estimated Clips/Screws
5m <sup>2</sup>	2.0 x 2.5	300mm	110 - 120
10m <sup>2</sup>	4.0 x 2.5	300mm	220 - 240
15m <sup>2</sup>	5.0 x 3.0	300mm	330 - 360
20m <sup>2</sup>	5.0 x 4.0	300mm	440 - 480
25m <sup>2</sup>	5.0 x 5.0	300mm	550 - 600
30m <sup>2</sup>	6.0 x 5.0	300mm	660 - 720
40m <sup>2</sup>	8.0 x 5.0	300mm	880 - 950

If your deck size isn't listed above, you can use this formula to find your requirements:

$$\text{Total Clips} = \left( \frac{\text{Deck Length (mm)}}{\text{Board Width + Gap (mm)}} \right) \times \left( \frac{\text{Deck Width (mm)}}{300\text{mm Joist Spacing}} + 1 \right)$$

## Practical Rule of Thumb

For WPC decking with 300mm joist centres, you typically need 20 to 22 clips per square metre.